Voyage: Spring 2016  
Discipline: International Relations  
PLIR 3010-101: Theories of International Relations  
Division: Upper  
Faculty Name: Maria Luise Wagner  
Credit Hours: 3; Contact Hours: 38

Pre-requisites:

COURSE DESCRIPTION  
This course is designed to introduce students to frameworks for explaining historical and contemporary events in international relations. The class encourages students to think about topics such as international political economy and globalization and the role of the state and non-state actors in international politics. We will first study the historical context of international relations from the emergence of the modern state system until present. The class will then introduce a number of contending perspectives—realist, liberal, radical, constructivist—that have been employed by various thinkers from Thucydides to Henry Kissinger to explain issues in international relations. Special sessions before arrival in the ports of call in the Spring 2016 voyage will introduce students to topics in international relations of particular interest to that country.

Course Objectives:  
- Understand the historical context of international relations.  
- Acquaint students with contending perspectives on international relations.  
- Country Case Studies prepare students to apply theoretical knowledge to the reality on the ground.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS  

AUTHOR: P. Collier
TITLE: The Bottom Billion. Why the poorest countries are failing and what can be done about it  
PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press  
ISBN: 0195373383  
DATE/EDITION: 2008

AUTHOR: K. Mingst and I. Arreguin-Toft
TITLE: Essentials of International Relations  
PUBLISHER: Norton  
ISBN #: 9780393921953

AUTHOR: K. Mingst and J. Snyder
TITLE: Essential Readings in World Politics
PUBLISHER: Norton
ISBN #: 9780393921960

AUTHOR: H. Kissinger
TITLE: World Order
PUBLISHER: Penguin Press
ISBN #: 9781594206146
DATE/EDITION: 2014

AUTHOR: B. Emmot
TITLE: Rivals. How the Power Struggle between China, India and Japan will shape our Next Decade
PUBLISHER: Houghton Mifflin
ISBN #: 9780156033626
DATE/EDITION: 2009

OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

A1 - January 7:
Course Overview
Short, in-class, ungraded essay

A2 - January 9:
The Historical Context of International Relations
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 18-70
H. Kissinger, World Order, 1-96

A3 - January 11:
One world many theories
Read:
J. Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 1-18, 74-105
J. Snyder, One World, Rival Theories in Mingst /Snyder, 1-11
Honolulu: January 12

A4 - January 14:
Realism
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 74-85.
Thucydides, *Melian Dialogue*, in Mingst/Snyder, 11-12
J. Mearsheimer, *Anarchy and the Struggle for Power*, in Mingst/Snyder, 37-57
M. Doyle, *Machiavelli: More Security through Republican Imperialism*
M. Doyle, Hobbes: *Natural conditions, international conditions*

A5 - January 17:
**Liberalism**
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 86-92
M. Doyle, *Liberalism and World Politics*, in Mingst/Snyder; 57-72
W. Wilson, *The Fourteen Points*, in Mingst/Snyder, 14-17
F. Fukuyama, *The Future of History*, in Mingst/Snyder, 23-30

Study Day: January 19

A6 - January 20:
**Mid Term Exam**

A7 - January 22:
**COUNTRY CASE STUDY: JAPAN**
Read:
B. Emmot; 87-121
G. Curtis, *Japan’s Cautious Hawks*
H. Kissinger, 172-208

Yokohama: January 24-25
In Transit: January 26
Kobe: January 27-28

A8 - January 29
**COUNTRY CASE STUDY: CHINA**
Read:
B. Emmot, 48-87
R. Schweller and X. Pu, *After Unipolarity: China’s Vision of International Order in an Era of US Decline* in Mingst/Snyder, 127-153
Z. Brzezinski and J. Mearsheimer, *Clash of the Titans*

**FIELD LAB: January 31**
Field Lab to the US Consulate in Shanghai, or World Bank Office in Shanghai
Shanghai: January 31-February 1
In Transit: February 2-3
Hong Kong: 4-5

A9 - February 6:
**COUNTRY CASE STUDY: VIETNAM**
Read:
H. Kissinger, *The Vietnam Negotiations*
C.v. Clausewitz, *War as an Instrument of Policy* in Mingst/Snyder, 396-400

Ho Chi Minh: February 8-12

A10 - February 13:
**Radicalism**
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 92-94
K. Marx, The Communist Manifesto, (excerpts) 89-95
H. Cardoso, Dependency and Development in Latin America

February 15:
**DUE DATE: FIELD LAB REFLECTION PAPER**
Please submit at the beginning of class

A11 - February 15:
**COUNTRY CASE STUDY: BURMA**
Read:
J. Bajoria, *Understanding Myanmar*
H. James, *Myanmar’s international relations strategy: the search for security*

