



BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, Pilani
Pilani Campus
AUGS/ AGSR Division

SECOND SEMESTER 2020-21
COURSE HANDOUT

Date: 18.01.2021

In addition to part I (General Handout for all courses appended to the Time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No : HSS F346
Course Title : INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Instructor-in-Charge : Dr. Veena R
Instructor(s) : NIL
Tutorial/Practical Instructors: NIL

1. Course Description:

- **Introduction-A survey of the international politics since the 20th century;** Rise of Nationalism; World Wars, Emergence of IR as a discipline and the nature of its subject matter.
- **Key Defining Events in IR:** Creation of United Nations, Cold War, Fall of USSR, September 11, China's entry into WTO
- **Key theoretical frameworks:** Classical IR thinkers and their location within the existing IR canon that include realism, liberalism, constructivism, critical theory and Asian theory of IR.
- **Key Agents of IR:** State, Empire, International and sub-national agents, Foreign policy.
- **Key Structures in IR:** State-system, Euro-Centrism, Post-colonialism, Globalization, Security and Global Governance
- **Key Institutions in IR:** International Society, International Diplomacy, Great Powers, Balance of Power, War, International Law and Human Rights Regime and the Climate Change Regime.
- **Assorted Themes:** Global Health Regime- Pandemic and IR
- **India's Foreign Policy:** Locating India's space in the contemporary global order: identifying the opportunities and Challenges (India-Pakistan-China), India and China in South Asia; India and United States.

2. Scope and Objective of the Course:

International Relations is the study of an international system that is constituted by territorial states who enjoy sovereignty over matters of vital interests to them. This course offers the history of the international system, its functioning, theoretical frameworks and the nature of the changing relations between the states and non-state actors. This course offers a critical reflection and analytical understanding of key defining events and the topical issues that not only shaped but also confronted the existing international order. The course encourages students to engage in debates on the nature of international order as well as the responses to the challenges of the current international order. The course is designed to offer both the theoretical frameworks and critical reflections on the contemporary affairs. Moreover, the students will be able to make a clear perception of the relationship between the international relations as a discipline and the practice of world politics. Considerable sessions are devoted to understand India's role in the contemporary world too.

3. Text Books:

John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owen (eds), The Globalization of World Politics 7th ed (OUP: 2017). The soft copy of the book would be made available.



4. Reference Books:

- Robert Art and Robert Jervis (eds), International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues 13th ed (Pearson: 2017).
- R Jackson & G Sørensen, Introduction to International Relations (OUP, revised edn., 2013).
- Mary Kaldor and Iavor Rangelov (eds), The Handbook of Global Security Policy (Wiley-Blackwell: 2014).
- **Other readings (required):** A set of other required readings will be posted online over the course of the semester. Movies pertaining to case studies shall also be discussed/ posted during the course delivery. A few Expert Talks will be scheduled as per the convenience of subject experts.
- Suggested Hyperlink: <http://www.theory-talks.org/2008/04/theory-talk-1.html>.

5. Course Plan:

Module No.	Lecture Session	Reference	Learning outcomes
1	Why study International Relations? The context of its emergence as a discipline (1-3)	Introduction and Chapter 1 and Part one (T.B.)	Understand the historical and political context of the evolution of International Relations as a subject matter
2	State and International Relations (4-6)	David Lake, "State and International Relations" in Christian Reus Smit and Duncan Snidal, The Oxford Handbook of International Relations. OUP 2008.	Understand the significance of state in IR
3	Evolution of the Contemporary State System and Sovereignty; World Wars; League of Nations and United Nations Organizations; Cold War and Fall of USSR (7-11)	Richard Mansbach and Kirsten Rafferty, Introduction to Global Politics, Routledge, 2008; Movie Screening- Thirteen Days (Director: Roger Donaldson) Year: 2000	Familiarize with key events and organizations that shaped the current world order



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4	The theories of IR (12-26)	Apart from the Text Book specific readings will also be provided.	Understand various theoretical debates in IR
5	Security in IR: Nuclear Deterrence; Terrorism and Counter-terrorism; Non-traditional Threats and Wars (27-30)	Baylis J. (2008) The Concept of Security in International Relations	Understand the security from a human security perspective in IR
6	Human Rights; Climate Change and Pandemic in IR (31-33)	Richard W. Mansbach and Kirsten L. Rafferty (2008); For the climate change and Pandemic the readings will be provided before the session.	Understand how human rights, climate change and the COVID-19 define the concerns and debates that shape the world order
7	India's Foreign Policy (33-41)	The Oxford Handbook of India's Foreign Policy. Journal articles will be provided before the sessions.	After these sessions the students will be able to locate India's space in current global order and how China's rise is shaping the South Asian and Indian Ocean region

6. Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of component (Close Book/ Open Book)
Mid-Semester Test	90 Min.	30	1 March-6 March	Open book
Comprehensive Examination	3 h	40	08 May FN	Open book
Self-Study Assignment (SSA) First Draft	NA	10	25 February	Open book
SSA Final Draft	NA	15	12 April	Open book
SSA Presentation	NA	5	Dates will be announced later	Open Book



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7. Chamber Consultation Hour: Tuesday 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

8. Notices: All notices concerning the course will be displayed on the concerned teaching platform

9. Make-up Policy: Make-up is permitted only in the case of genuine unforeseen or unavoidable personal or professional exigencies. **No make-up requests are entertained regarding internal components.**

10. Note (if any): In the case of SSA, deadline must be adhered to. Extension will be permitted only for genuine cases. Plagiarism of any kind is strictly punishable as per the institute's rules and regulations

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