

School of International Relations

Important Degree Information:

B.Sc./M.A. Honours

The general requirements are 480 credits over a period of normally 4 years (and not more than 5 years) or part-time equivalent; the final two years being an approved honours programme of 240 credits, of which 90 credits are at 4000 level and at least a further 120 credits at 3000 and/or 4000 levels. Refer to the appropriate Faculty regulations for lists of subjects recognised as qualifying towards either a BSc or MA degree.

B.Sc./M.A. Honours with Integrated Year Abroad

The general requirements are 540 credits over a period of normally 5 years (and not more than 6 years) or part-time equivalent; the final three years being an approved honours programme of 300 credits, of which 60 credits are gained during the integrated year abroad, 90 credits are at 4000 level and at least a further 120 credits at 3000 and/or 4000 levels. Refer to the appropriate Faculty regulations for lists of subjects recognised as qualifying towards either a BSc or MA degree.

Other Information: In the case of students who spend part of the Honours Programme abroad on a recognised Exchange Scheme, the Programme Requirements will be amended to take into account courses taken while abroad.

Degree Programmes	Programme Requirements at:
<p>(M.A. Honours): International Relations</p>	<p>Single Honours International Relations Degree: Level 1: 40 credits consisting of IR1005 and IR1006</p> <p>Level 2: 40 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in IR2003 and IR2004.</p> <p>Level 3: 120 credits from IR3004 - IR3202</p> <p>30 credits may be taken outwith International Relations, with the permission of the Director of Teaching.</p> <p>Level 4: IR4099 and 90 credits from IR4501 - IR4590</p>
<p>(M.A. Honours): International Relations and Arabic, Art History, Biblical Studies, Classical Studies, Economics, Film Studies, French^, Geography, German^, Italian^, Management, Mathematics, Mediaeval History~, Middle East Studies, Modern History, Philosophy, Psychology, Russian^, Scottish History, Social Anthropology, Spanish^, Theological Studies.</p> <p>^ available also as 'with Integrated Year Abroad Degrees'</p> <p>~Timetable clash exists therefore this combination is subject to arrangement with both departments.</p>	<p>International Relations element of Joint Honours Degrees: Level 1: 40 credits consisting of IR1005 and IR1006</p> <p>Level 2: 40 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in IR2003 and IR2004.</p> <p>Level 3: 60 credits from IR3004 - IR3202</p> <p>Level 4: 60 credits from IR4099 - IR4590</p>

Degree Programmes	Programme Requirements at:
(M.A. Honours): Modern Languages with International Relations	<p>International Relations element of Minor Degree Programmes:</p> <p>Level 1: 40 credits consisting of IR1005 and IR1006</p> <p>Level 2: 40 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in IR2003 and IR2004</p> <p>Level 3: The programme requires at least 90 credits in IR of which at least 30 must be taken from IR3004 - IR3202</p> <p>Level 4: At least 30 credits must be taken from IR4099 - IR4590</p>

Modules

Normally the prerequisite for each of the following Honours modules is entry to the Honours Programme(s) for which they are specified, as well as any specific prerequisite(s) given.

General degree students wishing to enter 3000 modules and non-graduating students wishing to enter 3000 or 4000 level modules must consult with the relevant Honours Adviser within the School before making their selection.

International Relations (IR) Modules

IR3004 International Political Economy

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module will begin with an outline of the three major traditions of international political economy: liberalism, marxism and nationalism, providing an explanation of their main ideas, as well as a critique. After a brief examination of some more contemporary theories, the module will go on to examine the politics of international trade, including an overview of the GATT system, and some topical trade issues. The module will examine the importance of multinational corporations in the world trading system, and will then go on to look at relations between North and South. The module will finish with the importance of regional economic groupings, some thoughts on the future international economic regime.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3006 International Regimes and Organisations

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module covers: regime theory and international relations; the rise of the international organisation; international conference diplomacy and rise of multi-lateralism; the UN system and its growth after 1945; complex cases of multi-lateral diplomacy; politicization and financial issues in the UN system, the post-cold War reform of the UN.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3007 Democracy and Democratisation

