

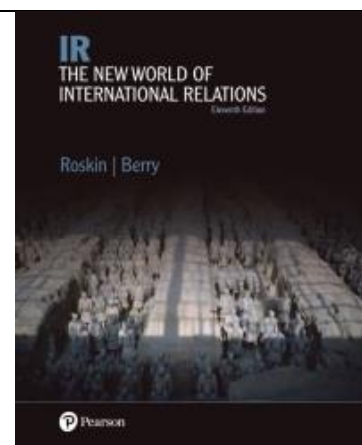
**VALENCIA COLLEGE**  
**INR 2002: International Politics**  
**Poinciana Campus**  
**Course Syllabus & Class Policies**  
**Fall 2019**

<b>PROFESSOR:</b>	Maria Puerta Riera	<b>CRN:</b>	17224
<b>OFFICE LOCATION:</b>	Poinciana Campus	<b>CREDIT HOURS:</b>	3
<b>OFFICE PHONE:</b>	(407) 582-6100	<b>CLASS MEETINGS:</b>	TR 8:30 – 9:45 pm    ROOM: 216
<b>CELL PHONE:</b>	(407) 582-6062	<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	Virtual or by appointment only
<b>EMAIL:</b>	mpuertariera@valenciacollege.edu	<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	Minimum grade of C in ENC1101 or ENC1101H or IDH 1110

### Required Materials/Textbooks

**IR: The New World of International Relations\***, Roskin and Berry, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition-Paperback. Publisher: Pearson, 2018. ISBN: **013463196X**

\* Make sure you order your book as soon as possible



### Canvas

Significant portions of this course may take place online using Canvas. It is recommended that you review the tutorials before beginning this material, and set up your phone or e-mail to give alerts for Canvas (support 407-582-5600). To manage notifications by text, log into Canvas (<https://online.valenciacollege.edu/login/canvas>) and click on:

- Account
- Settings – Other Contact – Contact Method (right side of screen) – enter text information – Register SMS
- A text will go to your phone with a code to enter to confirm your number
- Notifications – select the notifications that you want and where the notification should go to

Canvas also has a mobile app! Download the app, click Find My School, search for Valencia College, and enter your Atlas login. Click “allow” to enable notifications.

### Educational Supplies

These supplies are not required but are strongly recommended. A student should own or have access to a current edition of a college-level dictionary and thesaurus. If you cannot obtain a copy, you should have access to a computer or smart phone with online capabilities; I can recommend a number of websites to you ([www.webster.com](http://www.webster.com), [www.wiktionary.org](http://www.wiktionary.org), or [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com) are excellent starting points). I'd also recommend purchasing a flash drive (small portable USB storage device) to assist in storing papers (this is a helpful tool through the rest of college). You may also want to investigate online cloud-based storage sites, like Google Drive or Dropbox. Finally, having a laptop or tablet with internet access is a basic requirement.

## INTERNATIONAL POLITICS OVERVIEW

### Course Description

This course will provide you with the opportunity to engage in the analysis of world politics with the supporting background of a variety of disciplines from the social sciences, ranging from History, Economy, International Relations to Sociology, based on the social

scientific study of international politics. This course will require a significant theoretical approach to identify relevant actors, and their behavior in the international arena.

**Course Catalog Description/Learning Objectives:** Analysis of world politics, focusing on the role of nation-states and international organizations and on selected foreign policy issues.

**Gordon Rule Statement:** This is a Gordon Rule course which requires demonstration of college level writing skills through multiple assignments, problems. Minimum grade of C required if used to satisfy Gordon Rule requirement.

### **Major Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the semester, the student will have met the following learning objectives:

1. Develop a comprehension of some of the key historical events in the creation of the nation-state system.
2. Gain an understanding of the causes of conflict and methods of conflict resolution.
3. Develop an understanding of the different approaches to the study of the international political economy.
4. Develop an understanding of the roles played by major international institutions within the international system.
5. Comprehend the relevance of various approaches and theories in influencing the study of international relations and nation-states behavior.
6. Demonstrate the ability to research and analyze issues regarding international politics utilizing a variety of sources.
7. Demonstrate college-level writing.
8. Utilize critical thinking and the scientific method when analyzing political, social, and economic issues.

