PSC 5513-490: International Relations Theory

Course Description:
This course is an advanced graduate seminar that surveys the primary theoretical approaches relevant in the study of international relations. The course also explores the ways in which these theories help us understand the daily practice of international politics. Ultimately, the course seeks to provide students with substantive knowledge about how scholars, researchers and analysts use international relations theories to make sense of global affairs, as well as how these theories influence the making and implementation of foreign policies. The first part of the course focuses on the examination of three broad theoretical approaches – realism/neorealism, liberalism/neoliberalism and social constructivism – as well as their application to relevant policy issues of the day. The second part of the course concentrates on the theoretical bases for three specific foreign policy tools and methods, including the democratic peace, diplomatic endeavors and the role of nongovernmental organizations. The final segment of the course focuses on the creation and presentation of international policy projects concerning three important international concerns – illicit trafficking, poverty/development and the global environment.

Course Dates:
Dates: April 16 - 28, 2018
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: March 18, 2018

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

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Suzette R. Grillot, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
College of International Studies
729 Elm. Ave., Room 118
Norman, OK  73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-6003
E-mail Address: sgrillot@ou.edu

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 4p.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.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

**OU Email:**

All official correspondence from instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

**Course Objectives:**

This course has four objectives:

1. to provide a solid understanding of international relations theories and concepts;
2. to demonstrate how these theories affect foreign policy;
3. to facilitate working in groups to apply relevant theories to the practice of international relations; and
4. to enhance skills associated with public speaking, academic writing and policy analysis.

**Course Outline:**

**April 16:**
- Introduction to International Relations Theory & History of the Discipline
- **Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T., *International Relations Theories* – Introduction and Chapter 1

**April 17:**
- Major Concepts, International Actors and Levels of Analysis
- **Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T. – Chapter 2

**April 18:**
- Realism/Neorealism
- **Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T. – Chapters 3 & 4

**April 19: Liberalism/Neoliberalism**
- Liberalism & Neoliberalism
- **Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T – Chapters 5 & 6

**April 20:**
- Social Constructivism & The English School
- **Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T. – Chapters 7 & 10

**April 23:**
- Other International Relations Theories
- **Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T. – Chapters 8, 9, 11

**April 24:**
- Democratic Peace
- **Readings:** Steven W. Hook, *Democratic Peace in Theory and Practice*, Introduction & Chapter 11 (Canvas); Christopher Layne, “Kant or Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace,”

April 25:

- Diplomacy

April 26:

- Nongovernmental Organizations

April 27: Conclusion of Course

**Readings:** Kurki, M., Smith, S., & Dunne, T. – Chapter 16

April 28: Final Exam Distributed

May 1: Final Exam Due

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

Students are expected to read the assigned readings before the course begins and come to class prepared for discussion. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussion of the material.

A final examination will be administered at the end of the course. The final exam will cover material from the assigned readings and class discussion.

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Final grades will be calculated as follows: **30% Class Participation** and **70% Final Examination.** Grades will be determined by the quality of the final exam and class participation.

**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](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/](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](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. Grillot, 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

Selected Publications

Selected 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.