COURSE DETAIL

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: THEMES AND THEORIES
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Maastricht University – University College Maastricht
Program(s) University College Maastricht
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science International Studies
UCEAP Course Number 105
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: THEMES AND THEORIES
UCEAP Transcript Title INTL RELATIONS
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description
The first part of the course discusses several mainstream International Relations (IR) theories and issues including neo-liberalism, neo-realism, and debates about the liberal world system. Moreover the problematics of soft versus hard power, absolute versus relative gain, cooperating versus cheating, war versus peace are discussed. This part of the course does not go through the world history, contemporary history, main international institutions or the history of nation-states. It immediately starts with contemporary IR. The second part of the course covers less mainstream approaches, some new theories and some neglected issues about the other side of world politics. In this part, normative and ideational structures, environmental issues, problems of the developing world, gendered-biases, economic inequalities, the construction of partial knowledge, the legitimization of power politics, the representation of images, establishment of stereotypes and the reproduction of hegemony are studied critically. Moreover, new IR approaches like Queer theory and Asian IR approaches are discussed. This part of the course asks important questions and tries to find reflective answers about the role of power and hegemony, how to make IR more Green, how to de-colonialize knowledge about the world, how to make IR and politics more gender- sensitive. Students are given a chance to discuss and to apply those theories to different and more specific cases and issues. For this reason, this course is an opportunity to learn and apply international relations theories, concepts and models to the daily news and real time developments in the world. Case studies or specific issues are provided by the course literature. Thus, the course is based on active student participation. Prerequisites for this course are a course in Political Science or Contemporary World History or Philosophy of Science.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
SSC2002

Host Institution Course Title
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: THEMES AND THEORIES

Host Institution Course Details
Host Institution Campus University College Maastricht
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Social Science
Course Last Reviewed

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