Yangon: February 17-21

A12 - February 22:
**Constructivism**
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin/Toft, 95-104
S. Huntington, *Clash of Civilizations*, in Mingst/Snyder, 256-263
F. Zakaria *Culture is Destiny: A conversation with Lee Kwan Yew*

A13 - February 24:
**COUNTRY CASE STUDY: INDIA**
Read:
H. Kissinger, *World Order*, 192-208
B. Emmot, 121-157
T. Weber, *Gandhian Philosophy, Conflict Resolution Theory and Practical Approaches to*
Negotiation

Cochin: February 26-March 2

A14 - March 3:
Asia and the World Order: Rivals or Partners?
Read:
B. Emmot, 157-279
H. Kissinger, 212-234

Study Day: March 5

A15 - March 6:
The State in International Relations
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 132-176
H. Kissinger, 234-330

A16 - March 9:
Challenges to the State: Terrorism
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 278-282
M. Juergensmeyer, Terror in the Name of God

Study Day: March 11

Port Louis

A17 - March 12:
COUNTRY CASE STUDY: SOUTH AFRICA
Read:

Cape Town: March 14-19

A18 - March 20:
The International Political Economy
Read:
Mingst/Arreguin-Toft, 305-349
J. Mearsheimer, The False Promise of International Institutions in Mingst/Snyder, 355-362

A19 - March 22:
International Development
Read:
B. Zoellick, Why We Still Need The World Bank. Looking beyond Aid  
J. Stiglitz. Making Globalization Work  
W. Easterly. Why doesn’t Aid work?

**A20 - March 24:**  
**CASE STUDY: DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA**  
Why poor countries are failing: the traps.  
Read:  
P. Collier, *The Bottom Billion. Why the poorest countries are failing and what can be done about it*, Pg.1-98

Tema: March 26-28  
Takoradi: March 29-30

**A21 - March 31:**  
**Why poor Countries are failing: what can be done about it**  
Read:  
P. Collier, *The Bottom Billion. Why the poorest countries are failing and what can be done about it*. Pg. 99-192.

**A22 - April 2:**  
**Theory and policy in International relations**  
Read:  
S.M. Walt, *The relationship between theory and policy in international relations*

**A23 - April 4:**  
Epilogue

Casablanca: April 6-10

Study Day: April 11

**A24 – April 12:**  
**A Day Finals**

April 15: Arrive in Southampton

**FIELD WORK**  
Experiential course work on Semester at Sea is comprised of the required field lab led by your instructor and additional field assignments that span multiple ports.  

**FIELD LAB**
Proposed Idea 1
A special session before arrival introduces students to topics in international relations of particular interest to China. They are familiar with different views on China’s changing role in international relations by H. Kissinger, Z. Brezsinski, J. Mearsheimer and B. Emmot. Understand the historical context of international relations. Students are expected to apply their theoretical knowledge to the reality on the ground in a meeting with diplomats in the US Consulate in Shanghai.

Proposed Idea 2.
A special session before arrival introduces students to topics in international relations of particular interest to China. They are familiar with different views on China’s changing role in international relations by H. Kissinger, Z. Brezinski, J. Mearsheimer and B. Emmot. Their understanding of the evolution of China’s political economy will prepare them for a meeting with the office of the World Bank in Shanghai.

Field lab attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field lab.

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS
Students are required to write a 5 page paper referring to (i) all relevant readings, (ii) presentations by US Consulate or World Bank officials, (iii) China’s role in the power struggle with Japan and India. Please check Syllabus for due date. The field assignment is 20% of the grade.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING RUBRIC
Class Participation: 10%. Class attendance is mandatory. All students are expected to comment on the assigned readings. Presentations: 20% At the beginning of the class, one or two students will do a 5-minute presentation of the reading and post their write-up (maximum one page) under course files. Field Lab Reflection Paper: 20% Mid Term Exam: 20% Final Exam: 30%

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS
F. Zakaria “Culture is Destiny: A conversation with Lee Kwan Yew” Foreign Affairs, 73.no2 (March/April 1994) pg. 109-126
G.L. Curtis, Japan’s Cautious Hawks, Foreign Affairs, Mar/Apr 2013, Vol. 92 Issue 2,
H. Cardoso, Dependency and Development in Latin America.
H. James, Myanmar’s international relations strategy: the search for security; Contemporary Southeast Asia, 2004
H. Kissinger, The Vietnam Negotiations; Foreign Affairs, Vol. 47, No. 2 (Jan., 1969), pp. 211-
234
J. Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work*
J. Bajoria, *Understanding Myanmar - Council on Foreign Relations*
[http://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/162/27964.html](http://www.globalpolicy.org/component/content/article/162/27964.html)
W. Easterly. *Why doesn’t Aid work?*
Z. Brzezinski and J. Mearsheimer, *Clash of the Titans*. Foreign Policy. January/February, 2005

**HONOR CODE**
Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University’s honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager’s Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: “On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment.” The pledge must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed “[signed].”