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module examines some of the models of democracy and the questions raised by democratic political orders. It explores the spread of democratisation in recent decades using examples from Latin America, Southern and Eastern Europe. Finally, it addresses the possibilities of, and arguments about democratising the international political system.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3011 Ethics and World Politics

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module will examine some of the most important ethical questions in contemporary world politics against the background of more general debates in ethics and political theory. Its objectives are: (1) to allow students to develop a knowledge of the complexities and problematics of contemporary ethical and theoretical debate as they impact upon questions of world politics and (2) to develop a thorough account of the major ethical dilemmas of contemporary world politics. The module begins with a discussion of some of the major competing ethical approaches to world politics (cosmopolitan, realist, sceptical and critical) and then moves on to a focus on issues such as the use of force, justice, environmental concerns, and the character and possible evolution of the state as the central actor in world politics. It will close with a consideration of the importance of questions of character and virtue in world politics.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3012 The Third World in International Development

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2006-07

Description: This module examines the major theories of development and explores their utility in understanding basic problems of development in the Third World. In the first part of the module, rival “modernisation” and “dependency” theories are examined. In part two, the issues of economic growth and inequality are explored; explanations and solutions are sought for the problem of the income gap between the rich and the poor at both the global level and inside the Third World. In part three, the problems of building political order in new states is examined with a focus on the costs and benefits of alternative “roads” to state formation.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3013 Modern Ideologies

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: The module aims at analysing modern ideologies and at establishing their relevance for theories of international relations. It examines the ideological assumptions on human nature and on the relationship between individual and society which lie behind different theories of international relations. The module deals with three related problems: a) the analysis of the concept of ‘ideology’; b) the assessment of the contributions to the understanding of politics offered by Liberalism, Conservatism, Marxism, Fascism, Feminism and Ecologism; c) the investigation of the connections between classical ideologies and theories of international relations.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – Honours 2005/06 – August 2005

IR3020 The Politics of War, Old and New

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module explores the political debates over the use of force in international politics that have occurred in the West. It begins with an overview of the politics of war in the modern states-system, its relationship with the concepts of sovereignty, authority and justice, as well as the limitations on war embodied in international law. The bulk of the module will examine a series of issues and problems: the resurgence of ethnic and religious violence, the changing concept of 'national security', the decline of the citizen-soldier, war and gender, 'humanitarian intervention' and resistance, multi-lateralism and legitimacy, the post-modern state and the asymmetrical challenge, and the place of war in the contemporary international order.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lecture/seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3021 Case Studies in Conflict Analysis

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module provides students with an opportunity to work on case studies in conflict analysis, in which they develop the skills required to analyse the roots, dynamics, key actors and issues-areas in specific conflicts. They will be introduced to the theoretical frameworks contained within conflict analysis about definitions of conflict, perceptions, historical interpretations, political, social, cultural and economic dynamics, initiation and escalation, and then will be asked to choose and investigate a particular case study according to the different analytical frameworks associated with conflict analysis. Problems associated with researching conflict and violence will also be tackled. This will provide the basis for each student to engage in a detailed case study, chosen from a specific list of key cases.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures, and occasional seminars and tutorials

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3022 International Relations and International Law

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module revolves around several questions, "is international law really 'law'?", "do international law and norms matter?"; and "what are the interactions between international relations and international law in practice?" The readings first examine the state-centered approach of traditional international relations scholarship and much of international legal scholarship, and then examine international relations scholarship regarding the influence of norms and the development of institutions, with an eye to the role of constructivist literature. The module will turn to particularly contentious issue-areas, such as the concept of legitimacy in the international system; the "emerging right to democratic governance"; humanitarian intervention; changing conceptions of sovereignty in light of human rights jurisprudence in regional courts; the role of the International Court of Justice and international tribunals; and the proliferating practice of international criminal law.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3023 US Foreign Policy: The Dilemmas of Empire

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: The module will be descriptive, explanatory, and evaluative. The first week of class will be devoted to a brief survey of theories of foreign policy, focusing on a range of positivist and post-positivist debates. From that point onwards, theoretical debates will be subsumed into the various historical, constitutional and structural descriptions of how US foreign policy is formulated and executed. Throughout the module we will also explore various normative critiques of the conduct of US foreign policy.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3024 The Politics of Africa

