

# Course Prospectus

## For IRG 301 Intro. to International Relations and Global Studies

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## *Course Prospectus for IRG 301 Intro. to International Relations and Global Studies*

### **Overview**

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Global studies is the academic study of political, economic, ecological and cultural relations and processes that in some way bear upon the world. The purpose of this course is familiarizing students with the basic challenges, issues and problems involved in reflect on international relations. This course further seeks to help students understand significant contemporary issues of diplomacy, war and peace, and political economy.

### **Course description**

This course is an introduction to the areas related to international relations and global studies through the description and analysis of forces and events on-going in the world. Topics include contemporary problems and biblical perspectives, development, nationalism, revolution, war and peace, and imperialism as they relate to overall patterns in international affairs. Upon completion, students should be able to discuss the issues that concern international relations today and how they shape the future and the foreign policy decisions of nation states.

### **Prerequisites and corequisites**

None.

### **Course credit**

Three (3) semester credit hours.

### **Instructional objectives**

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On successful completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Discuss foreign policy as a particular kind of policy;
2. Explain how U.S. foreign policy intricately reflects domestic priorities and political struggles;
3. Key historical moments in the development U.S. foreign policy
4. Competing “schools of thought” (esp. contemporary)
5. Identifies Institutions and processes of policy making;
6. Discuss the factors which shape the foreign policy challenges of the 21st century; and
7. Define key terms.

### **Your instructor**

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An instructor has not been named for this course at this time.

### **Students with disabilities**

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The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for

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reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please inform your instructor by email (on the course “Info” page, click on the instructor’s name and then select “Send Email”).

### **Technology access**

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This course requires web access and an established email account. The Adobe Acrobat Reader is necessary to view documents that are PDF files. One can download the reader free at:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

### **Withdrawing from or dropping this course**

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It is the responsibility of a student to drop a course if he or she cannot meet the requirements of the course. Any student who stops attending a course without officially withdrawing from it risks receiving a punitive grade for that course.

Withdrawal requests may be conveyed in any manner to the course professor, Registrar, or Dean of Faculty. This action is sufficient for ensuring any refund owed you. Please note the following:

- If a student drops a course on or before the “Last day to withdraw from a course without a grade penalty” as published in the University Academic Calendar, even if his or her work is not of a passing grade, then a “W” is recorded.
- If a course is dropped after that date, but before the last 21 calendar days of the semester, then the instructor determines the grade. The faculty member will at this time record a grade of “W” if passing (not computed in GPA) or “WF” if failing (computed in GPA).
- Students who drop a course, yet remain in one or more other courses during the last 18 calendar days of the semester, will receive a grade of “WF.”
- Students who completely withdraw from the University at any time during the semester may be given a grade of “W” on all courses.

If students do not initiate the withdrawal process, the instructor is required to initiate the administrative process and to record a grade of “W” or “WF” for the course depending on the date the faculty member drops the student from the course. Students who register for a course as an audit, but then withdraw will be assigned a grade of “W” for the course.

### **Icebreaker assignment**

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To officially begin this course you must complete an icebreaker assignment by which you introduce yourself to your classmates through posting a short autobiography on the course Discussion Forum.

### **Textbooks**

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Students may order their books through the University Bookstore which is located on our main website. Living University is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program. Be aware that the

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books used or referred to in this course are commercial publications. They represent the views and ideas of their authors, editors, and publishers. Living University does not endorse these texts nor vouch for their accuracy. We simply employ them in helping you master the content of the course.

### **Required Textbook**

Kaufman, Joyce P. *Introduction to International Relations: Theory and Practice*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. ISBN-10: 1442221194, ISBN-13: 978-1442221192.

### **Optional Books**

None.

## **Course requirements and grades**

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### **Due dates and extensions**

Submit assignments on or before the due date. Students must complete the course by the last official day of instruction as set forth in the academic calendar.

### **Reading assignments**

Reading assignments are integrated into the lesson pages at the course website.

### **Listening assignment**

Active listening to works of music may, in the long run, be the most valuable activity you undertake in this course. There is no substitute for having pieces of music “in your ears”; nor is there any replacement for thinking about the pieces you hear. As an encouragement to both listening and considering the study of various forms of music, you are required to complete (on the form provided) six online listening assignments.

### **Writing assignments**

Any writing assignments in this course should follow the MLA style as set forth in *Writing Research Papers: A Complete Guide* by Lester & Lester. Please cite your sources and use quotation marks where needed. The Files feature on an Assignment Submission page lets you submit your work so your instructor can have it handy for download, review, and grading.

