



# EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE *of* PROFESSIONAL  
*and* CONTINUING STUDIES

## IAS 5793-230: Graduate Studies in International Relations

### Course Description:

This course is designed to provide International Relations students with a foundation for success in MAIR program coursework by focusing on analytical writing skills in the context of contemporary global issues and critical concepts and foundational works in international relations theory. The course will focus 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. We will review topics involving core concepts of international relations theory, international institutions and NGOs, as well as domestic influences on international relations and conflict.

### Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: September 15 – 20, 2020  
Format: Zoom Meetings, to be arranged by Prof. Sartorius  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 17, 2020

### Site Director and Information for VA Benefits:

Location: SHAPE, Belgium. See Site Director for classroom location.  
Hours: Tuesday - Friday 6:00-9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Email: [apshape@ou.edu](mailto:apshape@ou.edu). Phone: 065-44-3654; DSN 423-3654.

### Professor Contact Information:

Course Instructor: Christopher M. Sartorius  
Mailing Address: OU Department of International and Area Studies  
Farzaneh Hall  
Norman, OK 73019  
Telephone Number: 1 (405) 343-5277  
E-mail Address: [cmsartorius@ou.edu](mailto:cmsartorius@ou.edu)  
Professor availability: Please contact the instructor via e-mail or phone for questions concerning the course.

### Instructional Materials:

There is no textbook to purchase for this course. The course reading materials consist of a free electronic textbook and academic journal articles. This instructor will post all reading materials and learning presentations on the OU Canvas learning management system. Access Canvas at <https://canvas.ou.edu>. Enter your OU NetID and password and select the IAS 5793 course to access the reading 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. To optimize this learning opportunity for you and other class members, please read all the material for each class period prior to each class meeting.

## Course Objectives:

This course is designed to provide you key knowledge and skills you need to be a successful graduate student in this program. After this course, students will have gained an improved understanding and appreciation of the following:

1. Why understanding international relations is important in today's fast-paced, complex world
2. Unique challenges working-adult graduate students face in pursuing their degree
3. Concepts and skill necessary to comprehend complex reading material
4. Concepts and tools to conduct research and write high-quality academic papers
5. Concepts and tips to effectively publicly communicate concepts and complex information
6. Quality research sources and use technology to assist your research
7. The ability to analyze academic works in a cogent and concise manner
8. The critical concepts in the field of international relations
9. The seminal works in international relations

## Learning Formats

**We will use the following learning formats in this course:** Readings, lectures, question and answer, class discussion, and skill-development exercises

## Class Schedule

- Class 1 – Tuesday, 15 Sep – Course Intro – Graduate Studies and the Working Adult
- Class 2 – Wednesday, 16 Sep – Reading Comprehension
- Class 3 – Thursday, 17 Sep – The Research and Writing Process
- Class 4 – Friday, 18 Sep – Public Speaking and Presentations
- Class 5A – Saturday, 19 Sep – Research Resources (Methods, Sources, and Technology)
- Class 5B – Saturday, 19 Sep – IR Theory: Realism
- Class 6A – Sunday, 20 Sep – IR Theory: Liberalism
- Class 6B – Sunday, 20 Sep – IR Theory: Constructivism and Final Exam

## Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

There are four graded components to the course which are summarized in the table below:

Assignment	Due Date	Percent of Grade
1. Pre-Course Paper, 1500 words 5-6 double-spaced pages	<b>Sunday, 6 Sep 2020, 2359L</b> <b>Upload to Canvas Assignment section</b>	20%
2. In-Class Discussion Participation	In-class	20%
3. Final Exam	In-class, <b>Sunday, 20 Sep 2020</b>	30%
4. Post-Course Paper, 2000 words 6-8 double-spaced pages	<b>Topic/IR Theory sign up: Monday, 21 Sep 2020, 2359L (via Canvas Discussion)</b> <b>Final Paper: Sunday, 4 Oct 2020, 2359L Upload to Canvas Assignment section</b>	30%

The instructor will be available for consultation via-email and video teleconference to provide students guidance on papers and answer any other questions regarding the course. All students should check Canvas regularly starting 30-days prior to the first class session for additional information/communication from the instructor.

Please use the American Psychological Association (APA), Chicago Manual of Style, or Modern Language Association (MLA) for your pre-and post-course papers. Additional formatting guidance can be found at the OU Writing Center: <http://www.ou.edu/writingcenter/>. All papers must follow one of these academic formatting styles including a correctly formatted Works Cited/Reference page at the end of the paper.