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module provides an introduction to the study of African politics. Contemporary Africa is complex and varied: the continent consists of around fifty states with very different histories, colonial experiences, economies, values, and social structures. The module reviews the social and historical context of contemporary political life, looking at the changes the continent has undergone since independence. It will examine and seek to understand the colonial legacy, the nature of the post-colonial state, society and its institutions, the nation-building projects and policies of these states and the movement towards democratisation and the continuation of authoritarian rule through “low intensity democracy”.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3101 Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2006-07

Description: The module examines the reform process initiated by Mikhail Gorbachev, focusing in particular on economic reform and democratisation and the impact of the reform process on the Soviet Federation. It goes on to examine the problems of creating new political orders in a post-communist world, focusing primarily on Russia.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3102 Conflict in the Middle East

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module centralises conflict within the Middle-East as a broad area of inquiry and investigates the political, economic and social conditions generating conflict both within and between states in the region. The subjects covered include the emergence and meaning of the “Nation-state” in the Middle East; the ideological relationship between Islam and Pan-Arabism; the latter and State-Nationalism; state civil society relations as well as inter-ethnic and gender-related conflicts. The module also covers all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – Honours 2005/06 – August 2005

IR3104 The International Relations of Post-communist Central and Eastern Europe

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: The module aims to teach students to apply the concepts, theories and methods of international relations to the subject of the International Relations of post-communist Central and Eastern Europe. Subjects covered include: Mechanisms of control in Soviet-East European Relations; the nature of the 1989 revolutions; changes to the international system; nationalism and ethnic conflict; the Yugoslav war; Russia's place in Europe; regional cooperation; political-economic change in this international context; western approaches to Eastern Europe; and the new European security architecture.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3109 Politics & State Formation in the Middle East

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2006-07

Description: This module examines the modern political history of the Middle East, concentrating on the period since 1945. It examines how the pre-modern historical heritage of the region, the impact of imperialism and the advance of modernisation have shaped contemporary politics. The module also examines contemporary political ideologies and movements, elites, the role of the military, authoritarian state structures, economic development policies, and the prospects of Islamization and democratisation. This is done through case studies mainly of Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria and, to a lesser extent, other countries.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3111 Asian Security

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: Establishing a security framework for Asia that will limit the risks of major war is one of the great challenges in contemporary international politics. This module will examine the evolution of security relations in Asia with special attention being given to South and East Asia and to the period since the end of the Cold War. It will consider the security cultures and policies of China, India and Japan, their relations with one another and with the United States, and the security 'architecture' that might emerge in Asia. It will also examine unresolved disputes over Taiwan and Kashmir, problems on the Korean peninsula, and the role of multilateral regimes and other international institutions.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR3202 Theory and Methodology of European Integration

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: The module will focus on the economic, legal and political approaches to an understanding of the causes, results and prospects of European integration. After examining the economic reasons for integration, the module will consider some of the major economic institutions which have been set up to further the integration process. Critiques of previous theories and their relevance to the contemporary position and prospects of integration, functionalism, neo-functionalism, federalism and transnational policy case studies will be examined. The module will also examine twentieth-century European federalism and the wider implications of federalist thought for political ideas and practice. It will distinguish political union and federalism from other types of internal organisation.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – Honours 2005/06 – August 2005

IR4099 Honours Dissertation in International Relations

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Anti-requisite: Any other Dissertation module

Description: The dissertation will be approximately 10,000 words. Topics must be capable of being supervised by the established staff and each student will (a) submit a dissertation outline to the department, (b) be assigned a supervisor, who will be available to discuss issues related to the dissertation, (c) be required to attend one general lecture on research and at least two 1 hour supervisory meetings.

Teaching: To be arranged.

Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

IR4501 International Politics of Nuclear Weapons

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2006-07

Description: Are nuclear weapons dying, or are they here to stay? This module will begin by examining the role of nuclear weapons in the Cold War, and the history of nuclear arms control. It will then consider early 1990s initiatives to end the nuclear arms race, strengthen the non-proliferation regime, and achieve disarmament. Why have these initiatives run into difficulty? Topics covered will include the lessons from; nuclear weapons in Asian politics; and shifts in US ordering strategies before and after 9/11. The module will also consider how recent nuclear developments affect, and are being affected by, happenings in other fields of military technology and arms control.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4502 Conflict Management, Settlement and Resolution

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: Understanding how and why conflict emerges, and how it may be addressed are crucial issues in the international system. Conflict between states and the emergence of conflict derived from political, social, structural, historical, and ethnic roots have driven the development of apparatus to address conflict, ranging from diplomatic exchanges, the use of military force, peacekeeping, negotiation, mediation and conflict resolution. This module is divided into two main areas, the first discusses various approaches used to analyse conflict, from the point of view of states, individuals and groups, regional and international organizations, investigating dominant issues of conflict, including state-interests, territory, sovereignty, development, resources, identity, culture, ethnicity, and representation. The second part of the module then examines the various approaches that have emerged for addressing conflict. Topical case studies will provide an empirical focus.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4503 International Terrorism

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module examines the concept of terrorism; problems of definition; nature and characteristics and relationships to other forms of violence; typology; political objectives, strategies and motivations; underlying causes of rise and decline of terrorism; dilemmas of democratic and international response; aviation terrorism; terrorism and diplomacy; the problem of state sponsorship and support; problems of international co-operation, including the use of diplomacy, international law and organisation, and police and intelligence measures.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – Honours 2005/06 – August 2005

IR4504 Language of Politics

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module examines key political concepts for students of national and international politics. In particular, the module puts under scrutiny contrasting definitions of 'human nature'; it analyses the presuppositions of competing theories of the function of 'government'; it discusses the different meaning that different theorists have given to concepts such as 'state', 'nation', 'sovereignty', 'power', 'authority', 'legitimacy', 'rights', 'obligation', 'law' and 'punishment'. The analytical approach is combined with the attempt to put definitions in the historical and ideological context from which they emerged.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4505 Environmental Diplomacy

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2006-07

Description: This module considers the emergence of the environment as an issue-area in international relations. It compares the relevance of environmental security, sustainable development and its radical critics as competing paradigms. Thereafter the module explains the emergence of global conference negotiations culminating in the UNCED. The module concludes with a case study of the climate-change negotiations.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4506 The Politics of Development in the Modern Middle East

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2006-07

Description: This module examines the major themes of Middle East political economy, combining a broad overview of its distinctive development with a more focused look at major contemporary issues in the area. Constant topics include: the challenge of late developers, the impact of imperialism and continuing dependency; petroleum; statist import-substitute strategies of development; and economic liberalization. Among the issues, changeable from time to time, could be rentier states, Islamic banking, the economic viability of the West Bank, etc.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4507 International Relations of the Middle East

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module examines Middle East international relations, with a special concern for the following topics: 1) the special character of the Middle East state system, including the exceptional impact of the international system on the region and the special role of identity and religion in regional politics; 2) the determinants of the foreign policies of Middle East states, including the impact of variations in state structures (between monarchies, radical republics and semi-democracies) on foreign policy behaviour; and 3) analysis of regional conflict and war and of order-building experiments.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4508 Religion and World Politics

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: The growing influence of religion in the international political order has stimulated a growing number of academic studies of a wide variety of problems stemming from the relationship between religion and politics. This module will explore the interface between the 'two cities', examining issues such as the Marxist experience, the contribution of religion to political change and nationalism, the growth (real or imagined) of 'fundamentalist' movements and the relationship of religion to 'globalising' processes.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture, one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4509 World Order in the History of Political Thought

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2006-07

Description: This module investigates conceptions and practices of world order as they have evolved in the history of political thought. It offers an interpretation of some of the leading constellations of practices and conceptions, traces their origins and overlapping histories and suggests what the implications of this complex narrative might be for contemporary world politics. It does this by using a mixture of philosophical and other texts, historical events and secondary literature and commentaries. While the focus is on the contrasting conceptions of world order available in the modern world (understood as being between 1500 and 2000), some attention will also be given to pre-modern conceptions and practices.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4510 Central Asia in Global Politics

