

GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS

Course: POLS351 / INST 342: International Relations
Credits: 3 Credits
Instructor: Dr. Bernard Gbikpi, PhD



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COURSE CONTENT

This course introduces the students to the academic discipline of International Relations. It dwells notably on the traditions of realism, liberalism, international society, constructivism and neo-Marxism. It also presents and discusses some contemporary issues in international relations.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

By the end of the course the students should understand the main IR theories and the values implicit in each of these different ways of looking at the world. They also should be able to read, understand, and analyze articles of varying complexity on international events and processes.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

One half of the sessions consist in a lecture on the topic of the day by the teacher.

The other half consists in the presentation by one or two students of the reading of the day, and a general discussion and reassessment of the main points. All the students are required to hand a proper outline of each session's reading. The students who have led the session are required to integrate in their successive review/research paper the arguments brought up during the discussion. Each presentation is the basis of a review/research paper which outline is due for the successive session.

The tests consist in assessing in a proper way a reading.

COURSE GRADING

Participation of students (reading's outlines; constancy/assiduity along the semester; and participation in class) counts for 25% of the total grade.

Paper presentation and research paper counts for 25% of the total grade.

Mid-term exam and final exam contribute each to 25% of the total grade.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The **textbook** that we will use is available at GIF library:

- Robert Jackson and Georg Sorensen, 2007 (3rd ed.), *Introduction to International Relations. Theories and Approaches*, Oxford, OUP (online research centre).