

Liverpool John Moores University

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Title: International Relations in the Contemporary World
Status: Definitive
Code: **7133PS** (125874)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Justice Studies
Teaching School/Faculty: Justice Studies

| Team | Leader |
|--------------------|--------|
| Daniel Silverstone | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 152

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Year Long & NS Year Long

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Online | 48 |

Grading Basis: 50 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|----------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Essay | AS1 | 4500 word Essay | 100 | |

Aims

Be able to identify key actors and processes in international relations, both historically and in the present day.
Gain an understanding of the basic theories of international relations, including Realism, Liberalism and Marxism.
Be able to assess and take an informed overview of selected contemporary international developments, including critical analysis of international events, their causes, and the implications.

Be able to question the ethical dimensions of the Westphalian order based on notions of sovereignty and narrow State interests and determine whether theories highlighting human emancipation need to be strengthened.

Be able to examine contemporary themes in international relations, such as the legacy of the Cold War, terrorism, the proliferation of dangerous weapons and globalisation.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically assess and take an informed overview of selected contemporary international developments, including critical analysis of international events, their causes, and the implications.
- 2 Critically evaluate the key theories which underlie the discipline of International Relations and apply them to contemporary debates concerning the nature of the International System.
- 3 Identify and critically analyse the key actors and processes in International Relations, both historically and in the contemporary era.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| 4500 word Essay | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------|---|---|---|

Outline Syllabus

1. *The State and other Actors in contemporary International Relations*
2. *Traditional Theories of International Relations*
3. *International History – the 20th Century*
4. *The Impact of Globalisation*
5. *International Organizations and International Norms*
6. *Cultural Conflict in the contemporary era*
7. *Rising States – The BRICS and the challenge to the liberal model of global governance*
8. *The Normative Turn in International Relations – Human Security and the Freedoms from want and fear*
9. *Climate Change and the challenge for states and regimes*
10. *The challenge presented by failed states*

Learning Activities

Online lectures and the provision of an asynchronous online message board.

Notes

International Relations is a field that seeks to analyse the relationships between nations, the roles of sovereign states, international institutions and organisations, as well as the impact of non-state actors. This module will encourage students to analyse how economic, historical, political and cultural dynamics interact to shape relations between states. In addition, students will have the opportunity to examine complex political issues as diverse as global inequality, the role of International Organisations, the impact of failed states on specific regions globally as well as the rise of identity politics and cultural conflict in the contemporary era.