The instructor will provide student grades and feedback via Canvas.

## 1. Pre-Class Paper

**Objective** - The objective of this assignment is to develop and refine your ability to critically review the rich literature of international relations.

**Instructions:** Students will select and review one article from the course readings. The objective of this assignment is to develop your skills in analyzing academic work. Please answer the following questions in your paper:

1. What is the principal thesis in the article? What central argument does the author present?
2. How does the author build the case for his/her position?
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? How persuasive is the author in presenting evidence and defending his argument?
5. What are the significant unanswered questions?

The paper should be 1500 words (+ or – 200 words) long and written according to one of the academic formats discussed above. Upload your assignment to the Canvas assignment page prior to the assignment deadline. Please upload using only the following file formats: docx, doc, or pdf. Microsoft Word documents are preferred as that format allows the instructor to provide feedback using the Microsoft Word track changes feature. The instructor will provide grading and feedback information via Canvas

## 2. In-Class Discussion Participation

To maximize learning opportunities for all members of the class, we will engage in frequent, open discussions during the course. The success of the course is dependent upon the quality of discussion. The instructor will evaluate the quality of the discussion/participation as a component of the final course grade for each student.

## 3. Final Exam

**Objective:** The exam is designed to assess your knowledge of information presented from the readings, lecture, and discussion during the course.

**Instructions:** The instructor will administer the final exam in class during the final class session. See the Canvas Quiz page for instructions and the exam questions. This information will only be available when the instructor administers the exam.

## 4. Post-Class Paper

**Objective:** The objective of this assignment is to develop your ability to analyze current international relations issues using an international relations theoretical perspective.

**Instructions:** For this paper you will explore an international relations topic through a theoretical lens. Students will submit: 1) their topic and 2) the name of the international relations theory you will use to evaluate the IR issue. **Please communicate these two pieces of information to the instructor via the Canvas Discussion Board no later than the deadline specified in the assignment table above.** You MAY choose a topic another student has selected.

The paper should be 2000 words (+ or – 200 words) long and written according to one of the academic formats discussed above. Upload your assignment to the Canvas assignment page prior to the assignment

deadline. Please upload using only the following file formats: docx, doc, or pdf. Microsoft Word documents are preferred as that format allows the instructor to provide feedback using the Microsoft Word track changes feature. The instructor will provide grading and feedback information via Canvas

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or 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](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](mailto: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**

### **Christopher M. Sartorius**

#### **Education**

- Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
- Master of Military Operational Art and Science, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
- M.S. in Strategic Intelligence, National Intelligence University, Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, DC
- M.A. in Management, Webster University, St. Louis, MO
- B.S. in Political Science (International Public Administration), minor in History, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
- Professional Military Education: Graduate - Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and Air War College

#### **Current Position**

- Instructor, College of International Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK
- Instructor, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, College of Professional and Continuing Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

#### **Frequently Taught Courses**

- IAS 5043 Global Security (OU College of International Studies)
- IAS 5940/IAS 3003 U.S. Intelligence Community (OU College of International Studies)
- PSC 4873 Tools of Statecraft: Diplomacy and Intelligence
- PSC 4863 Strategic Intelligence Challenges
- History of the Cold War (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- Espionage in the Cold War (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- Introduction to U.S. Intelligence (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- Current Issues in International Security (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- Foreign Intelligence Organizations (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- History of US Intelligence – Colonial America to the Civil War (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- Imagery Intelligence (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)
- US Presidents and Intelligence (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)

#### **Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interests**

- Intelligence and International Security Studies
- NATO History and Strategic Policy
- European Security Studies
- Cold War History

#### **Representative Publications and Presentations**

- Ph.D. Dissertation: Warning Intelligence and Nuclear Crisis Management: Avoiding Catastrophic Miscalculation
- M.S. Thesis: Democratic Control of Slovak Defense Forces: Structural Progress and Governmental Interference
- M.A. Thesis: Capital Budgeting Techniques Used by Manufacturing, Processing, Distribution, Assembly, and Printing Firms in Alexandria, VA
- NATO History and NATO Strategic Concept presentations at the NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany, and the General Staff Academies in Kiev, Ukraine; Thessaloniki, Greece; and Cherchell, Algeria
- WMD Threats, Intelligence Support to Peacekeeping Operations, and the Strategic Implications of Ballistic Missile Defense presentations at the NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany