IAS 5793-493: Graduate Studies in International Relations

Course Description:
This course is designed to provide students in the MA program in International Relations with a foundation for success in MAIR coursework by focusing on (1) critical concepts and foundational works in international relations theory; and (2) analytical writing skills in the context of contemporary global issues.

The course begins with essential theoretical building blocks in the field of international relations. There is a particular emphasis on levels of analysis and the relationship between domestic and international factors that help us explain and understand international phenomena such as treaties, international agreements, economic sanctions and war.

The course then focuses on effective analytical writing in the field of international relations. Students will read compelling analytical essays addressing contemporary global issues and will discuss both the substance and the structure of the arguments. With these essays as models, students will produce their own analytical writing through practice, peer review and rewriting.

Course Dates:
October 16 – 28, 2017
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: September 17, 2017

Site Director:
This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or email our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Course Professor:
Course Professor: Suzette R. Grillot, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: College of International Studies
729 Elm Ave., Room 118
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-6003
Email Address: sgrillot@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

2. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Access Canvas at https://canvas.ou.edu, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.


Course Outline:

October 16:
- Introduction to the course
- Defining, understanding and explaining international relations
- Readings: Walt

October 17:
- Defining, understanding and explaining international relations, continued
- Readings: Buzan and Little
- Assignments: Submit ideas for final paper topic

October 18:
- Analytical writing in international relations
- Readings: Gause

October 19:
- Analytical writing in international relations, continued
- Readings: Glaser
- Assignments: Finalize paper topic, begin outline

October 20:
- Analytical writing in international relations, continued
- Readings: Ross
October 23:
- International structure and levels of analysis
- Readings: Waltz
- Assignments: Brief paper outline

October 24:
- International structure and levels of analysis, continued
- Readings: Waltz

October 25:
- The intersection between domestic and international relations
- Readings: Gourevitch; Putnam

October 26:
- The intersection between domestic and international relations, continued
- Conclusion of the course, final exam prep
- Readings: Rosner
- Assignments: Detailed paper outline

October 27:
- Final Exam Distributed (due Sunday, October 29)

November 12:
- Final paper due on Canvas

Assignments, Due Dates, and Grading:

Class Participation:
Students must read the assigned material before class and contribute as much as possible to discussions. Each student is likely to find considerable benefit in the exchange of ideas, doubts, and criticisms during discussions. Much of the value of a graduate class is in the sharing of the knowledge and perspective that each participant brings to the sessions.

Analytical Paper:
Students will prepare an analytical paper about an international topic of their choice. The paper will model an outstanding form of analytical writing. It will be 5-7 pages (double-spaced) and will examine and evaluate a contemporary international issue from a particular theoretical perspective and level of analysis. **The final paper will be due on November 12 via Canvas.**

Final Exam:
A final exam will be distributed on October 27th. The exam will cover all readings assigned for the course as well as material discussed during the course. **The final exam will be due on October 29 via Canvas.**

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. The standard grade scale will apply: 90%-100% = A; 80%-89% = B; 70%-79% = C; 60%-69% = D; below 60% = F.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytical Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
Policy for Late Work:
Please contact the professor regarding his/her policy for late work

Attendance Policy:
In addition to interaction via Canvas and email contact, students are required to contact the instructor via email or telephone before the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.
Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Canvas, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, email, or fax as needed

Incomplete Grade Policy:
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

Technical Support Information:
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: http://webapps.ou.edu/it/ or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Note: Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc… in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html.
Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615-0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office’s website at http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Suzette R. Gillot, Ph.D.

Education

1997 Ph.D. Political Science, University of Georgia

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs Professor since January 2001
- Dean, College of International Studies, Vice Provost of International Programs, William J. Crowe, Jr. Chair in Geopolitics, University of Oklahoma

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- International Relations
- International Security
- International Activism
- Foreign Policy

Representative Publications and Presentations


Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Outstanding Mentor Award, University of Oklahoma, 2009-2010
- Fellowship, School of International Studies, Beijing University, Beijing China, Fall 2007.
- Research Grant, IREX, Spring 2006.
- Junior Faculty Research Award, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Oklahoma, Summer 2003.
- Fulbright Fellowship to teach and conduct research in Skopje, Macedonia, Spring 2003.
- Junior Faculty Research Award, University of Oklahoma Research Council, Summer 2000 and 2002.