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: Dramatically and unexpectedly, Central Asia was thrust to independence in 1991. Of all the Soviet republics, the five of Central Asia – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – had been the largest net recipients of Soviet aid, had benefited most economically from the Soviet Union and had thus been the most reluctant to break from the Soviet empire. Once the path of independence was followed, each of these five states faced considerable ethnic, state, economic, social and foreign policy challenges. This module aims to analyse these nation- and state-building agendas, seeking to address critically some of the now widely held assumptions about this post-Soviet area. Moreover, located in one of the world's most strategic zones, between Russia, China and a troubled Middle East, Central Asia relies on its substantial human and natural resources in the renegotiation of its geopolitical status.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – Honours 2005/06 – August 2005

IR4512 Britain and the World

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Prerequisites: 120 credits at Junior Honours Level

Description: This module examines the orientations and foundations of British foreign policy in the post-imperial era. The first section explores the manner in which the United Kingdom dealt with the sudden loss of empire and the diminution of its power and influence in world politics. The second deals with Britain's relationship with her European neighbours and with the prospect of European union. The final section examines Britain's engagement with the new international order of the post-Cold War era. It concludes with a consideration of Britain's place in the contemporary world.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4513 Gender and Generation

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: The incorporation of issues of gender into the prevailing international relations discourse changes the way in which international relations is thought about, and theorised. This module will examine the meaning of such change, and will also argue that, in a similar way, incorporating children into the established discourse may mean that traditional themes and constructs – such as states, sovereignty, political identity, agency, power, representation, etc. – are transformed. This module includes an examination of such issues as the use of child soldiers; women and warfare; children's economic role; and political theory as it relates to the family.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4514 Global Public Policy

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06. Only available to students in the Second Year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module examines the formulation of multilateral agreements to manage global policy problems in a variety of issue-areas such as environment, new technologies, and sustainable development. It will use a variety of IR and related social theories such as functionalism, regime theory and the common-heritage of mankind, to explain problems in constructing binding international agreements. Extended case studies may include climate change, the law of the sea and the 'digital divide'.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4515 Human Rights: Theories and Practice

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module examines the rise and evolution of human rights over the past half-century. It begins with an examination of some human rights agreements and their origins. It then covers the challenges to human rights, of their efficacy, of their putative universal nature, and the possibility of relativism regarding rights. The module will then turn to human rights in practice, including that of transitional justice, regional human rights bodies, and international criminal accountability. It will, finally consider new factors in human rights and the future of human rights. The practice section will look at cases as they arise in context, examining first concrete case studies of rights violations, and then specific institutional and legal responses to those violations.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4516 The International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module examines Sub-Saharan Africa's relations with and position in the global political economy. The module will aim to help understand the historical roots and contemporary impulses that help shape Africa's international relations. The module explores how Africa's nation-states and peoples interact with multilateral development banks, international institutions, aid organisations and other actors (including both "normal" external states and clandestine networks of accumulation). We will consider Africa's debt and its impact upon the continent's international relations, acknowledging that it is unsustainable but asking if total debt write-off is feasible or desirable. Why Africa's share in world trade is declining and the impact this has on the continent will also be discussed as will the role of trade restrictions and the WTO in shaping Africa's international relations. We will ask what is the logic of regional integration and can it work in Africa, whilst examining the stated goals of political unity and economic progress through the African Union. Is this just rhetoric or is there now hope for solid achievements on both political and economic fronts? We finish with an evaluation with the latest plan to put Africa on the global map: the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR4518 Ethics and the Use of Force

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Availability: 2005-06

Description: This module will explore the use of military force from a normative perspective. The overall thesis of the course is that norms can both enable and restrain the use of force. It will introduce students to moral, legal, and sociological methods of studying the norms that influence the use of military force. Substantive issue areas include: aerial warfare, weapons of mass destruction; humanitarian intervention; terrorism and counter terrorism; and preemptive and preventive war.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – Honours 2005/06 – August 2005

IR4519 Politics and Development of Southeast Asia

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Availability: 2005-06

Description: As well as a diverse and fascinating region, Southeast Asia is at the heart of contemporary debates in development studies and international political economy. Studies of Indonesia and Malaysia, before and after the Asian financial crisis, provide insights into successful development strategies that have greatly reduced poverty in the region, as well as the difficulties of nation building in societies of considerable ethnic and religious complexity. A study of Vietnam also enables a discussion of Asian paths from plan to market. These country case studies are discussed in the context of broader regional developments, showing the ways in which regional processes can shape national development prospects and vice versa.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%