### **Core Competencies of a Valencia Graduate**

Valencia's Student Core Competencies are complex abilities that are essential to lifelong success. This course will help you develop and demonstrate the abilities to: (1) think clearly, critically, and creatively; (2) communicate with others verbally and in written form; (3) make reasoned value judgments and responsible commitments; and (4) act purposefully, reflectively, and responsibly. Due to the nature of these global competencies, many problems activities will be presented in the context of an application. These applications will require students to select appropriate information from the problem and communicate effectively how to arrive at an appropriate solution for the problem.

### **Major Topics / Concepts / Skills / Issues**

- The social scientific study of international politics
- International Actors: nation-states, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations
- Evolution of the nation-state
- Anarchy
- Polarity
- International norms
- Components of Power
- Domestic sources of foreign policy
- Role of the individual in foreign policy decision-making
- International law and international organizations
- International political economy
- Economic interdependence
- Global and regional economic integration
- Economic development and underdevelopment
- Development of critical thinking skills necessary to understanding international political concepts and issues.
- Acquisition of research skills

## **COURSE CLASSROOM POLICIES**

### **Attendance**

Considering this is an online course attendance/participation in the online sessions are a major contributing factor to student success, being the reason why it is considered to be binding. Students are expected to connect in the established schedule (verify the schedule), with optional consultation hours by appointment. As an online student, you are expected to participate in the online sessions, complete all required assignments before class, as well as other assignments. In the event of an emergency that prevents

students from actively participating in the online hours, students are responsible for submitting any missed work, as well as keeping up with announcements made during class time. I recommend you contact me with any questions regarding missed assignments.

### **“No Show” Status**

Class attendance/participation is required beginning with the first class meeting. If you do not participate the first class meeting, you may be withdrawn from the class as a “no show.” If you are withdrawn as a “no show,” you will be financially responsible for the class and a final grade of “WN” will appear on your transcript for the course.

### **Tardiness**

Students are expected to participate in class on time; please try to avoid any scheduling conflicts with this course. Special instructions for current assignments are often given at the beginning of class, so it is best to connect at least five minutes early. If tardiness is excessive, a direct intervention and future plan may be required from the professor.

### **Class Preparation**

Please be prepared, have with you all the resources for note-taking, required course material, and be set to be actively engaged in the course. Reading assignments should be completed prior to the class period where they will be discussed. All assignments must be submitted by designated deadlines. Our class format will combine lectures/class discussions, as well as other strategies considered appropriate in achieving our academic goals, which will greatly benefit from Students completing reading assignments in advance.

### **Online Participation**

Students are expected to maintain proper decorum while online. Proper etiquette includes, but is not limited to, treating your fellow students with respect online, using appropriate language in all work submitted online, and acting the same way you would behave in a classroom – consider the digital classroom to be no different from the physical classroom you attend each week.

### **Class Participation**

Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions and activities. This will affect your performance in this course (students who are actively involved in course material tend to be more successful). Be prepared to discuss all materials: take notes while reading at home, complete all assigned tasks on the weekly schedule, and have at least one question or comment about assigned readings every session. Please be aware that participation doesn’t just mean participating in the online sessions. Participation includes being attentive with the deadlines, joining in group discussions, and communicating with your professor. The discussions should reflect the weekly paper discussion/follow-ups posted on discussion forums assigned for the week.

### **Improper Technology Usage**

While you are encouraged to use technology as a resource, it is expected that you will use the resource maturely.

### **International Students (F-1or J-1Visa)**

Please be advised that withdrawal from this course due to attendance/participation may result in the termination of your visa status if you fall below the full-time enrollment requirements of 12 credit hours. Consult the International Student Service office for more information.

## **EVALUATION AND GRADING**

### **Course Evaluation & Grading Scale**

Rubrics for assignments and evaluations are available on Canvas under each assignment tab. The sum of points earned throughout the course will determine a letter grade as follows:

A: 1000-900  
B: 899-800  
C: 799-700  
D: 699-600  
F: below 599

A: 90% - 100%  
B: 80% - 89%  
C: 70% - 79%  
D: 60% - 69%  
F: below 60%

**Weekly Participation** 15%  
**Essay** 20%  
**Group Assignment** 15%  
**Midterm Exam** 20%  
**Final Exam** 30%

### **Exam/Quiz/Project/Late Work Make Up Policy**

Make-up exams will be given in emergency situations, provided the instructor is notified within a reasonable time frame. In the event of an emergency, the exam will be placed in the testing center. The exam must be made up before the next class meeting, or at an approved date set by the professor. Please note that missing an exam will have an adverse effect on your grade. Please also note that the final exam is required; missing the final exam will result in an automatic "0" on the final exam.

