

Syllabus for  
**GOV 311—International Relations**  
3 Credit Hours  
Fall 2013

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of topics germane to international relations, including nation-states, sovereignty, war and peace, diplomacy, supranational and transnational organizations, globalization, and international law.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Gain an understanding of the nature and purpose of international politics, connections, and an evaluation of the history and performance of American foreign relations.
- B. Learn to think biblically – to learn to think from presuppositions in order to recognize the nature and consequences of ideas and to reinterpret contemporary international relations and politics and problems from a Biblical base.
- C. Develop biblical Christian leadership skills by encouraging them to know what they believe and why and to live their world and life view charitably and consistently toward biblically reforming society.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to do the following:

Terminal Objectives:

- A. Identify the significant persons, ideas, events, issues and trends in the history of international politics.
- B. Discuss the foundation and history of international relations making possible an informed evaluation of contemporary issues in international statecraft including a realistic understanding of the politics of grace and the politics of power.
- C. Engage in informed reading, research, analysis, and discussion of international politics.
- D. Reaffirm, restate, and reapply the biblical Christian world view in international statecraft and American diplomacy.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

- A. Required Material  
Textbook

Goldstein, Joshua (2011). International Relations, Tenth Edition. New York, NY: W.W. Norton and Company. ISBN 0-393-92448-3 (pbk.)

- B. Optional Material  
Textbook

Friedman, Thomas (2001). Lexus and the Olive Tree. Understanding Globalization. New York, NY. Thorndike Press. ISBN 0-374-18552-2.

## V. COURSE PROCEDURES

### A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software. By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means.
4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.
5. Students are to be in compliance with university, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the WPA handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
  - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an e-portfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
  - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

### B. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures
  - a. This course will employ an "objective" system of evaluation. Students may choose the grade they are willing to earn through the accumulation of "Semester Points." Points are available through the following:
  - b. One "Semester Point" can be earned by successfully completing the Mid-Term Research and Writing Project. This will require the student to meet the instructor's quantitative and qualitative requirements for content and that the project is submitted in a timely fashion.
  - c. Students are required and encouraged to attend International Relations Club events and activities which will be part of their total grade.
  - d. One "Semester Point" can be earned by successfully completing the *End of Semester Research and Writing Project*. Again, this requires the student to meet the qualitative and quantitative content expectations of the instructor, and that the project is submitted in a timely fashion.
  - e. One "Semester Point" can be earned by attending 90% of the class meetings. It is the responsibility of the student to arrive on-time, to participate in class discussions, and to sign the daily attendance verification sheet. Further, students arriving late or departing class early may, at the discretion of the instructor, be denied attendance credit for that day. Tardiness is defined as entering the classroom after the start of class, leaving more than three minutes before the end of the class, or being absent from the classroom for a total of more than five minutes during a class session. Students arriving after the start of class may, at the

discretion of the instructor, be denied to opportunity to sign that day's attendance sheet. An excused absence is not the same as attending class; however, adjustment to the total number of possible classes for that individual student may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

- f. One or more "Semester Points" can be earned by submitting term paper(s), 8-10 pages in length, on a topic of direct relevance to course content, but reflecting the individual interests and plans of the student. Again, **all topics must be approved by the professor**. All papers should contain reference or citations pages and should be consistent with an approved style manual. "Recycled" papers from other courses are prohibited and will be deemed unacceptable for the Semester Point. A term paper will not compensate for excessive absences if the student's name does not appear on at least 75% of the sign-in sheets for the semester.  
Students earning one (1) Semester Point will be awarded a grade of **"D"**.  
Students earning two (2) Semester Points will be awarded a grade of **"C"**.  
Students earning three (3) Semester Points will be awarded a grade of **"B"**.  
Those students who accumulated four (4) or more Semester Points will be awarded the grade of **"A"**.
- g. As stated previously, all Semester Points are forfeited and the student will fail if they do not attend at least 50% of the actual class meetings as verified by the daily attendance sheets. These attendance sheets are deemed to be the final authority on class attendance, so students must make certain that their class attendance is recorded daily.

