

Prepared by the Department of Social Science, Behavioral Science and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: January 31, 2017

Date approved by Curriculum and Programs: February 15, 2017

Effective: Fall 2017

1. Course Number: GOV102

Course Title: International Relations

2. Description: This course features an historical examination of the fundamentals of international relations in theory and practice. Topics pertaining to developed and developing nations, security, power, science and technology, and international organizations are discussed with emphasis on the 20th and 21st centuries.

3. Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following.

- Identify and describe key events and trends in contemporary international relations
- Develop appreciation for the impacts that diverse forms of culture and religion have in the interactions between nations
- Use maps to enhance their knowledge of world geography
- Describe challenges facing the international community today
- Utilize critical thinking skills to relate world historical events of the past to current world affairs
- Differentiate primary and secondary sources and the issue of bias in the construction of contemporary discourse
- Analyze the contributing factors to contemporary international challenges
- Utilize critical thinking skills to identify the impacts that the media have had on the development of international policy
- Use oral and written communication skills to make coherent, evidence-based arguments and interpretations
- Follow rules for civil discourse in course discussions that may involve conflicting points of view

4. Credits: Three credits

5. Satisfies a General Education Requirement: Behavioral and Social Sciences

6. Prerequisite: ENL108 (Critical Reading & Thinking) or satisfactory basic skills assessment scores

7. Semester(s) Offered: Spring

8. Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation: Grades are based on exams, written work, class participation, and attendance

9. General Topical Outline (Optional):

- Types of International Relations
- The Players & Formation of Policy
- The Search for a Balance of Power
- The Concept of Great Powers
- Evolution of US Foreign Policy
- Colonialism
- Ideologies
- The World at War
- The Rise of Superpowers
- The Effects of the Media on Policy
- The Decolonized World
- International Organizations and Treaties
- Human Rights
- Globalization
- Security