http://intlscholars.cofc.edu/INTL 100-09
Introduction to International Studies
Dr. Ali Demirdas

Term: Spring 2018

Hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday 1-1.50pm

Class held at: Maybank Hall 206

Office: Education Center, Room 206A

Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday 3-4pm or by appointment via email.

Contact: demirdasa@cofc.edu (The best way to communicate with me is e-mail! State your name and class (INT 100-1) in the subject line.

"The art and science of asking questions is the source of all knowledge."
Thomas Berger

In this course, INTL 100, Introduction to International Studies, students acquire basic knowledge, analytic skills, and vocabulary of concepts useful for understanding the multi-dimensional concerns of International Studies through examining the debates over global issues related to international politics, economics, society, history, and literature. INTL 100 is the core course of the International Studies major. It is meant to introduce students to the variety of approaches to international studies in the social sciences and the humanities. In this course, students will become familiar with the various “ways of knowing” in different disciplines and will explicitly compare these perspectives on the global connections in the social, cultural, economic and political spheres. The course is both interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary as students will understand how different disciplines approach problems and questions as well as how different disciplines connect with one another or simply contradict one another when it comes to methods and goals.
In the course of understanding how different disciplines approach international studies, students will also be introduced to the ways in which different areas of the world fit into these disciplinary perspectives and how the same disciplinary perspective may vary in different regions. Rather than covering each of these in depth, this course is meant to expose students to different regions and disciplines so that, as they further specialize in their own region and discipline over the course of their college career, they will be familiar with different ways of looking at the world, as well as the ways in which other regions are different from or similar to their own region of study.

❖ Course Objectives and Outcomes

International Studies and Course-Specific Learning Outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate an ability to think globally from the perspective of multiple disciplines.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students analyze how ideas are represented, interpreted, or valued in various expressions of human culture.
- Students examine relevant primary source materials as understood by the discipline and interpret the material in writing assignments.

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

1. Appreciate and analyze the importance of an international approach to fields such as political science, economics, environmental studies, history, and language studies;

2. Recognize and discuss how international studies can enhance our understanding of day-to-day life and current events;

3. Use principles or aspects of political science, economics, environmental studies, history, and language studies to generate a greater understanding of the self and others;

4. Evaluate major developments that have stimulated intellectual debate and research and have shaped national and international policies and politics;

5. Understand the impact of individual decisions on the world and also world events on the individual.

❖ Important points regarding the course:

- Additional readings may be available on the class web page on OAKS. Other readings may be assigned and handouts and supplements may be distributed later in the semester.
• **This syllabus (including the lecture schedule, readings, assigned work and exams) is subject to change as necessary.** Changes will be announced by email and on the course website on OAKS. It is the responsibility of each student to keep up with all readings and assignments.

• **Attendance is mandatory!** Every class you miss without a legitimate excuse will result in a 2-point deduction from your overall final grade.

**Disability Services**

Any student eligible for and needing accommodations because of a disability is requested to speak with the professor during the first two weeks of class or as soon as the student has been approved for services so that reasonable accommodations can be arranged.

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply for services at the Center for Disability Services/SNAP located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before the accommodation is needed.

This College abides by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see an administrator at the Center of Disability Services/SNAP, (843) 953-1431 or me so that such accommodation may be arranged.

**College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity**

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when suspected, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This status indicator will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission—is a form of cheating. Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.
Grading Policy

✓ Research Paper – 20%

The assignment is to write a paper based on the guidelines outlined below:

A. International Studies and Course-Specific Learning Outcomes:
   1. Students will demonstrate an ability to think globally from the perspective of multiple disciplines (such as, but not limited to, economics, politics, anthropology, religion, history, geography, etc.)

B. General Education Student Learning Outcomes:
   1. Students analyze how ideas are represented, interpreted, or valued in various expressions of human culture.
   2. Students examine relevant primary source materials as understood by the discipline and interpret the material in writing assignments.

The paper should clearly state your research question, explain why the question is important and interesting, and then answer the question based on your research. The word limit is between 1500 and 2500 words. Please use APA style and refer to the following web site for information on the format and citation.

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/18/

In writing the paper, you must do the following things:

- Clearly articulate a central question.
- Explain the significance of the question. Why do you think the topic is important? Why should we care about the topic that you have picked?
- Clearly articulate your answer to the question.
- Reference Section (This DOES count as part of your word count.)

