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School of Diplomacy and International
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Fall 2019

DIPL 1711 AE Introduction to International Relations

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SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

DIPL 1711 AE - FALL 2019

Introduction to International Relations

Tuesday and Thursday 11:00am -12:45pm

Instructor: Dr. Binneh s Minteh

Office: TBA

E-mail: mintehbi@shu.edu

Classroom: Stafford Hall 207

Office Hours: TBA

Phone: (862) 235-7055

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the field of International Relations. It offers a broad overview of international relations focusing on basic concepts, theories and central themes such as war and peace, conflict and cooperation, poverty and prosperity. The course will provide you with an understanding of the basic concepts in the field, including power, interdependence, sovereignty and globalization. The course examines different levels of analysis and ways scholars of global politics explore the evolution and functioning of the international system. The course will focus on the nation-state, historically the primary actor in IR, as well as examine the growing role of non-state actors, including non-governmental and international organizations as well as social movements. Students will develop a basic understanding of different theoretical approaches and utilize these lenses to explain international events, applying this knowledge to explain and understand the relations of different actors in the international system. As a course designed to meet the Oral Communication Proficiency, students will also be expected to demonstrate and hone oral and written communications skills.

Readings and Materials

Required readings are listed below for each class session. All required articles will be available on blackboard.

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the basic concepts, theories and perspectives of International Relations;

2. Identify and explain key recurring patterns in international politics;
3. Analyze international relations issues in both a theoretical and empirical context;
4. Understand the nature of strategic interaction between states and the major causes of international conflict;
5. Explain the role of states and non-state actors in the international system;
6. Understand global economic interaction in the context of trade, business and finance;
7. Interpret foreign policy behavior of states on the international stage;
8. Conceptualize globalization, integration and its contemporary security challenges;
9. Evaluate modern warfare, diplomacy and other elements of international security;

Assignments and Grading Rules

Exams. There will be a total of four exams for the course: Exam I, Exam II – Midterm, Exam III, and Exam IV–Final Exam. Use of books and notes will be prohibited. The exams will consist of short answer and essay questions.

Student Debates: The debate will be a panel format, with two class members adopting a pro (yes) side of an issue and two others, the con (no) side. Students will sign up for debate topics on the first day of class. Panel members will present arguments on their respective sides for 20 minutes followed by a Question & Answer session.

- **Debate Presentation (50 points):** Panelists on both sides will be required to make strong arguments with supporting evidence from the readings and contemporary activities or examples across the international relations landscape.
- **Debate paper (50 points): on the day of the debate,** each panelist must also provide the instructor with a 2-3pg short paper on your preparation and research for the debate. The paper should address the following:
 1. A summation of your position/stand in the debate and the reasons for your stance.
 2. A description of the distribution of work within the group (who did what).
 3. What you liked about the assignment and what difficulties you had with the assignment
 4. A list of references consulted in the preparation for the debate (any reference style can be used, but be consistent). The reference list is not included in the page limit.

Class participation and attendance. All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade. Poor Attendance (over two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 1%.

Requirements and Grading

Grading: 500 points

Course Components	Possible Points
Attendance/ Participation (10%)	50
Exam I (15%)	25
Exam II - Midterm Exam (20%)	100
Exam III (15%)	25
Student Debate (20%)	100
Exam IV- Final Exam (35%)	200

Letter Grade
As = $\geq 90\%$
Bs = $\geq 80\%$
Cs = $\geq 70\%$
Ds = $\geq 60\%$

Policy on Incompletes

Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases for emergencies. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request accompanied by a Course Adjustment Form (available from the Diplomacy Main Office) to the professor before the date of the final examination. If the incomplete request is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving the Incomplete or by the time of graduation (whichever comes first) automatically becomes an "FI" (which is equivalent to an F). It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

Communications Policy

The primary mode of communication between students and instructor is by email and by phone. I will endeavor to respond to email within 48 hours, but usually I will be able to do so within 24 hours. You can also reach me by phone.

Accommodations Policy

It is the policy and practice of Seton Hall University to promote inclusive learning environments. If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in compliance with University policy, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the

Rehabilitation Act, and/or the New Jersey Law against Discrimination. Please note, students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To request accommodations or assistance, please self-identify with the Office for Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67 at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services, contact DSS at [\(973\) 313-6003](tel:9733136003) or by e-mail at DSS@shu.edu.

Academic Integrity & Dishonesty

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible dismissal from the School of Diplomacy. See University and School standards for academic conduct here: <https://www.shu.edu/student-life/upload/Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf> and <http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>

Citation Formats

Papers should utilize one of the Chicago Manual of Style citation formats: Author-Date or Notes and Bibliography. The guidelines for these formats are on the course Blackboard page

Course Schedule

Many readings will be posted electronically. If you are unable to access a reading, please contact me in adequate time before the class session in which the reading is due. This schedule of readings may be changed with appropriate notice.

Week 1 (Aug 29, 2019) – Course Introduction

- Sign up for debates
- Subject: Introductions

Week 2 (Sept 3 / 5, 2019) - Studying International Relations

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - Chapter One: Introducing International Relations

Globalization, International Relations, and Daily Life

Actors and Influences

Global Geography

Week 3 (Sept 10/12, 2019): Evolution of International Relations

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019

- Chapter 2. The Evolution of International Relations

Week 4 (Sep 17/19, 2019): – Theories of International Relation

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - **Chapter 3:** Realist and Liberal Theories
 - Chapter 4: Alternative Views - Marxism and Constructivism

Subject: Exam 1

Week 5 (Sept 24/26, 2019): – Making Foreign Policy

Models of decision making

Individual decision making

Group Psychology

Crisis Management

Bureaucracies

Interest Groups

The Military

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - Chapter 4.4
 - Chapter 4.5 – Political Psychology (Rational /biased Decision –Making)
 - Chapter 4.6 – Critical Applications of Alternative Views
(individual, state and global levels)

Debate 1: Discuss the Liberal and Realist Approach to the Global Trade War Between United States and Russia?

Week 6 (Oct 1/3, 2019): International Security

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - Chapter 5.1 – Security Principles
 - Chapter 5.2 – Security Policies
 - Chapter 5.3 – Realist, Liberal and Alternative Approaches to Security

Debate 2: Discuss the Liberal and Realist Approaches to resolving the North Korean Nuclear crisis?

Week 7 (Oct 8/10, 2019): International Organizations, Law and Human Rights

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - Chapter 6: International Law and International Organizations

Role of International Organizations / Principles and Source of International law

Development of International Law/ Human Rights and Humanitarian issues

Early International Legal Institutions – The League of Nations

Approaches to International Law

Application of International Law

Debate 3: Does responsibility to protect justify use of drones?

Week 8 (Oct 15 /17, 2019): International Political Economy and Development

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - Chapter 7: International Law and International Organizations

7.1 – Elements of International Political Economy

7.2 - Principles of Mercantilism

7.3 – Economic Liberalism and Formation of IPE

Subject Exam II: Midterm Exam

Week 9 (Oct 22 /24, 2019): International Political Economy and Development

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019
 - Chapter 7: International Law and International Organizations

7.4 – Constructivism and IPE

7.5- Marxism and Conflict Theories

7.6 – Critical Applications

Debate 4: Has International development promoted progress and prosperity in the world?

Week 10 (Oct 29/31, 2019): Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019

Chapter 8: Terrorism and Evolving Security Challenges

- 8.1 – Terrorism and Counterterrorism
- 8.2- Traditional views of Evolving Security Threats
- 8.3 – Alternative Views of Evolving Security Threats
- 8.4 – Contexts and Applications

Debate 5: Is force the best way to fight terrorism?

Week 11(Nov 5 /7, 2019): Environmental Issues

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019

Chapter 9: Environmental Issues

- 9.1 – Environmental Problems, Disasters, and Policies
- 9.2- Approaches to Environmental Issues
- 9.3 – Environmental Issues and Levels of Analysis

Debate 6: Is the United States Justified to withdraw from key global environmental regimes such as the Paris Accord?

Week 12 (Nov 12/14, 2019): Intervention and Humanitarian Concerns

- Eric B. Shiraev, Vladislav M. Zubok, *International Relations*, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, July 2019

Chapter 10: International Law and International Organizations

- 10.1 - Humanitarian Challenges
- 10.2- Humanitarian Policies
- Migration
 - Mendick, Tim Ross David Barrett, Colin Freeman in Calais and Robert. 2015. "Calais Crisis: 'This Is a Global Migration Crisis.'" August 1. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11778497/This-is-a-global-migration-crisis.html>.
 - Minteh, Binneh S., *The European Migration Crisis (2011-2015): A Crisis of Failed and Fragile States* (April 7, 2016). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2830675> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2830675>

Subject: Exam III

Debate 7: Are immigrants a burden or an asset for the host societies?

Week 13: (Dec 19/21, 2019): Globalization and Security

- Security: A Definition – Traditional and Contemporary Definitions
- New Dimensions of Human Security
- International Terrorism
 - C. Elisabeth St Jean, “The Changing Nature of International Security: The Need for an Integrated Definition”, Paterson Review Volume 8, 2007 available on Blackboard
 -

Week 14: 26/28, 2019: Threats of Terrorism

- Reading will be posted on Blackboard

Debate 8: Discuss global security threats and its related challenges of the modern world.

Week 15: Dec 3/5, 2019: Threats of Cyber Security

- Taylor, R. W., Fritsch, E.J., and Liederbach, J. (2015) *Information Security and Infrastructure Protection*, Digital Terrorism and Information Warfare, Digital Crime and Digital Terrorism (3rd edition), Chapter 14 available on blackboard

Week 16: Dec 10/12, 2019: Class Wrap up and Revisions

Final Exam will be held on the date outlined in the University Final Exam Schedule