



Form: Course Syllabus	Form Number	EXC-01-02-02A
	Issue Number and Date	2/3/24/2022/2963 05/12/2022
	Number and Date of Revision or Modification	2023/10/15
	Deans Council Approval Decision Number	265/2024/24/3/2
	The Date of the Deans Council Approval Decision	2024/1/23
	Number of Pages	12

1.	Course Title	Contemporary International Issues
2.	Course Number	3001708
3.	Credit Hours (Theory, Practical)	3 hours
	Contact Hours (Theory, Practical)	3 hours
4.	Prerequisites/ Corequisites	
5.	Program Title	Master of Diplomatic Studies
6.	Program Code	01
7.	School/ Center	Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II School of International Studies
8.	Department	Department of International Relations and Diplomatic and Regional Studies
9.	Course Level	Master level
10.	Year of Study and Semester (s)	
11.	Other Department(s) Involved in Teaching the Course	Master of Conflict Resolutions
12.	Learning Language	English Language
13.	Learning Types	<input type="checkbox"/> Face to face learning <input type="checkbox"/> Blended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully online
14.	Online Platforms(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moodle <input type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Teams
15.	Issuing Date	18-Nov-24
16.	Revision Date	

17. Course Coordinator:

Name: Dr Naser Tahboub
Contact hours: Thursday 5.00-8.00 p.m.
Office number:
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18. Other Instructors:

Name:

Office number:

Phone number:

Email:

Contact hours:

19. Course Description:

This course explores major contemporary issues shaping global affairs, such as global security threats, climate change, human rights, migration, pandemics, and digital governance. Through theoretical and empirical lenses, students will engage with the complexity of current international challenges, the actors involved, and possible pathways for resolution. The course aims to build analytical, research, and communication skills relevant to international policymaking.

20. Program Intended Learning Outcomes: (To be used in designing the matrix linking the intended learning outcomes of the course with the intended learning outcomes of the program)

The program learning outcomes are as follows:

1. Develop an ability to deconstruct and critically reflect on key international relations concepts and systems.
2. Demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge in international relations theories and paradigms on historical and contemporary events in the realm of international relations on local, regional, and global scales.
3. Demonstrate the ability to form and assess analytical arguments in international relations and write scientific conceptual analysis.



4. Interpret international relations events through varied interdisciplinary theories and approaches including interstate relations, state-society relations, and global social movements.
5. Develop research skills that are contingent on diverse research paradigms and approaches to produce impactful intellectual contributions in the field of international relations.
6. Develop strong communication skills through conducting professional written and oral communiques in coursework and assessments.

PILO's	*National Qualifications Framework Descriptors*		
	Competency (C)	Skills (B)	Knowledge (A)
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Course Intended Learning Outcomes: (Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to achieve the following intended learning outcomes)

1. **Demonstrate an advanced understanding of key concepts and theories in comparative politics, including political systems, state-society relations, and regime types.**
2. **Critically analyze the development and application of major comparative political theories, such as structuralism, institutionalism, rational choice, and cultural approaches.**
3. **Evaluate the strengths and limitations of various comparative methods used in political science research.**



4. Apply comparative theories to analyze political systems and institutions across different regions, identifying patterns of similarity and difference.

5. Conduct independent comparative research on a specific political issue, effectively using theoretical frameworks to interpret findings.

Course ILOs #	The learning levels to be achieved						Competencies
	Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyse	Evaluate	Create	
1.	✓	✓					
2.			✓	✓			
3.			✓	✓	✓		
4.				✓	✓		
5.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	

22. The matrix linking the intended learning outcomes of the course -CLO's with the intended learning outcomes of the program -PILO's:

PILO's * CLO's	1	2	3	4	5	6	Descriptors**		
							A	B	C
1	✓			✓			✓		✓
2	✓	✓	✓	✓					
3		✓	✓		✓			✓	
4		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
5	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		

Linking each course learning outcome (CLO) to only one program outcome (PLO) as specified in the course matrix.

Descriptors are determined according to the program learning outcome (PLO) that was chosen and according to what was specified in the program learning outcomes matrix in clause (21).

23. Topic Outline and Schedule:



Topic	week	instructor	Achieved ILOs	Learning Types (Face to Face/ Blended/ Fully Online)	Evaluation Methods	Learning Resources
Introduction to Contemporary International Issues	1	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(1) ILO(2)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Baylis, John, Patricia Owens, and Steve Smith. The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations. 8th ed., Oxford University Press, 2020.
International Relations Theories Refresher	2	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(2) ILO(3)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
Global Security & Armed Conflicts	3	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(3)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Documentaries: The Fog of War (2003), An Inconvenient Truth (2006), and The Social Dilemma (2020).