Your references may come from the following:
1. Media Sources
2. Books (I strongly recommend using the library.)
3. Academic Journals
4. Primary sources: Government documents, for instance.
5. Electronic sources: Please avoid citing unreliable sources such as blogs. While Wikipedia is a good way to obtain general knowledge, do not cite it as a source.

If you have a question about a source, please ask!

Please email me your research questions by class time next Monday. Late submissions will not be accepted.
**Academic integrity:** The learning community at the College of Charleston depends on mutual respect between instructors and students. Your attention is drawn to the College of Charleston’s Honor Code ([http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/faqs.php](http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/faqs.php)), especially the sections that forbid cheating, attempted cheating, plagiarism and disruptive classroom behavior. A student found guilty of any of these offenses will face penalties in accordance with CofC regulations. Compliance with these policies is an important part of your learning process in this introductory course and, hence, is your responsibility.

If you have special learning needs and require accommodations, e.g. regarding exams (SNAP related), please let me know well in advance and contact the Center for Disability Services to find suitable ways to accommodate your individual needs.

**Remaining Course Information:**

**✓ Attendance & Participation – 10%**

**Attendance** is required. You are required to report your absences to the Absence Memo Office at 67 George St. Each undocumented absence will result in 2-point deduction from your final exam. During the class time, an attendance sheet may be given for you to sign.

You are asked to meaningfully **participate** in class regularly. I encourage you to ask questions and express your opinions regarding the topic covered.

You are asked to come to the class well prepared and to participate in discussions.

There is going to be a Facebook page for our class in which I will post certain articles and expect you to join the discussion on it. The articles will also be part of the midterm and the final exam. I will upload the articles on OAKS for convenience.

**✓ Pop Quizzes- 10%** There may be pop quizzes from the topics covered in previous class or the topics to be covered in the class of that day.

**✓ Midterm Exam – 20% (Last week of February)** The Midterm will cover the topics that have been studied until the midterm exam date.

**✓ Final – 40 % (April 25, Wednesday)**

There will be a cumulative final exam at the end of the semester. To reschedule a final exam, you must provide a formal excuse and the respective evidence, such as a doctor’s note routed through the Absence Memo Office. [http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/services/absence.php](http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/services/absence.php)

Final grades will be calculated using the following table:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
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Please, be a responsible student and take charge of your grade. If you want to know your current standing in class, check on the OAKS course site or inquire with me about this.
Part 1 – THE DISCIPLINES OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
(The readings will be available on OAKS)

→ Introduction and Course Content

→ The Past in the Present: Historical Interpretation in International Conflict
→ Peoples, Places, and Patterns: Geography in International Affairs
→ Intercultural Relations: Anthropology for International Communication
→ Economics and International Development
→ Power, Conflict, and Policy: The Role of Political Science in International Studies & The Past in the Present: Historical Interpretation in International Conflict

Part 2 – INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TOPICS
(The readings will be available on OAKS)

→ Africa and the International Community
→ The Middle East and the Islamic World
→ Latin American Economic Development and U.S.–Latin American Relations
→ East Asia, the Pacific and International Studies: Demography and Development
→ South Central Asia and International Studies: Environment and Population
→ North America and International Studies
→ Europe and the Modern World

Part 3 – CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES


→ Demography and Immigration
  → Japan’s Demographic Problem [https://www.academia.edu/2368322/Explanations_for_Japanese_Population_Decline#]
  → Drunken Nation: Russia’s Depopulation Bomb [http://www.aei.org/publication/drunken-nation-russias-depopulation-bomb/]
  → The EU’s Demographic Crisis-Reading is on OAKS

→ Turkey and the European Union: The Crossroad from Europe to Asia.
  → Turkey and the EU: A Journey in the Unknown by Natalie Tocci-Reading is on OAKS.
  → Turkey’s New EU Strategy-Reading is on OAKS

→ The IMF and the World Bank
  → The Documentary on the World Bank and the IMF by John Pilger [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYCH1Y1ncxc]
The World Bank and the IMF as Causes of Poverty by Global Issues. Readings are on OAKS.

Euro Zone Crisis and Its Implications
- The Global Effects of the Euro Crisis by Livio Stracca-Reading is on oaks.
- The European Financial Crisis by Harvard University Project-Mark Esposito. Reading is on OAKS