

## Syllabus

### Course description

<b>Course title</b>	Theory of International Relations
<b>Course code</b>	27160
<b>Scientific sector</b>	SPS/04
<b>Degree</b>	Economics and Social Sciences
<b>Semester and academic year</b>	2nd semester, a.y. 2021/2022
<b>Year</b>	free choice course
<b>Credits</b>	6
<b>Modular</b>	No

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	36
<b>Total lab hours</b>	-
<b>Total exercise hours</b>	-
<b>Attendance</b>	Recommended, but not required
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None
<b>Course page</b>	<a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/bachelor-economics-social-sciences/">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/bachelor-economics-social-sciences/</a>

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>This is a free choice course of the PPE, in the disciplinary sector of Political Science. The focus is mainly theoretical for the course is built, as any standard IR Theory course, to give a general overview of the design and logics of functioning of international systems. The course does not aim to offer specific professional skills. As to the educational objectives, students who take this course will develop the ability to understand the logics of international systems.</p>
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<b>Lecturer</b>	<p>Roberto Farneti  Office SER E202  <a href="mailto:roberto.farneti@unibz.it">roberto.farneti@unibz.it</a>  Tel. 0471/013128  <a href="https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/17315-roberto-farneti">https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/17315-roberto-farneti</a></p>
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	SPS/04 Political Science
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	<p>18 hours  Cockpit – students’ zone – individual timetable  Webpage:  <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&amp;department=26&amp;degree=13182%2C13324">https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&amp;department=26&amp;degree=13182%2C13324</a></p>
<b>Lecturing assistant</b>	-
<b>Teaching assistant</b>	-
<b>Office hours</b>	Office hours are scheduled before the course starts, but in general they take place before and after lecture hours and by

	appointment
<b>List of topics covered</b>	The course engages with the main theories and discourses in the study of International Relations: Realism, Liberalism and Constructivism will be explained by illustrating the debates and discussions that animate the discipline. Globalization is the backdrop where international actors engage in a system of relations ranging from cooperation to conflict. The course will illustrate a number of dyads, like East-West and North-South that structure IRs, and will expand on such issues as national security, international and transnational institutions and global governance
<b>Teaching format</b>	Frontal lectures

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glean insights into the leading theories and debates in the discipline of international relations.</li> </ul> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will learn to use theories of international relations to understand the contemporary international system</li> <li>• They will learn how theories inform decision-making and policy-making processes in international relations.</li> <li>• Learn how to use concepts in analyzing current facts.</li> </ul> <p>Making judgments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to read policy statements, assessing their consistency and applicability.</li> </ul> <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to construct clear, concise arguments using scientific language and methods.</li> <li>• Ability to synthesize complex arguments.</li> <li>• Ability to research and write research reports</li> </ul> <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to engage in higher order abstraction</li> <li>• Ability to apply concepts in empirical research</li> </ul>
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<b>Assessment</b>	<p>Assessment is based on a two-hour Final Examination (that adds up to 100% of the grade) and mixes MC questions with the writing of a short essay. Exam's format may change depending on measures taken by Unibz to contain Covid-19.</p> <p>A note on participation: depending on how many students attend the class, format and participation are discussed and agreed-upon on week one. Attendance is not compulsory, but registered students are normally encouraged to do presentations and in-class discussion of case studies.</p>
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<b>Assessment language</b>	English
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	The evaluation is based on the students' ability to demonstrate effective reading of all materials featured in the coursework. Students are expected to understand the questions and address them in a language that is not 'their own' language but rather the (technical) language of the Theory of IRs. Students have to synthesize the argument, stay on topic, and make judgments based on a careful reading of the assignments. The 'realities' of the theory are, in fact, empirical, they exist out there in a political world inhabited by human beings, but they remain accessible through written texts. Students are expected to study carefully these sources and make coherent references to the items listed in the syllabus
<b>Required readings</b>	John Baylis. Steve Smith and Patricia Owens. <i>The Globalization of World Politics</i> . <b>8th ed.</b> Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014. Cap. 4-13, 15-16, 19-31. Sebastian Rosato. "The Flawed Logic of Democratic Peace Theory" <i>The American Political Science Review</i> . Vol. 97, No. 4 (Nov. 2003), pp. 585-602
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	Robert Jackson and George Sorensen. <i>Introduction to International relations: Theories and Approaches</i> . 5 <sup>th</sup> Ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.