Department of Political Science University of the Punjab, Lahore Course Outline



Programme	Diplomacy and Strategic Studies	Course Code		Credit Hours	3
Course Title Contemporary International Relations: Issues and Debates					
Course Introduction					

International Relations as a curriculum has been able to establish itself in a separate domain away from political science. International Relations, though a subject matter instituted formally since the conclusion of the First World War, has also had its roots enshrined ever since internationalization occurred with diplomacy. The main purpose of the course would be to ascertain International Relations both as a behavioral yardstick of diplomatic and strategic dispositions within states and as a dynamic curriculum.

Being an introductory course, History of International Relations will explore some of the core concepts and definitions that are necessary for students to understand and analyze in order to develop a firm grip over the basics for further advanced courses. Students will be acquainted with Sources and core concepts. The task will be operationalizing major events that shaped state behavior and an analytical view of core concepts and foundations of International Relations theories in terms of governance and statecraft with its diverse forms and natures.

Learning Outcomes

On the completion of the course, the students will:

- 1. Be acquainted with the basic concepts and major debates in international relations
- 2. Be equipped with sufficient knowledge of prevalent issues
- 3. Have a thorough overview of international relations that will help them in further, more advanced courses
- 4. Design a significant roadmap for future discussions and debates to enhance their intellectual caliber
- 5. Receive an impressive collection or reading and reference material to help them in future research projects and similar research based activities

	Course Content	Assignments/Readings	
Week 1	The History and Development of International Relations	Chapter One Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 2	International Relations and its relationship with Social Sciences	Chapter Two Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 3	The Concept of Ethics and Norms in International Relations	Chapter Three Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 4	Theoretical Issues in International Relations	Chapter Four Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 5	The Idealism vs Realism Debate: Setting the Pace after World War I	Wilson, P. (1998). The myth of the 'first great debate'. Review of International Studies, 24(5), 1-16.	
Week 6	The Traditionalism vs Behavioralism Debate: Contextualizing International Relations and the Future of Security	McCarthy, N. (2009). A Critical Analysis of the 'Great Debates' That Structured Traditional International Relations Theory. E-International Relations.	
Week 7	Neorealism vs Neoliberalism Debate: The Neo- Neo Question	Powell, R. (1994). Anarchy in international relations theory: the	

		neorealist-neoliberal debate. <i>International</i> organization, 48(2), 313- 344.	
Week 8	Rationalism vs Reflectivism: Is the Concept of Security Over?	Luleci, C., & Sula, I. E. (2016). Survival 'Beyond Positivism?': The Debate on Rationalism and Reflectivism in International Relations Theory. Politikon: The IAPSS Journal of Political Science, 30, 43-55.	
Week 9	Understanding the Concept of Power in International Relations	Chapter 11 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 10	How Domestic Politics impacts International Relations?	Chapter 19 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 11	Globalization, Global Politics and International Relations	Chapter 16 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 12	War, Peace and International Relations	Chapter 23 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.	
Week 13 Week 14	International Trade and Finance	Chapters 28-29 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A.	

		Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.
Week 15	Human Migrations and impact on International Relations	Chapter 30 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.
Week 16	Environmentalism and Climate Politics in International Relations	Chapter 32 Carlsnaes, W., & Risse, T. (2002). and Beth A. Simmons. Handbook of International Relations.

Textbooks and Reading Material

The lectures will supplement discussions through books and online academic material. The objective would be to engage students in reading and listening to expert opinions to develop their own understanding of various concepts that are essential in the subject. The curriculum will not depend on a fixed set of readings and online lectures but will diversify to accommodate research articles and opinions as well as interviews to provide a broad spectrum analysis and discourse.

Recommended Books (material can be provided as lectures proceed)

- 1. The Community of Europe: a History of European Integration since 1945 D.W. Urwin
- 2. The Political Discourse of Anarchy: A Disciplinary History of International Relations (SUNY Series in Global Politics) Brian C. Schmidt
- 3. International Systems in World History: Remaking the Study of International Relations Barry Buzan, Richard Little
- 4. The history and nature of international relations Edmund Aloysius Walsh
- 5. The Geographical Pivot of History (1904) Halford John Mackinder
- 6. The Global Transformation: History, Modernity and the Making of International Relations Barry Buzan, George Lawson
- 7. Spheres of Influence in International Relations: History, Theory and Politics Susanna Hast

Teaching Learning Strategies

- 1. Relevant material will be provided beforehand to the class both in printed and electronic form to match with the course contents designed
- 2. Reciprocal teaching method can be implemented to allow students a chance to speak their mind and discuss their problems

- 3. Brainstorming sessions will be encouraged with instructional scaffolding to allow students to develop their intellectual capabilities before being introduced to technical subjects
- 4. Didactic questioning by the instructor will be a viable teaching tool to initiate small group discussions in a think-pair-share collaborative teaching environment.
- 5. Individual presentations may also be assigned to exclusively focus on students with learning difficulties or exceptional students with a potential to offer more to the class environment.

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

- 1. Week Four: Student report submission for previous lectures taught
- 2. Week Six-Eight: Surprise Quiz or Show-and-Tell Presentation on topics covered
- 3. Week Eleven: Research Report post-Midterms
- 4. Week Fifteen: Grouped presentations of Poster Competition on topics assigned

Assessment

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details	
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.	
2.	Formative Assessment	25%	Continuous assessment includes: Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.	
3.	Final Assessment	40%	Written Examination at the end of the semester It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.	