Homework and quizzes cannot be made up; if a student is absent, the student is responsible for determining required work, completing the assignment, and coming to the next class meeting prepared. If a student is absent on the day of a quiz, that student will receive a "0" for the quiz.

## Assignment Description

**Participation:** Students are expected to follow class completing weekly assignments on **Canvas**, posted on discussions forums.

**Quizzes:** One quiz every 4 weeks.

**Essay:** The course essay will address one of the topics from the syllabus with current examples. The essay must follow MLA guidelines.

**Concept Map:** The topic will be assigned in class.

## Make-up Exams

Make-up exams will be given only for emergency situations, once the Professor is notified, and the approval has been given. Upon your absence and its approval, the exam will be placed in the testing center. Exams must be made up before the next class meeting. Any test missed will have adverse effect on your grade, and make-up test will not be given unless approved by the Professor prior to the date of schedule test. A no show on that day will result in an F for the session; to clarify, this means you will receive a "0" for the grade.

## COURSE CONTENT\*

Week	Major Topic/Outcome	Assignments
1	<b>Systems and Theories</b> <b>Chap. 1: Power and Systems</b>	08/27 Differentiate international relations and domestic politics. 08/27 Explain and give examples of the balance-of-power system. 08/29 Demonstrate how an IR system may be inherently unstable. 09/01 <b>Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
2	<b>Systems and Theories</b> <b>Chap. 1: Power and Systems</b>	09/03 Evaluate why the Cold War lasted so long without blowing up. 09/03 Argue which IR system best fits the current world situation. 09/05 Evaluate the rise and durability of states. 09/05 Explain why sovereignty has always been partly fictional. 09/08 <b>Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
3	<b>Systems and Theories</b> <b>Chap. 2: IR Theories</b>	09/10 Explain why theories are necessary in IR. 09/10 Review the main points of IR realism. 09/12 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism. 09/12 <b>Essay submission deadline</b>
4	<b>Systems and Theories</b> <b>Chap. 2: IR Theories</b>	09/17 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice. 09/17 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories. 09/19 Evaluate the possibility of a Christian theory of IR. 09/22 <b>Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
5	<b>National Interests and Geopolitics</b> <b>Chap. 6: Can the United States Lead the World?</b>	09/24 Explain the alternation theory of U.S. foreign policy. 09/24 Contrast elite and mass views on U.S. foreign policy. 09/26 Evaluate the degree of continuity in U.S. foreign policy. 09/29 <b>Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
6	<b>National Interests and Geopolitics</b>	10/01 Evaluate the effectiveness of the War Powers Act. 10/01 Compare the National Security Council to other executive branches. 10/03 Evaluate the bureaucratic politics theory of foreign policy.