Human Rights in a Globalized World	4	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(4)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
Climate Change and Environmental Security	5	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(3) ILO(4)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Documentaries: The Fog of War (2003), An Inconvenient Truth (2006), and The Social Dilemma (2020).
Global Health & Pandemics	6	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(2) ILO(3)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Baylis, John, Patricia Owens, and Steve Smith. The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations. 8th ed., Oxford University Press, 2020.
International Migration and Refugee Crisis.	7	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(4)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions,



						Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
Cybersecurity & Disinformation	8	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(1)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Selected articles from Foreign Affairs, International Organization, and International Security (provided on Moodle).
The Role of International Organizations	9	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(2)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
State vs. Non-State Actors in Global Affairs	10	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(3) ILO(4)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Baylis, John, Patricia Owens, and Steve Smith. The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations. 8th ed., Oxford University Press, 2020.
Regional Conflicts and Diplomacy	11	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(4)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Frieden,Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics:



						Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
Global Inequality & Development	12	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(1) ILO(2) ILO(4)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement Case Study Analysis	Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
The Future of Multilateralism	13	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(3) ILO(5)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement	Selected articles from Foreign Affairs, International Organization, and International Security (provided on Moodle).
Student Presentations	14	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(2) ILO(5)	Blended	Class Participation & Engagement Case Study Analysis	Frieden,Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
Final Reflections & Exam Preparation	15	Dr.Naser Tahboub	ILO(1) ILO(5) ILO(4)	Blended	Final Presentation	Documentaries: The Fog of War (2003), An Inconvenient



						Truth (2006), and The Social Dilemma (2020).
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24. Evaluation Methods:

Opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the ILOs are provided through the following assessment methods and requirements:

Evaluation Activity	*Mark wt.	Topics	ILO/s Linked to the Evaluation activity	Period week	platform
Midterm	30	Introduction to Contemporary International Relations Global Security & Armed Conflic International Migration and Refugee Crisis ts	ILO(1) ILO(2) ILO(3)	5	On-Campus
Final Exam	40	Global Inequality & Development The Future of Multilateralism	ILO(4) ILO(5)	15	On-Campus
**Class work	10	Cybersecurity & Disinformation The Role of International Organizations	ILO(2)	10	On-Campus



Research working papers	10	State vs. Non-State Actors in Global Affairs	ILO(2) ILO(4)	10	On-Campus
Presentation/exhibition	10	Regional Conflicts and Diplomacy	ILO(5)	10	On-Campus
Total 100%					

25. Course Requirements:

(e.g.: students should have a computer, internet connection, webcam, account on a specific software/platform...etc.):

26. Course Policies:

A- Attendance policies:

B- Absences from exams and submitting assignments on time:

C- Health and safety procedures:

D- Honesty policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, misbehavior:

E- Grading policy:

F- Available university services that support achievement in the course:

27. References:

A – Required book(s), assigned reading and audio-visuals:

- Baylis, John, Patricia Owens, and Steve Smith. The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations. 8th ed., Oxford University Press, 2020.



- Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th ed., W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
- Selected articles from Foreign Affairs, International Organization, and International Security (provided on Moodle).
- Documentaries: The Fog of War (2003), An Inconvenient Truth (2006), and The Social Dilemma (2020).

B – Recommended books, materials, and media:

- Held, David, et al. Global Transformations: Politics, Economics, and Culture. Stanford University Press, 1999.
- Keohane, Robert O., and Joseph S. Nye. Power and Interdependence. 4th ed., Pearson, 2012.
- Risse, Thomas, ed. Governance Without a State? Policies and Politics in Areas of Limited Statehood. Columbia University Press, 2011.
- United Nations reports on climate change, migration, and global inequality (latest editions).
- Podcasts: The World Next Week (Council on Foreign Relations) and Global Dispatches.

28. Additional information:

Name of the Instructor or the Course Coordinator:	Signature:	Date:
Name of the Head of Quality Assurance Committee/ Department	Signature:	Date:
Name of the Head of Department	Signature:	Date:
Name of the Head of Quality Assurance Committee/ School or Center	Signature:	Date:
Name of the Dean or the Director	Signature:	Date: