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Introduction to International Studies Course Syllabus

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Introduction to International Studies (INT100)

College of Staten Island

City University of New York

Course Description: [per [catalogue](#)] 3 hours; 3 credits. This course examines the impact and implications of today's dynamic international context for nations and their citizens. To operate in this global context, citizens, corporations, and governments must know other cultures and political-economic systems and how global forces influence domestic activities, both public and private. Analyzing the social, cultural, economic, and current political characteristics of the international environment, students will learn how these characteristics may affect their lives and choices.

Statement of Purpose

This course is an introduction to interdisciplinary studies of global issues and to CSI's International Studies program (INT). Its curriculum draws on literary, cultural, and social scientific and historical approaches to international concerns, events, and problems. The purpose of this course is to equip students with the tools and information needed to better understand globalization through political, economic, environmental and cultural issues in today's world.

Required Reading and Viewing: The articles and videos in the syllabus are required. You will also need to bring them to class (electronically is fine) so that we can discuss them. All items can be found online at the links listed in this syllabus.

Course objectives and assessments:

Objective	Assessment
Students will learn to use empirical methods in gathering news and information, to articulate clear, cogent arguments, and to fact-check stories and messages that appear in public discourse.	Short written assignments, class discussions, debates, and exams.
Students will learn the broad themes as well as the nuances and dilemmas in analyses of past and current global issues and international affairs and to relate theoretical lenses and historical knowledge in consideration of key issues such as war, collective security, human rights, development, the environment, and nationalism.	Written assignments designed to evaluate proficiency in interdisciplinary analysis and issue framing.
Students will be able to form clear, direct questions that open up debates and discussions that can be used to frame coherent positions on domestic and international issues and policies.	Written assignments and oral debates.

Your responsibilities:

It is your responsibility to attend class regularly, to participate fully in every discussion, and to contribute to the class – your involvement in the course will be critical to its serving as a productive learning environment. Discussions should be well-informed, analytical and respectful, representing a wide range of perspectives and points of view. Attendance at class is expected.

Rules and Regulations:

- Complete all readings and assignments **before** coming to class.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices should be silenced during class however devices may be used to access course materials and conduct academic research.
- You are responsible for the material you miss on any day you are absent.
- Late work is not generally accepted, except in the case of a documented emergency.

- There are no make-ups of quizzes, exams or homework, except in the case of a documented emergency (death in the family, hospitalization, etc.). Note on required work: Absence from class does not excuse you from work due or exams given on the day of your return. It is your responsibility to obtain all assignments and information from classes missed.

Plagiarism and Cheating:

By enrolling in this class, you are making a commitment to intellectual and academic honesty. Plagiarism and cheating are dishonest and degrading to you, to your fellow students, to the College, and to the instructor. In any assignment, it is your responsibility to identify the sources of your work. If you are unclear as to how sources should be cited, speak with your instructor about how to appropriately reference works.

Cheating includes (but is not limited to):

- Plagiarism: the failure to indicate the source of your information with quotation marks, footnotes or other accepted citation forms. This includes sentences and paragraphs as well as ideas and concepts.
- Submission of work that is not your own for papers, assignments, or exams.
- Use of unauthorized materials during an exam or quiz.
- Submission of the same work for credit in two or more classes.

Key Terms to know by the end of this course:

Anarchy authoritarianism, capitalism, cold war, colonialism, conflict, democracy, developing & developed countries, development, globalization, identity, (neo)imperialism, institutions, interests, international relations, international system, liberalism, nationalism, neoliberalism, objectivity, perspective, political violence, post-cold war, poverty, power, influence, sovereignty, subjectivity, terrorism, the “non-West”, the “West”, unilateralism, bilateralism, multilateralism, unipolar, bipolar, multipolar, war.

Class structure:

Most class meetings will follow a similar formula: Discussion of key terms and concepts; discussion of the readings; research on a current media story related to the week’s concepts and topics; discussion of the sources and opinions expressed in the media.

DATE	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENT
Week 1	Overview of International Studies	https://www.csi.cuny.edu/academics-and-research/departments-programs/interdisciplinary-programs#International_Studies
Week 1	Review of syllabus	Link to Syllabus in Blackboard or LMS
Week 1	Read the syllabus	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOlVb2YtAhY
Week 1	Expectations in and out of Week	https://www.dropbox.com/s/pg7mas7g38n6vsv/Why%20are%20you%20here.pptx?dl=0 https://www.dropbox.com/s/4u2c7uyb0osg1c0/Common%20Terms%20in%20International%20Studies.docx?dl=0
Week 1	Common terms in International Studies	0
Week 1	Media Bias	https://vimeo.com/180771524
Week 2	Beyond Google/Research/Plagiarism	Lecture by the Library Faculty https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/forms-government/what-government
Week 2	Forms of Government	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/forms-government/what-kinds-governments-exist
Week 2	What kinds of Governments Exist?	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/forms-government/laws-norms-and-democratic-backsliding
Week 2	Laws, Norms, and Democratic Backsliding	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/forms-government/understanding-revolutions
Week 3	Understanding Revolutions	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/building-blocks/what-sovereignty
Week 3	Arab Spring	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fgcd5ZcxDys https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/building-blocks/how-self-determination-shaped-modern-world
Week 3	Sovereignty	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/conflict/understanding-northern-irelands-troubles
Week 3	The Concept of Self Determination	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM4vblG6BVQ
Week 3	Understanding Northern Ireland and the "Troubles"	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Ejga4kJUts
Week 3	The Troubles (Sunday Bloody Sunday)	https://alphahistory.com/coldwar/cold-war-alliances/
Week 3	The Troubles Part (Zombies)	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/conflict/nato-worlds-largest-alliance
Week 4	Security Alliances post WWII	https://www.thoughtco.com/warsaw-pact-4178983 https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/building-blocks/european-union-worlds-biggest-sovereignty
Week 4	NATO	https://world101.cfr.org/historical-context/world-war/how-did-united-states-become-global-power
Week 4	The Warsaw Pact	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPhWR4d3FJQ
Week 4	The European Union	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=em3T5KnLAXO
Week 5	The role of the U.S. as a Global Leader	https://carnegiemoscow.org/commentary/79521
Week 5	The U.S. View from Above	
Week 5	American Exceptionalism	
Week 5	Russia Today	

