



EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE *of* PROFESSIONAL
and CONTINUING STUDIES

IAS 5793-235: 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.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: June 19 – 24, 2018

Location: Geilenkirchen NATO Base, Germany. Education Center.

Hours: Tuesday - Friday 6:00-9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: May 21, 2018

Site Director:

Email: apgeilenkirchen@ou.edu. Phone: 02451-63-2208; DSN 458-6098.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Aqil Shah, PhD

Mailing Address: College of International Studies
729 Elm Ave., Room 328
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019

Telephone Number: (405) 325-6003

Email Address: aqil.shah@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

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.

1. Mearsheimer, J. (2014). *The tragedy of great power politics*. New York: W.W. Norton. ISBN 9780393349276.
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.

Other readings (articles, book chapters, etc.) will made available prior to the commencement of the course.

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.

Course Outline:

Tuesday:

- Introduction to the course
- What is IR? What is it good for?
- Group Presentation Meetings

Wednesday

- IR theories I
- Readings: Mearsheimer, other readings TBA
- Group Presentation Meetings

Thursday

- IR theory II
- Policy Issues I
- Readings: TBA
- Group Presentation Meetings

Friday & Saturday:

- Policy Issues II
- Readings TBA
- Group presentations, current topic discussion, final exam preparation, and conclusion of course

Sunday:

Final Examination

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Class Participation/Attendance 30%

Students are expected to have read the assigned readings **before** each class period and to attend class and participate in a thoughtful and meaningful manner. The quality of each student's comments and

preparedness will be considered for this portion of the grade. As this is a graduate course, students are expected to actively participate in discussion and leading conversations.

Group Presentation 20%

On Tuesday night (the first night of class), students will be assigned one of four relevant IR topic conversations. Student's role will be to lead the conversation for an hour covering the assigned topic. Current topics that could be considered are the following: Nuclear deterrence/sanctions (Iran, North Korea), counterterrorism (e.g., drone warfare), civil war in Syria/Yemen. This list is not exhaustive but should give you an idea concerning the topics that may be included.

Article Review/Paper 20%

Students will participate in reviewing an article from the course readings. This is intended to develop your skills in assessing academic work in an efficient and clear manner. Your assignment is to complete a three to four-page review of one of the articles. I will be looking for the following items:

1. What is the principal thesis in each article?
2. What are the strengths of the arguments made in the article?
3. What are the weaknesses of the arguments made in the article?
4. How would you rate the value of this work?
5. Does the article leave significant unanswered questions?

The papers should be double spaced, 12pt Times New Roman, one inch margins. This paper is due one week after the class, **July 1, 2018**.

Final Exam 30%

A final exam will be administered during the final class session. The exam will cover all readings assigned for the class, as well as material discussed in class.

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.

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.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

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 making 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. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

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

Aqil Shah, Ph.D.

Education

PhD in Political Science, Columbia University, 2010.

Current Positions

- Wick Cary Assistant Professor, College of International Studies, University of Oklahoma since 2015
- Non-Resident Scholar, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace since 2014

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- International security
- Democratization
- civil-military relations
- counterterrorism
- South Asia/Pakistan.

Representative Publications and Presentations

- *The Army and Democracy: Military Politics in Pakistan* (Harvard University Press, 2014)
- “Do U.S. Drone Strikes Cause Blowback: Evidence from Pakistan and Beyond,” *International Security*, 42.4 (Spring 2018), pp. 1-37.
- “Civil-Military Relations in South Asia,” in Sumit Ganguly, Andrew Scobell and Joseph Liow, eds., *The Handbook of Asian Security Studies* (Routledge, 2017).
- “The Dog That Did Not Bark: The Indian Army and the Emergency,” *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics*, 55.1 (2017), 1-19.
- “Democracy Deadlocked in Bangladesh,” *Current History*, (April 2016), 130-136.
- “Fighting Terror, Pakistan Army-Style,” *Asian Survey* 56.1 (Jan/Feb, 2016), 216-224.
- “States, Organizations, and War-making,” Review Essay, *Perspectives on Politics*, 13.4 (December 2015), 1-10.
- “Constraining Consolidation: Military Politics and Democracy in Pakistan,” *Democratization*, 21.6 (2014), 1007-1033.
- “Getting the Military Out of Pakistani Politics: How Aiding the Army Undermines Democracy,” *Foreign Affairs* (Fall 2011), 69-82.

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Outstanding Faculty Award, University of Oklahoma, 2016.
- Junior Faculty Fellowship, University of Oklahoma, 2016
- Post-doc Fellow, Society of Fellows, Harvard University (2010-2013)
- William F. Milton Faculty Grant, Harvard University, 2011
- Hewlett Fellowship, Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Stanford University, 2009-2010.
- Reagan-Fascell Fellowship, National Endowment for Democracy, 2003-2004.
- Rhodes Scholarship, Oxford University, 1997-1999.
- Ford Foundation Fellowship, Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security (ACDIS), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 1997.