



Course Code IREL-500	Course Title Theory of International Relations	ECTS Credits 7.5
Department European Studies and International Relations	Semester Fall, Spring	Prerequisites None
Type of Course Required	Field International Relations	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 2 nd Cycle	Year of Study 1 st	Lecturer(s) Professor Farid Mirbagheri
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

1. Introduce an overall survey of theories of International Relations, past and present as well as trends for the future.
2. Equip students with conceptual understanding of the motives and objectives of behaviour in international life.
3. Link international phenomena and render them intelligible.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate a deep understanding of the frameworks with which international relations can be analyzed
2. Illustrate the ability to discuss the multi-faceted nature of world affairs
3. Identify and discuss the shortcomings in different IR paradigms and identify future trends
4. Illustrate the workings of international political machinery at the theoretical level by various paradigms
5. Demonstrate the linkages between theory and practice in international relations
6. Illustrate a conceptual understanding of the motives and objectives of behavior in international life
7. Classify and contrast the inequalities and the inadequacies of the international system
8. Employ historical perspectives to international developments
9. Integrate international phenomena and render them intelligible
10. Demonstrate knowledge of the key texts in the contemporary literature on IR theory and question theoretical arguments presented to them, make efficient use of libraries
11. Employ skills to allow students to partake in research of international phenomena through student's own learning, study and research with minimal assistance
12. Report on international phenomena orally and in writing at an academic and professional standard
13. Use IT skills (word processing, Internet and e-mail) as study and communication tools

Course Contents:

1. Theory Formation
2. Theory and International Relations
3. Statehood and International Relations
4. The Great Debates
5. Peace and War
6. Post-Modernism and Critical Theory
7. Power and Collective Security
8. Security and Balance of Power
9. Foreign Policy in International Relations
10. Justice and Order
11. International Cooperation

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures and discussions, Sessions with visiting speakers, Self-study.

Assessment Methods:

Class participation, Presentation of a topic, Written essay, Mid-term and a Final examination.

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
1. Linklater, Andrew	Transformation of Political Community: Ethical Foundations of the Post-Westphalian Era	University of South Carolina Press	1998	1-57003-258-0
2. Waltz, Kenneth	Theory of International Politics	Addisson-Wesley	1979	
3. Bull, Hadely	Anarchical Society	Columbia University Press/Macmillan	1997/ 1995	0-333-19914-4

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
1. Little, Richard & Smith, Michael	Perspectives on World Politics: A Reader	Cambridge University Press	1991	
2. Smith & Booth	International Theory: Positivism and Beyond	Columbia University Press	1996	
3. Keohane, Robert	Neorealism and its Critics	Leicester University Press	1986	
4. Wight, Martin	Systems of States	Routledge	1977	

5. Griffiths, Martin	Realism, Idealism and International Politics: A Reinterpretation	Oxford University Press	1992	
6. Suganami, Hideimi	On the Causes of War	Blackwell	1996	
7. Hoy, D. C.	Foucault: A Critical Reader	Cambridge University Press	1986	
8. Liska, George	The Ways of Power: Patterns and Meanings in World Politics	Gower	1990	
9. Frost, M.	Ethics in International Relations	Blackwell	1996	
10. Clark & White	Understanding Foreign Policy: The Foreign Policy Systems Approach		1989	
11. McGrew, Anthony et al.	Global Politics: Globalisation and the Nation State		1992	