The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Issues in International Relations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>INR</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>11014</td>
<td>1, 2002</td>
<td>ONC</td>
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Academic Group: FOART
Academic Org: FOA003
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 090309

STAFFING
Examiner: Don McMillen
Moderator: Richard Gehrmann

RATIONALE
An understanding of international relations, both historically and in the dynamically globalizing contemporary world, is crucial as societies and cultures, political systems and ideologies, and economies interact in dynamic and complex - and often confusing - ways at the different "levels" of the global system. Indeed, the actors in international relations range from individual persons to groups and institutions - with the latter including states and sub-state units, international organisations and movements, non-governmental organisations, multi-national corporations and regional organisations. Across disciplines, as well as across geopolitical borders and time periods, there are enduring coherent world views which shape perspectives about and analyses of global, regional, national and local environments; which portray expectations concerning the future; and which pronounce prescriptions for actions by actors with authority. These views frame long-extant debates on war and peace, poverty and plenty, survival and extinction; and it is essential that Australians understand them in their regional contexts.

SYNOPSIS
This course, which follows on from courses INR1000 and INR1001 ("Introduction to International Relations A and B") offered in year one, is one of the required courses in the International Relations Major and the International Relations Option Studies program in the Bachelor of Arts program. First, the course very briefly reviews the historical dimensions and contending analytical perspectives on international relations, with an emphasis on processes of globalization. Secondly, it explores the foreign policy perspectives of key regional and global actors. And, third, it puts the fore-mentioned into an international relations framework with a particular focus on Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. It encourages students to apply such analytical perspectives through the exploration of a number of specific key issues that pertain to a variety of "communities" at various levels.
of the global system. Students are then assigned a more concrete contemporary "issue project" for analytical study and, where practicable, group interaction so as to achieve a fuller understanding about the relevance of such key issues to their lives and to Australian communities. Due attention is given to both the ramifications that such key issues have for Australia domestically as well as their linkage to the pressing concerns of humanity more broadly.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students demonstrate:

- an analytical understanding of the nature and evolution of "International Relations" as a series of both issues and processes in and of themselves as well as an interdisciplinary field of academic study;
- an understanding of the nature and evolution of the international system, the practice of diplomacy and other forms of interaction at the various levels of the system, and the major issues of relevance to Australia and its region;
- Enhanced abilities to write clearly and analytically; and
- an understanding of the currency and relevancy of the study of International Relations to their career interests and to the broader community within which they will function as informed citizens.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to the Course; Review of the Study of International Relations and its Historical Context (1 week)</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Review of the Contending Perspectives on International Relations (1 week)</td>
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<td>3. The Foreign Policy Perspectives of Key Regional and Global Actors.</td>
<td>35.00</td>
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<td>4. Global Issues and Australia</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:
Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.

*Course INR2000 Selected Readings Book*, to be purchased from USQ Bookshop.
White, B., Little, R. and Smith, M., 1997 *Issues in World Politics*, Macmillan,
REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Various relevant sources on the Internet (see Course Outline)


McDougall, D. 1998 *Australian Foreign Relations: Contemporary Perspectives*, Addison Wesley Longman, Australia,


Mediansky, F.A., ed. 1997 *Australian Foreign Policy into the New Millennium*, Macmillan.


Smith, G., Cox, D., and Burchill, S. 1996 *Australia in the World: An Introduction to Australian Foreign Policy*, Oxford University Press.
STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>ISSUE PROJECT PROPOSAL ORAL PR</td>
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<td>04 Mar 2002</td>
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<td>COURSE ESSAY EXAM (2 HOURS)</td>
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NOTES:
1. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
2. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
3. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
4. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS
1. It is recommended that students who have obtained at least a pass mark in either course INR1000 ("Introduction to International Relations A") or course INR1001 ("Introduction to International Relations B") to enrol in this course.
2. Students must submit all assignments and sit for the final examination in order to complete the requirements for this course.
3. The final grade is based on summative total of all items of assessment, that is students must submit all assignments and sit for the final examination in order to complete the requirements of the course. The final course mark will be based upon
the total accumulated points for all items of assessment, as follows: HD = 100-90; A = 89-80; B = 79-65; C = 64-50; F = 49-0.

4 Students are to follow the stated University policy in the submission of assignments. Lecturers reserve the right to deduct 10% per day from the total paper mark for each day it is overdue (to a maximum of 5 days, after which time the assignment will not be accepted for marking). The extension of submission dates for assignments will require proper documentation.

5 If assignments in this course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines on such techniques. The lecturing team will provide and discuss such information in course sessions.