

Syllabus for POS-3150

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS I

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course reviews paramount events and processes that have shaped global international relations in the modern era. Since the complex practice of international politics is studied through an extensive variety of methods, principles, and conceptual approaches, the course is designed to familiarize students with the most common ones in the field. The purpose of this intellectual pursuit is to enhance students' capacity to analytically and systematically explore relevant domestic and international developments.

COURSE TOPICS

- Globalism
- Levels of analysis
- Evolving modern history
- Foreign policy
- Power
- Anarchy as the essence of international life
- The role of balance of power
- Alliances
- Elements of strategy in realism
- Liberal theories
- Marxism
- Peace studies
- Gender theories
- Causes and types of war
- Conventional warfare
- Asymmetrical warfare
- CBRN warfare
- International organizations
- International law
- Human rights
- Approaches to international trade
- Mechanisms for international trade
- International finance
- Multinational business
- Integration theory
- The information revolution
- The interdependence dimension
- Resources of the earth: problems and opportunities
- Demographic issues
- The global South
- Newly developed countries
- Issues of concern

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- CO1** Discuss international historical events.

- CO2** Examine contending approaches to international relations.
- CO3** Break down and interpret events according to levels of analysis.
- CO4** Evaluate past processes according to tools acquired in the course.
- CO5** Examine the role of power and conflict in international relations.
- CO6** Explore novel international phenomena of cooperation, such as globalization, integration, the rise of the NGOs, and the emphasis on the environment.
- CO7** Analyze the gap between poor nations and wealthy ones, including its implications.

COURSE MATERIALS

You will need the following materials to complete your coursework. Some course materials may be free, open source, or available from other providers. You can access free or open-source materials by clicking the links provided below or in the module details documents. To purchase course materials, please visit the [University's textbook supplier](#).

Required Textbooks

- Pevehouse, J. C. W., & Goldstein, J. S. (2017). *International relations* (11th ed.). Boston: Pearson.
ISBN-13: 978-0134404769
- Art, R. J., & Jervis, R. (2017). *International politics: Enduring concepts and contemporary issues* (13th ed.). Boston: Pearson.
ISBN-13: 978-0134482019

COURSE STRUCTURE

International Relations I is a three-credit online course, consisting of **nine** modules. Modules include an overview, topics, study materials, and activities. Module titles are listed below.

- **Module 1: Globalization**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO1, CO3, CO6
- **Module 2: The Realist School of Thought**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO1, CO2, CO4

- **Module 3: Alternatives to Realism in International Relations**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO1, CO2, CO4, CO5
- **Module 4: Conflict**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO2, CO3, CO4, CO5
- **Module 5: International Law, Transnational Actors, Universal Rights**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO6
- **Module 6: Worldwide Trade**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO6
- **Module 7: International Integration**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO6
- **Module 8: Global Demographics and the Environment**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO6, CO7
- **Module 9: The Have-Nots**
Course objectives covered in this module: CO2, CO7

ASSESSMENT METHODS

For your formal work in the course, you are required to participate in online discussion forums, take two proctored examinations, and complete a final project. See below for more details.

Consult the Course Calendar for due dates.

Promoting Originality

One or more of your course activities may utilize a tool designed to promote original work and evaluate your submissions for plagiarism. More information about this tool is available in [this document](#).

Discussion Forums

You are required to participate in **ten** graded discussion forums. Discussion forums are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules.

Located within the Evaluation Rubrics section of the course website is the online discussion forum rubric used to aid in the grading of all online discussion assignments.

Written Assignments

You are required to complete **four** written assignments. The written assignments are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules. Be sure to review the written assignment directions carefully and contact the mentor if you have any questions regarding the expectations of the assignment. All work submitted for the written assignments should consistently use an acceptable formatting style and documentation style (APA or MLA).

Examinations

For a list of key concepts that may appear on your exams, refer to the study guides available in the Examinations section of the course website.

You are required to take **two** proctored online examinations: a midterm and a final exam, each worth 25 percent of your course grade. Both exams require that you use the University's [Online Proctor Service](#) (OPS). Please refer to the "Examinations and Proctors" section of the Online Student Handbook (see [Student Handbooks](#) in the General Information area of the course website) for further information about scheduling and taking online exams and for all exam policies and procedures.

The **Midterm Examination** is two hours long and covers material from Modules 1–4 of the course. It consists of 30 multiple-choice questions and 2 essay questions.