Week	Major Topic/Outcome	Assignments
	<b>Chap. 6: Can the United States Lead the World?</b>	<b>10/03</b> Compare isolationism and unilateralism in U.S. foreign policy. <b>10/06 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
7	<b>The Permanence of Insecurity Chapter 12: National Security and Insecurity</b>	<b>10/08</b> Distinguish and describe the four primary security strategies. <b>10/08</b> Explain the effect of technological change on national security. <b>10/08</b> List and explain the motives of the nuclear proliferators. <b>10/10</b> Assess the relevance of the several ways to reach security. <b>10/10</b> Understand the utility of a combination approach. <b>10/13 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
8	<b>The Permanence of Insecurity Chapter 13: Irregular Warfare</b>	<b>10/15</b> Explain how asymmetrical conflict is a spectrum of violence. <b>10/15</b> Argue that modernization is either the cause or the cure for current asymmetrical conflicts. <b>10/15</b> Define and differentiate the types of internal conflict. <b>10/15</b> Compare and contrast the three main theories of civil conflict: relative deprivation, resource mobilization, and greed. <b>10/15</b> Evaluate the non-state challenges for U.S. foreign policy. <b>10/17 Midterm Exam</b>
9	<b>The Permanence of Insecurity Chap. 19: The reach of the United Nations</b>	<b>10/22</b> Explain the theory of collective security. <b>10/22</b> Explain how the UN was supposed to overcome the League's problems. <b>10/24</b> Review the growth of disillusionment with the UN. <b>10/27 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
10	<b>The Permanence of Insecurity Chap. 19: The reach of the United Nations</b>	<b>10/29</b> Review the ways in which the UN is still useful. <b>10/29</b> Explain the theory and shortcomings of functionalism. <b>10/31</b> Evaluate the possibilities of peace spreading. <b>11/03 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
11	<b>The Global Political Economy Chap. 16: The United States and Globalization</b>	<b>11/05</b> Compare and contrast the Great Depression with the Great Recession. <b>11/05</b> Make a case that the dollar should decline in value compared to other currencies. <b>11/05</b> Make a case that currencies besides the dollar should be used for world trade. <b>11/07</b> Evaluate globalization and the opposition to it. <b>11/07</b> Compare and contrast NAFTA to the EU. <b>11/07</b> Evaluate the danger of protectionism and trade wars <b>11/10 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
12	<b>The Global Political Economy Chap. 18: The Uses of International Law</b>	<b>11/12</b> Explain consistency and reciprocity as the bases of international law. <b>11/12</b> Explain the relationship of commands and sanctions in international law. <b>11/14</b> Explain how the idea of "self-help" can lead to war. <b>11/17 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
13	<b>The Global Political Economy Chap. 18: The Uses of International Law</b>	<b>11/19</b> Contrast de facto and de jure recognition. <b>11/21</b> Outline the rise of human rights in international law. <b>11/24 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion post on Canvas
14	<b>The Global Political Economy Chap. 11: Development in Rich and Poor Countries</b>	<b>11/26</b> Evaluate the theory that colonialism caused poverty. <b>11/26</b> Explain the cultural theory of poverty. <b>11/26</b> Explain why the West led in economic modernization. <b>November 27 – December 1: Thanksgiving Break (College Closed)</b>
15	<b>The Global Political Economy Chap. 11: Development in Rich and Poor Countries</b>	<b>12/03</b> Evaluate Malthus in light of recent population growth. <b>12/03</b> Examine the pros and cons of migration among countries. <b>12/05</b> Evaluate prospects for economic growth in the developing lands. <b>12/08 Weekly Assignment:</b> Discussion in class.
16	<b>Final Exam Week</b>	<b>December 9-15</b>

\* Subject to change if the Professor considers necessary to make any adjustment.

## VALENCIA COLLEGE POLICIES & GENERAL INFORMATION

### Important Valencia Website Links

- College Calendar: <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/>
- Important Dates & Deadlines: <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/documents/FallSpringSummer16-17ImportantDates-rev5-11-16.pdf>
- Final Exam Schedule: <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/FinalExam.cfm>
- College Catalog: <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/>
- Valencia Policy and Procedures: <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/>
- FERPA: <http://valenciacollege.edu/ferpa/>

### Important Course and College Dates (Fall 2019)

- August 26: Classes begin
- **September 2: Labor Day (College Closed)**
- September 3: Drop/Refund Deadline (midnight)
- September 13: Change of Program Deadline
- **October 7-11: Early Alert Week for Grades**
- October 17: Spirit Day
- November 1: Withdrawal Deadline-"W" Grade (midnight)
- November 18-22: International Education Week
- **November 27 – December 1: Thanksgiving Break (College Closed)**
- December 8: Day and Evening Classes End
- December 8: Faculty Final Date to Enter Withdrawal
- **December 9–15: Final exam week**
- December 15: Term Ends
- December 16: Grades Due 9:00am
- December 17: Final Grades Viewable in Atlas
- **December 23 – January 1: Winter Break (College Closed)**

**NOTE:** Visit the following website for the dates in the current academic year: <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar/>

### Withdrawal Policy

Please see the date above for the withdrawal deadline. During a first or second attempt in the same course at Valencia, if you withdraw or are withdrawn by the professor, you will receive a non-punitive grade of "W" (Withdrawn). You will not receive credit for the course, and the W will not be calculated in your grade point average; however, the enrollment will count in your total attempts in the specific course. **Students are not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline.** A student may be administratively withdrawn from the course due to violation of class attendance policy; if you are withdrawn administratively, you will receive a W. Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during the third or subsequent attempt to complete the course will be assigned a grade of F. Please note that withdrawal from a course may impact financial aid; it is strongly recommended a student consult with the professor, an adviser, and financial aid before withdrawing from the course.

### Student Code of Conduct

Valencia College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning, but the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the faculty member to leave the classroom. Violation of any classroom or Valencia rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

### Academic Honesty

Each student is required to follow Valencia policy regarding academic honesty. All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the student's individual thoughts, research, and self-expression, unless the assignment specifically states "group project." Any act of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with Valencia policy as set forth in the Student Handbook and Catalog. At Valencia, we expect the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in accordance with policy 6Hx28: 8-11 upheld by the Vice President of Student Affairs (<http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/>). Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.

