

Department of Political Science
Faculty of Behavioral & Social Sciences
University of the Punjab, Lahore
Course Outline



Programme	BS International Relations	Course Code	IR-101	Credit Hours	03
Course Title	Introduction to International Relations				
Course Introduction					
This course provides an introductory International Relations (IR) field overview. It explores key concepts, theories, actors, and issues in studying global politics. The course covers the evolution of the international system, the role of states and non-state actors, and major theoretical perspectives in IR, including realism, liberalism, and constructivism. Students will gain an understanding of contemporary international issues such as conflict, security, globalization, and human rights.					
Learning Outcomes					
Course Content				Assignments/Readings	
Week 1	Introduction to International Relations - Definition and scope of International Relations - History and evolution of the international system				
Week 2	Theoretical Perspectives in IR - Realism - Classical realism and neorealism - Key theorists: Thucydides, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Morgenthau, Waltz				
Week 3	Theoretical Perspectives in IR - Liberalism - Classical liberalism and neoliberalism - Key theorists: Kant, Wilson, Keohane, Nye				
Week 4	Theoretical Perspectives in IR - Constructivism - Social constructivism and the role of ideas, norms, and identities - Key theorists: Wendt, Finnemore				
Week 5	Key Actors in International Relations The role of states, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and multinational corporations (MNCs)				
Week 6	International Security - Concepts of security, power, and balance of power - Traditional and non-traditional security threats				

Week 7	International Political Economy • Globalization and economic interdependence • Trade, finance, and development	
Week 8	International Law and Organizations • The role of international law and the United Nations • Human rights and international norms	
Week 9	Conflict and Cooperation • Causes of war and conflict resolution • Diplomacy and negotiation	
Week 10	Globalization and Global Governance • The impact of globalization on state sovereignty • Global governance and transnational issues	
Week 11	Human Rights and Humanitarian Issues • The development of international human rights • Humanitarian intervention and the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)	
Week 12	Environmental Issues in International Relations • Global environmental challenges and international responses • Climate change, sustainability, and global environmental governance	
Week 13	Non-State Actors in International Relations • The role and impact of non-state actors • Case studies: NGOs, terrorist groups, and international advocacy networks	
Week 14	Case Studies in International Relations • Analysis of contemporary international events and issues • Application of IR theories to case studies	
Week 15-16	Review and Final Examination Preparation	
	Final Term Exam	

Textbooks and Reading Material	
"The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations" Authors: John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens Year of Publication: 2020 Press: Oxford University Press Title: "International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity" Authors: Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki, and Steve Smith Year of Publication: 2016 Press: Oxford University Press Title: "International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues" Authors: Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis Year of Publication: 2016 Press: Pearson Title: "Global Politics" Author: Andrew Heywood Year of Publication: 2014 Press: Palgrave Macmillan Title: "Essentials of International Relations" Author: Karen A. Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguín-Toft Year of Publication: 2016 Press: W.W. Norton & Company Title: "Understanding International Relations" Author: Chris Brown and Kirsten Ainley Year of Publication: 2019 Press: Red Globe Press	
Teaching Learning Strategies	
Teaching learning strategies: class participation and panel discussion, to hold a seminar with effective students participation, interactive sessions with students, surprise quiz and presentation on relevant topics, to hold competition among students to discuss effectively different topics related to subject and appreciate students through giving them certificates.	
Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar	
1. Assignment types, 2. Quiz competition among students. 3. Presentations with question answers session 4. And group discussions	