Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: POSC 292

Course Title: International Relations

Number of Credit Hours: Lecture Hours: Laboratory Hours:

Catalog Description: Theory and practice of how nations relate to each other. Offered odd Spring. Course meets World/Eastern Culture graduation requirement.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): None.

Text(s): Most current editions of the following:

Basic Texts:
- Hughes, Barry. *Continuity and Change in World Politics*. Prentice Hall
- Goldstein, Joshua. *International Relations*. Longman

Readers:
- Snow. *Cases in International Relations*. Longman

Any appropriate text for an introductory course in International Relations.

Course Objectives:
- To examine the major theoretical approaches to understanding international relations.
- To explore the roles played by states and non-state actors in the international system.
- To investigate the causes of war.
- To describe and explain the functioning of the global economy.
Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Describe and assess the major theories of the major theoretical schools of international relations: realism, liberalism and radicalism.
- Identify and explain significant events in the history of international relations, including the Treaty of Westphalia, the European balance of power system prior to World War I, the World Wars, colonialism and the Cold War.
- Recognize the dynamic nature of international politics and evaluate the contemporary challenges to the traditional state-centric approach posed by non-state actors, including international organizations, social movements, multinational corporations and individuals.
- Identify the institutions and processes of the global economy.
- Explain different perspectives on Third World development.
- Investigate explanations for the causes of war and alternative means of enhancing global security.
- Identify and discuss institutions of global and regional governance, especially the United Nations.
- Recognize the increasing importance of transboundary concerns, such as environmental sustainability, terrorism, and international standards of human rights.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Study of international relations and its evolution
- Historical development of international relations
- Theories of international relations
- Levels of analysis
- Nation-states and nationalism
- International Security
  - Types of conflict
  - Causes of war
  - Arms control
  - Peacekeeping
- International political economy
  - International trade
  - International financial institutions
  - North-South relations
- International organizations
  - United Nations
  - European Union
  - Non-governmental organizations and multinational corporations
- International law
- Human rights
- Global environmental issues

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35
Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Brian Kessel

Date: March 23, 2006

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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