

**INTS 2130: Introduction to International Studies  
Spring 2012**

**Course Information:**

Section D: MWF 12:20-1:10 p.m.

Section E: MWF 1:25-2:15 p.m.

Section F: MWF 8-8:50 a.m.

Course Website: GeorgiaView

**Contact Information:**

Instructor: Elizabeth Nyman

Email: enyman@georgiasouthern.edu

Office: Forest Drive 1330

Office Hours: 2:15-4 p.m. MW or by appt.

**Course Description and Objectives**

This course provides students with a basic introduction to the history, culture, economics and politics of the international system, with an eye to the most important issues currently facing that system. It will cover major concepts and topics that relate to the international system, such as war and conflict, global trade, and international law and organizations. Upon completion of this course, students should have a strong basic knowledge of the international system and an ability to understand and evaluate global events. I expect that students will keep up to date on current events as we move through the course, as these will often be used as examples of the information we are covering in class. The course thus requires a range of readings, regular attendance and class participation.

**Recommended Texts**

There is one recommended text for this course. It can be purchased online.

Payne, Richard. *Global Issues* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). New York: Longman.

**Course Requirements**

(1) **Examinations:** There will be four examinations in this course. The first exam will be worth 15% of the course grade, and the last three exams will be worth 20%.

(2) **Country News and Poster:** Each student will be responsible for examining an assigned country. This involves finding news articles on topics relating to that country, and putting together a poster about that country at the end of the semester. This is worth 10% of the course grade.

(3) **Participation:** Students are required to attend class regularly and participate actively in class discussion. Students will be graded on their participation in class discussion, and this will make up 15% of the course grade.

### **Course Letter Grades**

Final course letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 59 and below

I will not respond to end of semester emails requesting a grade change.

### **Course Policies**

**Absences from Exams and Late Work:** Makeup exams will be allowed when students are participating in formally sanctioned University events if proper documentation is provided to the instructor prior to the exam. Makeup exams will also be allowed in the case of an extraordinary circumstance if accompanied by sufficient documentation within two days after the exam. The instructor reserves the right to determine what constitutes an extraordinary circumstance.

**Academic Honor Policy:** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students violating the Student Code of Conduct in any aspect of this course will receive a *minimum* penalty of a grade of zero for the assignment or test in question and may receive an "F" in the course at my discretion. Be familiar with what constitutes plagiarism; ignorance is not an excuse.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students are encouraged to address any special needs or special accommodations with me at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your needs. Those seeking accommodations based on disabilities should speak with the Student Disability Resource Center at 912-478-1566.

**Courtesy in the Classroom:** Attention to classroom courtesy is necessary to ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn without distraction. As such, please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices during class time. Please be on time to class and remain in class until you are dismissed. If you must arrive late or leave early, please take the seat nearest an exit, and enter or leave as quietly as possible. Please show respect for your fellow students by refraining from talking during lectures, as well as when other students are speaking. Similarly, please respect the opinions of your fellow students, even if you are in disagreement with them. Repeated disruption of class may lead to a reduction of your final grade.

## Course Outline\*\*

### *The International System*

- Week 1 (Jan 18-20) Introduction to course (Chapters 1 & 2)  
Week 2 (Jan 23-27) Introduction cont, International Organization  
Week 3 (Jan 30-Feb 3) International Organization cont.  
Week 4 (Feb 6-10) Government types and institutions

**Exam 1: Feb 10**

### *Peace and Security*

- Week 5 (Feb 13-17) Conflict (Chapter 14)  
Week 6 (Feb 20-24) Weapons of Mass Destruction (Chapter 6)  
Terrorism (Chapter 5)

**First News Article Due Feb 24**

- Week 7 (Feb 27-Mar 2) Terrorism cont, Human rights (Chapter 3)  
Week 8 (Mar 5-9) Human rights cont.

**Exam 2: March 9**

### *International Economics*

- Week 9 (Mar 12-16) **SPRING BREAK**  
Week 10 (Mar 19-23) Trade and Globalization (Chapter 8)  
Week 11 (Mar 26-30) Trade and Globalization cont., Finance (Chapter 7)

**Second News Article Due March 30**

- Week 12 (Apr 2-6) Finance cont., Inequality (Chapter 9)  
Week 13 (Apr 9-13) Inequality cont.

**Exam 3: Apr 6**

### *Global Issues*

- Week 14 (Apr 16-20) Environment (Chapter 10)  
Week 15 (Apr 23-27) Crime (Chapter 12)  
Week 16 (Apr 30-May 4) Diseases (Chapter 13), Poster Display

**Final Exam (Exam 4):**

Section D: May 7, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Section E: May 9, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Section F: May 7, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

**\*\*This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change.**