



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring 2025

Year: 2025

Course Prefix: POLS

Course and Section #: POLS 2100-003

Course Title: Introduction to International Relations

Credits: 3

Course Description

Discusses logic of power in international relations. Studies idealistic and realistic theories of international relations. Examines reasons why nations go to war. Compares geopolitical thrust and response.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: John P. Macfarlane **Office:** CB 506w **Phone:** 801-863-6716

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Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the major historical events and philosophical ideas that shaped the international arena and their repercussions for the modern international system
 2. Identify major actors and processes of international relations
 3. Apply the major theories, analytical tools, and concepts used to study international relations
 4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills by analyzing global problems from various angles and perspectives
 5. Communicate cohesive and supported arguments effectively
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Course Materials and Texts

REQUIRED TEXT

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Eric B. Shiraev & Vladislav M. Zubok – 3rd edition - paperback - Oxford

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Participation	3%
Quizzes	24%
Research Paper	25%
Mid-Term Exam	24%
Final Exam	24%

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

JANUARY 6	Topics: Introduction / Introducing International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> – Intro / chap 1
JANUARY 8	Topics: Introducing International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 1
JANUARY 10	Topics: Introducing International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 1
JANUARY 13	Topics: Introducing International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 1
JANUARY 15	Topics: The Evolution of International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 2
JANUARY 17	Topics: The Evolution of International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 2
JANUARY 20	Martin Luther King Holiday
JANUARY 22	Topics: The Evolution of International Relations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 2
JANUARY 24	Topics: The Evolution of International Relations

	Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 2
JANUARY 27	Topics: Realism and Liberalism Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 3
JANUARY 29	Topics: Realism and Liberalism Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 3
JANUARY 31	Topics: Realism and Liberalism Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 3
FEBRUARY 3	Topics: Realism and Liberalism Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 3
QUIZ #1	
FEBRUARY 5	Topics: Alternate Views Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 4
FEBRUARY 7	Topics: Alternate Views Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 4
FEBRUARY 10	Topics: Alternate Views Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 4
FEBRUARY 12	Topics: International Security Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 5
FEBRUARY 14	Topics: International Security Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 5
FEBRUARY 17	Washington & Lincoln Holiday
FEBRUARY 19	Topics: International Security Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 5
FEBRUARY 21	Topics: International Security Reading Assignment: ShiraeV / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 5
FEBRUARY 24	Topics: International Security

MID-TERM EXAM (chapters 1-5)	Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 5
FEBRUARY 26	Topics: International Law and International Organizations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> – chapter 6
FEBRUARY 28	Topics: International Law and International Organizations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> – chapter 6
MARCH 3	Topics: International Law and International Organizations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> – chapter 6
QUIZ #2	Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> – chapter 6
MARCH 5	Topics: International Law and International Organizations Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> – chapter 6
MARCH 7	Topics: International Political Economy and Development Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 7
MARCH 10	SPRING BREAK
MARCH 12	SPRING BREAK
MARCH 14	SPRING BREAK
MARCH 17	Topics: International Political Economy and Development Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 7
MARCH 19	Topics: International Political Economy and Development Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 7
MARCH 21	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8
MARCH 24	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8
MARCH 26	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shiraev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8

MARCH 28	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8
MARCH 31	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8
APRIL 2	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8
APRIL 4	Topics: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 8
APRIL 7	Topics: Environmental Issues Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 9
APRIL 9	Topics: Environmental Issues Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 9
Research Paper	
APRIL 11	Topics: Environmental Issues Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 9
APRIL 14	Topics: Humanitarian Concerns Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 10
APRIL 16	Topics: Humanitarian Concerns Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 10
QUIZ #3	
APRIL 18	Topics: Humanitarian Concerns Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 10
APRIL 21	Topics: Humanitarian Concerns Reading Assignment: Shirayev / Zubok, <i>International Relations</i> - chapter 10
APRIL 23	NO CLASSES

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or DiscussionSAME AS ABOVE

Required Course Syllabus Statements**Generative AI**

Use ChatGPT as a learning assistant, not as a crutch. If you use it, cite it at the top of your code. You are responsible to make sure that any code or content does what it is supposed to do and says what you want it to say. Don't accept anything it generates at face value without checking it critically. These days potential employers will expect you to know how to use tools like ChatGPT to generate code, so it is a skill we need to teach you. If it helps you learn some things faster, GREAT because we can spend class time on more interesting topics. Just remember: If you REALLY want to be good, work for it.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements**Accommodations/Students with Disabilities**

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that

produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.