

### Course Profile - Department of International Relations

Course Number: <b>POLS 344</b>	Course Title: <b>Current International Issues</b>
Required / Elective: Elective	Pre / Co-requisites : -
Catalog Description: The main issues in political, socio-cultural, economic-financial and security-military areas. Classification of issues into regional and global frameworks.	Textbook / Required Material: Reading list will be provided by the instructor.
<b>Course Structure / Schedule : ( 3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS</b>	
Extended Description : This course is designed to introduce students to some of the major current issues in international relations, such as terrorism, internal conflict, human rights, development, climate change, communications revolution, and weapons proliferation. In this course, students learn about the contemporary debates surrounding these important issues through lectures, student presentations, and class discussion.	
Design content: None	Computer usage: Not required
<p><b>Course Outcomes:</b></p> <p>By the end of this course, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an in-depth understanding of some of the major contemporary issues in international relations.</li> <li>• Acquire an ability to assess the causes and consequences of several phenomena that the world faces today, such as terrorism, climate change, weapons proliferation, and internal conflict.</li> <li>• Approach to the current international issues more analytically and critically with the help of lectures, presentations, and class discussions.</li> <li>• Improve their public speaking and presentation skills with the help of student presentations and discussion leaderships.</li> </ul>	
<p>Teaching methods:</p> <p>Lectures, class discussion, student presentations, video clips, slides</p>	
<b>Course Outline</b>	
<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics</b>
1	Introduction
2	Overview of Current International Issues
3	Overview of Current International Issues
4	American Hegemony
5	Order and Disorder in the Post-Cold War World
6	Terrorism
7	Review and Midterm
8	Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

9	Human Rights
10	Internal Conflict and International Intervention
11	Trade and Finance
12	Poverty and Development
13	Global Warming and Climate Change
14	Conclusion

Assessment methods:

Class participation: 10%

Presentation/Discussion leadership: 15%

Midterm exam: 35%

Final exam: 40%

#### Contribution of Course Learning Outcomes to Program Outcomes

	Program Outcomes	*Level of Contribution				
		1	2	3	4	5
IR1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of International Relations and be able to apply them to historical and current events				x	
IR2	Understand the historical processes of political structures and institutions				x	
IR3	Be able to follow the world political conjuncture					x
IR4	Grasp the structures and functions of international/regional/intergovernmental organizations			x		
IR5	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects					x
IR6	Understand the international legal framework			x		
IR7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on international relations				x	
PS1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of Political Science and be able to apply them to historical and current events					
PS2	Understand the historical processes, structures, and functions of political institutions					
PS3	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects					

PS4	Understand the mechanisms of political change (such as voting, lobbying, political movements, legal reforms, revolution, etc.)					
PS5	Possess knowledge about those fundamental issues that shape political and societal life (such as race, gender, class, environment, security, religion, identity, etc.)				x	
PS6	Acknowledge that political phenomena can be explained differently by different schools of thought					
PS7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on politics				x	
8	Think independently, creatively, and critically					x
9	Be an entrepreneur and take initiative					
10	Have self-confidence					x
11	Have the ability to carry out systematic comparisons and rightly differentiate similarities and differences					
12	Be open-minded and prepared to work together with people from different cultures and groups				x	
13	Be aware and a follower of social responsibilities as well as political rights and freedoms					
14	Internalize work ethics and behave accordingly					x
15	Be able to speak and deliver presentations in front of public					x
16	Understand, read, and write in English					x
17	Have the ability to observe, analyze, and report					
18	Be able to implement the principles and methods of scientific research					
19	Understand and interpret statistical data					
20	Be prone to team work				x	
21	Possess computer and technological literacy			x		

\*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

**Student workload:**

Reading and preparation	95 hrs
Lectures	24 hrs
Class discussion	8 hrs
Presentation/Discussion leadership	18 hrs
Examinations	5 hrs

**TOTAL ..... 150 hrs (25X6) 6 ECTS**

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