The **Final Examination** is two hours long and covers material from Modules 5–9 of the course. It consists of 35 multiple-choice questions and 2 essay questions.

Statement about Cheating

You are on your honor not to cheat during an exam. Cheating means:

- Looking up any answer or part of an answer in an unauthorized textbook or on the Internet, or using any other source to find an answer.
- Copying and pasting or, in any way copying responses or parts of responses from any other source into your exams. This includes but is not limited to copying and pasting from other documents or spreadsheets, whether written by yourself or anyone else.
- Plagiarizing answers.
- Asking anyone else to assist you by whatever means available while you take an exam.
- Copying any part of an exam to share with other students.
- Telling your mentor that you need another attempt at an exam because your connection to the Internet was interrupted when that is not true.

If there is evidence that you have cheated or plagiarized in an exam, the exam will be declared invalid, and you will fail the course.

Final Project

The final project should be a research paper of between 2000 and 2750 words (8 to 10 pages) on an international event (or process) that you wish to research and write about. It should be a topic not covered comprehensively in the required readings of the course. See the Final Project area of the course website for further details.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- **Online discussions (10)**—20%
- **Written assignments (4)**—10%
- **Midterm exam (proctored, Modules 1–4)**—25%
- **Final exam (proctored, Modules 5–9)**—25%
- **Final project**—20%
 - Final project preparation assignment (3%)
 - Final project submission (17%)

All activities will receive a numerical grade of 0–100. You will receive a score of 0 for any work not submitted. Your final grade in the course will be a letter grade. Letter grade equivalents for numerical grades are as follows:

A	= 93–100	C+	= 78–79
A–	= 90–92	C	= 73–77
B+	= 88–89	C–	= 70–72
B	= 83–87	D	= 60–69
B–	= 80–82	F	= Below 60

To receive credit for the course, you must earn a letter grade of C or better (for an area of study course) or D or better (for a course not in your area of study), based on the weighted average of all assigned course work (e.g., exams, assignments, discussion postings).

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

First Steps to Success

To succeed in this course, take the following first steps:

- Read carefully the entire Syllabus, making sure that all aspects of the course are clear to you and

that you have all the materials required for the course.

- Take the time to read the entire Online Student Handbook. The Handbook answers many questions about how to proceed through the course, how to schedule exams, and how to get the most from your educational experience at Thomas Edison State University.
- Arrange to take your examination(s) by following the instructions in this Syllabus and the Online Student Handbook.
- Familiarize yourself with the learning management systems environment—how to navigate it and what the various course areas contain. If you know what to expect as you navigate the course, you can better pace yourself and complete the work on time.
- If you are not familiar with web-based learning, be sure to review the processes for posting responses online and submitting assignments before class begins.

Study Tips

Consider the following study tips for success:

- To stay on track throughout the course, begin each week by consulting the Course Calendar. The Course Calendar provides an overview of the course and indicates due dates for submitting assignments, posting discussions, and scheduling and taking examinations.
- Check Announcements regularly for new course information.

Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students

TESU's [Academic Code of Conduct](#) permits student AI use in support of their writing and research process—not as a replacement for original writing. Document AI use with an acknowledgment statement at the end of each assignment, noting the tools and prompts used. Cite any AI-generated content on the References page. Please review [Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students](#) for more detailed information.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Thomas Edison State University recognizes, values, and relies upon the diversity of our community. We strive to provide equitable, inclusive learning experiences that embrace our students' backgrounds, identities, experiences, abilities, and expertise.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Thomas Edison State University adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, 1990; ADAAA, 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) oversees requests for academic accommodations related to disabilities; a student who is pregnant, postpartum, or a student parenting a newborn who is not the birth parent [as covered under NJSA18A]; and students requesting academic accommodation for a short-term/temporary illness and/or injury. Information can be found on the [Office of Student Accessibility Services](#) webpage and questions can be sent to ADA@tesu.edu.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

To ensure success in all your academic endeavors and coursework at Thomas Edison State University, familiarize yourself with all administrative and academic policies including those related to academic integrity, course late submissions, course extensions, and grading policies.

For more, see:

- [University-wide policies](#)
- [Undergraduate academic policies](#)
- [Undergraduate course policies](#)
- [Graduate academic policies](#)
- [Graduate course policies](#)
- [Nursing student policies](#)
- [Nursing graduate student policies](#)
- [International student policies](#)
- [Academic code of conduct](#)