2. Whole Person Assessment

None at this time.

3. Other Policies and Procedures

- a. Students are responsible for the reading the textbook and supplementary volumes systematically according to assignment sequence. Further, students are expected to attend all class meeting and participate in class discussions. Students who attend 90% or more of class meetings will earn additional credit. It is each student's personal responsibility to sign the attendance sheet each class meeting.
- b. Students are expected to prepare for each class session by studying the course schedule prior to the lecture in order to make positive contributions to the class discussions. Students also are expected to take and review their notes systematically—at least once each week.
- c. Students are responsible for additional assignments as made in class. Students are evaluated on each writing and research project for their knowledge of class lectures, the assigned readings, independent thought, and writing skills. There will be two writing opportunities during the semester.
- d. Students will be offered an opportunity to write an 8-10 page term paper on a topic germane to the course. All topics must be approved by the professor and must be an original work of research—recycled papers are unacceptable.

## VI. COURSE CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC TO BE DISCUSSED AND READING ASSIGNMENT</u>	
Week One	Orientation	
Week Two	IR Textbook— Chapter 1	The Globalization of International Relations
Week Two		Introduction to Web Pages & Media
Week Three	IR Textbook— Chapter 3	Realist Theories
Week Three		Country Studies
Week Four	IR Textbook— Chapter 4	Foreign Policy
Week Four		Country Studies
Week Five	IR Textbook—Chapter 5	International Conflict
Week Five		Country Studies
Week Six	IR Textbook—Chapter 6	Military Force and Terrorism
Week Six		International Opportunities & Information
Week Seven	IR Textbook—Chapter 7	International Organizations & Human Rights
Week Seven		International Organizations
Week Eight	IR Textbook—Chapter 8	International Trade
Week Eight		Global Economics
Week Nine	IR Textbook- Chapter 9	Global Finance and Business
Week Nine		Globalization
<b>October 11-20</b>	<b>Fall Break</b>	
Week 10	IR Textbook- Chapter 10	International Integration
Week 10		International Players
Week 11	IR Textbook—Chapter 11	Environment and Population
Week 11		Global Dynamics
Week 12	IR Textbook—Chapter 12	The North-South Gap

Week 12		Globalizing Issues
Week 13	IR Textbook-Chapter 13	International Development
Week 13		Global Development
Week 13		Diplomacy & Conflict Mediation
Week 14		Diplomacy & Conflict Resolution
Week 14		Diplomacy & Conflict Resolution
<b>November 27th</b>		<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
Week 15		Presentations-Book Reviews
Week 15		Presentations-Book Reviews
Week 16		Presentations-Book Reviews
Week 16		Presentations-Book Reviews

#### FINALS WEEK

Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes  
(GOV 311 International Relations)  
(Fall 2013)

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

**Significant Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

**Moderate Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

**Minimal Contribution** – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

**No Contribution** – Does not address the outcome.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

OUTCOMES & Proficiencies/Capacities		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
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<b>1</b>	<b>Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive Proficiencies/Capacities</b>				
1A	Biblical knowledge			X	
1B	Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit			X	
1C	Evangelistic capability		X		
1D	Ethical behavior		X		

<b>2</b>	<b>Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert Proficiencies/Capacities</b>				
2A	Critical thinking	X			
2B	Information literacy	X			
2C	Global & historical perspectives	X			
2D	Aesthetic appreciation			X	
2E	Intellectual creativity	X			

<b>3</b>	<b>Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined Proficiencies/Capacities</b>				
3A	Healthy lifestyle				X
3B	Physically disciplined lifestyle				X

<b>4</b>	<b>Outcome #4 – Socially Adept Proficiencies/Capacities</b>				
4A	Communication skills	X			
4B	Interpersonal skills	X			
4C	Appreciation of cultural & linguistic differences	X			
4D	Responsible citizenship		X		
4E	Leadership capacity	X			