### **Study tips**

Distance learning emphasizes self-motivation. The instructor functions as a facilitator with the student as the driving force in mastering course content. Students are encouraged not to put off completing their readings and assignments. While there are many different learning styles, the following strategy should serve the needs of most students.

- Look over assigned readings.
- Read the assigned readings making notes before viewing the assigned lecture.

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- Define terms in the assignment. The four exams will specifically test basic terminology. Students should develop their biblical and theology vocabulary as they proceed assignment by assignment.
- As students view lectures, they should complete their notes.
- Complete the answers for the lesson writing assignment.
- Each week students should review notes, geographical terms and locations, and the words they defined.
- If a student has a question, ask. Questions should arise in the teaching-learning process. By bringing questions to our attention, students not only acquire assistance but they also maintain the interaction necessary in higher education. To submit a question just click on the instructor's name on the course "Info" page and send your question by email through the Populi system.

### **Quizzes and examinations**

There are three online exams in this course of no more than 50 objective questions each. All exams are closed book and closed-notes. **Exam 3 is a proctored exam** to be taken online. A proctored exam is one that is overseen by an impartial individual (called a proctor) who monitors or supervises a student while he or she is taking an exam. The proctor ensures the security and integrity of the exam process for all involved.

Students have several choices for completing these two proctored exams:

1. A student can come to campus for an exam. The instructor will establish a specific campus classroom, date and time for the student to come to LU and complete the exam with the instructor or his or her representative.
2. A student can utilize a Living Church of God church officer (i.e. elder, deacon, deaconess, adult/youth leader, etc.). Be sure to politely ask the individual and if he or she consents to be the proctor for you.
3. A student can use ProctorU online. ProctorU is a service that LU faculty may utilize for proctoring online exams. ProctorU allows students to conveniently and securely complete assigned exams using almost any web cam. With a computer and approved web cam, a student can take online exams at home, at work, or almost anywhere they have Internet access. ProctorU connects students directly to their proctor via web cam so they can both see and talk to one another. ProctorU can also monitor the student's computer while they complete the exam. Students pay ProctorU directly for this service. LU does not reimburse students for proctoring fees. To view a demo video on how this service works, or to sign up and schedule testing appointments, the Living University portal is located at [www.proctoru.com/portal/livinguniv](http://www.proctoru.com/portal/livinguniv).
4. A student can use a college or university testing center. There is usually a fee for this service which students pay directly. LU does not reimburse students for proctoring fees.
5. A student can have an approved proctor. This may be a school official, such as a teacher or registrar, or a librarian who is not related to the student.

All university students should present proper photo identification to their proctor before taking an exam unless the proctor personally knows the student being tested. All exams are online. In order for a

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proctored exam grade to be recorded, a signed Proctor's Signature Form (PSF) must be sent to LU. There is no PSF required for ProctorU. Otherwise, provide the approved proctor with a copy of the Proctor's Signature Form (PSF) and a stamped envelope with appropriate postage paid, properly addressed to:

Michelle R. Broussard  
Living University  
2301 Crown Centre Drive, Suite A  
Charlotte, NC 28227-7705

### **Grading**

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A course grade will be determined based on the number of points a student has earned over the semester as follows:

Icebreaker Assignment (30 points);

Article Abstracts (three, first 70 points, second 80, and third 90 for a total of 240 points)

Quizzes (seven, each worth 25 points for a total of 175)

Exams (three, each worth 100 points, for a total of 300 points; all three exams are online, closed book and closed-notes). **Only Exam 3 is a proctored exam;**

Discussions (six, each worth 10 points for a total of 60 points);

"What I Learned" Essay (40 points) and

Course Evaluation (30 points).

TOTAL 875 points

Grades are in the traditional American style of an A, B, C, D, or F. In distance learning, we believe that the measure of mastery of course subject matter is completion of 80% of the objectives for a course. That means that we want students to earn at least 800 points in this course. If they do not do so then they have not achieved the level of the mastery we would like them to have.

We want this course to be competency-based and so it is possible for the entire class to receive an A or a B. There is no artificial curving of scores in the assignment of grades (if you do not know what that means, do not worry about it). Mastery of the material is what one's goal should be.

Grades, assigned by points, are as follows:

A 787-875 points

B 700-786 points

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C 612-699 points

D 525-611 points

F Below 525 points

**Course outline**

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**Lesson 1 International Relations in a Globalized World**

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**Lesson 2 Theoretical Overview**

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**Lesson 3 The Nation-State Level**

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**Lesson 4 Within the Nation-State**

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**Lesson 5 Nonstate Actors and the International System**

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**Lesson 6 Pulling It All Together**

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