### Plagiarism



Plagiarism is the act of taking another individual's writings or ideas and passing them off as your own. This includes directly copying even a small portion of the text, indirectly taking thoughts by paraphrasing ideas without correctly attributing to the source (meaning both with signal phrases and in-text parenthetical citations), using papers written in previous courses (self-plagiarism), and using another individual's research without the correct attribution. Any act of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in an automatic failing grade on the assignment, no matter how small the infraction; to clarify, this means the assignment will receive no points. Additional action may be taken with the college's administrative offices. Do not endanger your academic career: If there is a severe issue, you are confused about what constitutes plagiarism, or you feel dishonesty is your only solution, contact me immediately and we will discuss the matter. Remember, once the assignment has been submitted, there is no distinction between unintentional plagiarism and intentional plagiarism – it's just intentional in my eyes. Students' work will be screened with plagiarism detections tools.

### **Internet Research Statement**

Because of the variety of sources, ease of publication, lack of central control, and proliferation of commercial information on the free Internet, it is often hard to tell if information obtained online is reliable. Many sites contain research and information of high quality; however, unlike traditional print publications or library-based electronic resources, there is usually no process of peer review, nor is there an editor verifying the accuracy of information presented on the Internet. There are an increasing number of sites containing information that may be incomplete, anonymously written, out-of-date, biased, fraudulent, or whose content may not be factual. Students should, therefore, use caution in use of the free Internet for their research needs. For academic topics that are addressed in scholarly literature, use of electronic databases or visiting the library may better meet your needs. However, if you choose to consult public sites, I recommend you check Google Scholar, and encourage you not to entrust information from sites like Wikipedia.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with their professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. <http://valenciacollege.edu/osd/>

**Personal Policy:** If you require any special accommodations for the course, do not hesitate to let me know. You have my permission to tape record anything in the course; any additional accommodations must go through the Office for Students with Disabilities (see below).

**From the Office for Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities (Building 1, Room 140, ext. 4167). All requests will be kept in strict confidence.

### **Student Assistance Program**

Valencia College is interested in making sure all of our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help with issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management, as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home, or work. BayCare Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program (SAP) services are free to all Valencia students and available 24 hours a day by calling (800) 878-5470. Free face-to-face counseling is also available.

### **Disclaimer**

The syllabus, assignments, and due dates are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

### **Course Evaluation**

Don't forget to participate in the Student Feedback on Instruction (SFI) survey, it is an important input in our effort to improve teaching and learning. The results of this survey will not be available until after grades have been posted. The link to the survey: [http://tiny.cc/CoursEval\\_Student](http://tiny.cc/CoursEval_Student)

**GUIDED READINGS (every week we will read and discuss one paper)**

1. Who's afraid of a Balance of Power: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2017/12/08/whos-afraid-of-a-balance-of-power/>
2. I knew the Cold War. This is no Cold War: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/03/12/i-knew-the-cold-war-this-is-no-cold-war/>
3. The Difference Between Realists and Liberals: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2013/07/11/the-difference-between-realists-and-liberals/>
4. One World, Rival Theories: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2009/10/26/one-world-rival-theories/>
5. Deconstructing Trump's Foreign Policy: <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2018/11/05/deconstructing-trumps-foreign-policy/>
6. President Trump Showed His Contradictory Foreign Policy Doctrine in Iraq. Call It 'Hawkish Isolationism': <http://time.com/5489044/donald-trump-iraq-hawkish-isolationism/>
7. Facebook Security Breach Exposes Accounts of 50 Million Users: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/28/technology/facebook-hack-data-breach.html>
8. The Implications of the U.S. Withdrawal from Syria: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/implications-us-withdrawal-syria>
9. U.S. Announces Its Withdrawal From U.N. Human Rights Council: <https://www.npr.org/2018/06/19/621435225/u-s-announces-its-withdrawal-from-u-n-s-human-rights-council>
10. What Trump Gets Right on Trade: <https://newrepublic.com/article/151140/trump-right-free-trade-globalization>
11. Sanctions: <https://www.bloomberg.com/quicktake/financial-war>
12. UNHCR: People Seeking Asylum Have Legal Right to Enter US: <https://www.voanews.com/a/people-seeking-asylum-have-legal-right-to-enter-us-territory/4622526.html>
13. Trump Embraces Foreign Aid to Counter China's Global Influence: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/14/world/asia/donald-trump-foreign-aid-bill.html>
14. Our Real Immigration Problem: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/21/opinion/trump-immigration-reform.html>