

Department: Political Science

Course Number: Political Science 6615

Course Name: World Politics

## Objectives

1. To offer graduate students an introduction to the study of international relations. The main portion of the course explores the three major “systemic” theories of international relations (Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism) and their empirical applications, although a number of smaller theories are also covered.

### Outcomes

1. Survey theoretical perspectives and apply them to world politics, both historically and today.
2. Understand the development of the field of International Relations by examining how theories developed and changed.
- 3.

### Assignments that demonstrate accomplishment of this outcome:

- 1 Weekly commentaries: Commentaries explore a theme, issue, problem or question that arises from the readings, and does not simply summarize the readings.
- 2 Each student makes one seminar presentation on the readings for a given week. Presentations analyze the readings, rather than simply summarizing them.
- 3 Exams: a mid-semester exam and final exam are administered in class. They simulate comprehensive exam questions. 4
- 4 Develop critical thinking, effective speaking and writing skills, foster a global understanding of environmental politics and policy.

### Outcomes

1. Understand the development of the field of International Relations by examining how theories developed and changed.
2. Students can communicate effectively.

### Assignments that demonstrate accomplishment of this outcome:

1. Written commentaries to give students practice at concise writing, and to provide feedback on their writing.
2. Each student makes one seminar presentation on the readings for a given week. Presentations help students with public speaking.
3. Mid-semester and Final exams consist of “comprehensive exam style questions.” Students get practice responding to comprehensive exam style questions, and gain more experience with the craft of writing.