Week 5	Brexit	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecnGuivg0is https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/global-governance/what-liberal-world-order
Week 5	What is the Liberal World Order	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/global-governance/what-international-law
Week 6	What is International Law?	https://archive.globalpolicy.org/un-reform/general-analysis-un-reform/49903-facing-21st-century-threats-why-america-needs-the-un.html
Week 6	The UN is a Worthwhile Organization?	https://www.hoover.org/research/unso-bad-its-almost-beautiful
Week 6	The UN is not a Worthwhile Organization	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/global-governance/what-un-security-council
Week 6	UN Security Council	https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights
Week 6	Declaration of Human Rights	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/global-governance/what-world-health-organization
Week 7	The WHO	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/global-governance/what-world-trade-organization
Week 7	The WTO	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/global-governance/what-are-world-bank-and-international
Week 7	The World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF)	https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1878/10/the-relations-of-labor-and-capital/521106/
Week 7	Capital versus Labor in the 19th Century	https://democracyjournal.org/magazine/43/labor-and-capital-in-the-global-economy/
Week 7	Capital versus Labor in the 21st Century	https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/world/2019-02-12/broken-bargain
Week 8	Immigration backlash and the rise of Nationalism	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/building-blocks/understanding-constructive-and-destructive
Week 8	Nationalism	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/building-blocks/reimagining-sovereignty-global-era
Week 8	Reimagining Sovereignty	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/conflict/how-conflict-changing
Week 9	War and Conflict	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/conflict/civilian-consequences-conflict
Week 9	Civilian Costs of Conflict	https://world101.cfr.org/how-world-works-and-sometimes-doesnt/building-blocks/rise-and-fall-responsibility-protect
Week 9	The Rise and Fall of the Responsibility to Protect	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVV6_1Sef9M
Week 9	Forced Migration and Crisis	https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/2014/7/15/senate-section/article/s4470-1?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%22%5D%7D&s=10&r=3
Week 10	The United States Should Deport Unauthorized and Unaccompanied Immigrant Children	https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/2014/7/15/senate-section/article/s4470-1?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%22%5D%7D&s=10&r=3

Week 10	The United States Should Not Deport Unauthorized and Unaccompanied Immigrant Children	https://homeland.house.gov/imo/media/doc/20140707132027-10445.pdf
Week 10	Russia's Intervention in Ukraine (2014) was the Result of Western Aggression?	http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/46131
Week 10	Russia's Intervention in Ukraine was the Result of Western Aggression?	https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2014_04/20140513_140411-factsheet_russia_en.pdf
Week 11	China is the Aggressor in the Issue of the Disputed Island in the Pacific Ocean	https://www.dvidshub.net/video/340353/us-secretary-defense-chuck-hagel-gives-remarks-2014-shangri-la-dialogue-singapore
Week 11	China is Not the Aggressor in the Issue of the Disputed Island in the Pacific Ocean	http://perspectivebd.com/archives/412
Week 11	Chaos in the Middle East is Largely the Fault of U.S. Policy	https://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/how-the-u-s-wrecked-the-middle-east/
Week 11	Chaos in the Middle East is Largely Not the Fault of U.S. Policy	https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2015/06/america-not-to-blame-for-middle-east-falling-apart-118611/
Week 12	Free Trade is Helping to End World Poverty	https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/22081/The0role0of0trade0in0ending0poverty.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y
Week 12	Free Trade is Not Helping to End World Poverty	https://www.huffpost.com/entry/free-trade-isnt-helping-w_b_837893
Week 12	The United States Should Ratify the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women?	http://peacewomen.org/content/statement-melanne-verveer-ambassador-large-global-womens-issues-cedaw-testimony-senate
Week 12	The United States Should Not Ratify the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women?	https://www.heritage.org/testimony/womens-rights-are-human-rights-us-ratification-the-convention-the-elimination-all-forms
Week 13	Global Issues for the Future	https://world101.cfr.org/historical-context/global-era/eleven-global-issues-will-shape-future
Week 13	Globalization (Complete entire module)	https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/globalization/what-globalization
Week 13	Terrorism (Complete entire module)	https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/terrorism
Week 14	Climate Change (Complete entire module)	https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/climate-change
Week 14	Global Health (Complete entire module)	https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/global-health
Week 15	Trade (Complete entire module)	https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/trade
Week 15	Development (Complete entire module)	https://world101.cfr.org/global-era-issues/development

Note: This syllabus was created using a variety of OER, free (mostly unrestricted access), and author designed materials to develop a Zero-Cost-Textbook course for the College of Staten Island, the City University of New York, by Stephen Ferst, Ed.D. This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).

