

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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- Austin Carson

Associate Director

- Matthew Nanes

Executive Director and Assistant Dean

- Chad Cyrenne

Affiliated Department Professors

- Michael Albertus, Political Science
- John W. Boyer, History
- Curtis Bradley, Law
- Mark Philip Bradley, History
- Austin Carson, Political Science
- Dipesh Chakrabarty, South Asian Languages and Civilizations, History
- Elizabeth Chatterjee, History
- Chiara Cordelli, Political Science
- Terry Clark, Sociology
- Bruce Cumings, History
- Marco Garrido, Sociology
- Scott Gehlbach, Political Science, Public Policy
- Adom Getachew, Race Diaspora, and Indigeneity, Political Science
- Tom Ginsberg, Law, Political Science
- Andreas Glaeser, Sociology
- Julian Go, Sociology
- Robert Gulotty, Political Science
- Susan Gzesh, Law
- Gary B. Herrigel, Political Science
- Kimberley Kay Hoang, Sociology
- William Howell, Political Science
- Ryan Cecil Jobson, Anthropology
- Benjamin Lessing, Political Science
- Darryl Li, Anthropology, Law
- Joseph P. Masco, Anthropology
- John J. Mearsheimer, Political Science
- Constantine Nakassis, Anthropology
- Monika Nalepa, Political Science
- Natacha Nsabimana, Anthropology
- Robert Pape, Political Science
- Steven Pincus, History
- Jennifer Pitts, Political Science, Social Thought
- Paul Poast, Political Science
- Kenneth Pomeranz, History
- Eric Posner, Law
- James T. Sparrow, History
- Paul Staniland, Political Science
- Susan Stokes, Political Science
- Nathan Tarcov, Political Science, Social Thought
- Rochelle Layla Terman, Political Science

- Jennifer Trinitapoli, Sociology
- Lisa Wedeen, Political Science
- Dali Yang, Political Science
- Dingxin Zhao, Sociology

CIR Instructional Professor

- Matthew Nanes, Associate Senior Instructional Professor
- Burcu Pinar Alakoc, Instructional Professor
- Kara Ann Hooser, Assistant Instructional Professor
- Adam Parker, Assistant Instructional Professor
- Linnea Turco, Assistant Instructional Professor

Lecturers

- Ahmed Abozaid, Lecturer
- Peter Tinti, Lecturer

Director of Graduate Admissions and Enrollment

- Sparkle Dalphinis

Graduate Recruitment Manager

- Riyanna Coleman

Senior Director of Career Services & Professional Development

- Shelly Robinson

Assistant Director of Career Services

- Lauren Sheely

Assistant Director of Career Services

- Carli Thompson

Student Affairs Administrator

- Sabrina Biggus

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Committee on International Relations (CIR) is an intense, intellectually transformative one-year program. It has its origins in a conference on the causes and characteristics of major wars, which was organized in 1926 by University of Chicago political scientists Charles Merriam and Quincy Wright. In 1928, the research papers and collaborations spawned by this conference led to the award of several master's degrees and thereby the establishment of CIR, now the nation's oldest graduate program in international affairs.

All CIR students take nine graduate courses selected from across UChicago's departments and professional schools. They work directly with UChicago faculty on the MA thesis and develop depth of expertise in field specializations including International Security, Conflict Studies, and Contentious Politics; International Political Economy and Development; Comparative Studies in Political Institutions and Identity; Human Rights, Environment, and International Law; and Research Methods in the Social Sciences.

This curriculum, along with generous extracurricular opportunities, offers preeminent training for those aspiring to go on for funded PhD study in political science, public policy, sociology, anthropology, and history.

Students are assisted in their course selections and offered regular mentorship for their research by instructional professors and by CIR senior staff.

CIR offers substantial merit aid.

We offer preeminent training for those aspiring to go on for funded PhD study in political science, public policy, sociology, anthropology, and history.

CIR also offers exceptional career preparation with our in-house Career Services Office. Our programming includes one-on-one advising, regular workshops, on-campus recruitment, and visits by leading alumni who provide mentorship in a variety of fields. In addition, students can access the expertise and funding of the University's Center for International Social Science Research, Institute of Politics, and regional studies centers.

CIR maintains its own professional development fund for self-designed internships in the United States and abroad; for career exploration treks; and for MA thesis field work.

Approximately 35% of CIR students graduate in June, and 65% in August.

Over 90% of our graduates accept full-time or part-time employment or are in pursuit of a PhD 6 months after graduation.

Joint BA/MA and MBA/MA programs are available. We also offer a dual JD/MA program and a dual MA/MA program in CIR and Public Policy Studies.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

All CIR students must complete the following requirements to receive their MA degree:

- Complete nine graduate-level UChicago courses for credit and earn a minimum 3.0 GPA (graduate courses are indicated by a call number of 30000 and higher)
- Satisfy the CIR course distribution requirements for these nine graduate-level courses (see below)
- Receive a grade of "pass" in three sections of INRE 46500 - MA Thesis Workshop, a required, non-credit course that meets in autumn, winter, and spring quarter, respectively
- Complete an MA thesis paper with the approval of both a faculty reader and an assigned preceptor
- File an "Application for Degree" electronically on my.uchicago.edu no later than the first week of the quarter in which the student intends to graduate

COURSE WORK

Students must take two out of three core seminars: INRE 43000 International Order and Security, INRE 43800 International Political Economy, and INRE 43100 Global Governance and Structures of International Power. Together, these courses furnish a common vocabulary and core analytical skills that help students develop their own rigorous research practice.

All students must take INRE 45020 Research Methods for International Relations, which is typically offered only during autumn quarter.

Each student will complete three courses each in two different fields of study:

1. International Security, Conflict Studies, and Contentious Politics
2. International Political Economy and Development
3. Comparative Studies in Political Institutions and Identity
4. Human Rights, Environment, and International Law
5. Research Methods in the Social Science

A master list of courses that count towards each of these fields is posted on the CIR website and will be updated regularly. Students are welcome to propose additions to the list by emailing the Associate Director no later than Friday of Week 1 of the quarter in which the course is offered.

Many courses are eligible to count towards more than one field. However, a course assigned to more than one field of study can only count toward only one of a student's chosen pair of fields. Where core courses are assigned to a field of study, they DO count towards the three courses required to complete the field.

At least six courses must be taken within the Division of the Social Sciences. Courses offered by other divisions or committees count as social sciences courses if the registrar cross-lists them with a committee or department in the social sciences. Please note that the Booth School of Business does not cross list courses. The Law School and the Harris School of Public Policy cross list a limited number of courses. Students may not petition to have courses cross listed.

In Autumn Quarter, students begin work on their MA thesis as members of an MA thesis workshop that is convened by their assigned preceptor, one of the CIR Instructional Professors. These workshops give students the opportunity to present and discuss their research projects as they develop from proposal to final draft.

Because the MA thesis workshop sequence begins in the Autumn Quarter, students may not begin the CIR program at any other time of year.

Courses are selected with the guidance of a CIR preceptor. Students register for three graduate classes per quarter plus a non-credit MA thesis workshop, beginning in the Fall and continuing through the Winter and Spring. They may take graduate courses in all departments and professional schools of the University.

THE MASTER'S THESIS

Students write an article-length MA thesis under the supervision of any UChicago faculty member. Their preceptor provides regular assistance and serves as the paper's second reader.

The preceptor organizes and leads an MA thesis workshop in the Autumn, Winter, and Spring.

Both the faculty advisor and the preceptor provide feedback on the proposal, the first draft, and give a written evaluation and Pass/Honors designation for the final submission.

Approximately 35% of CIR students graduate in June, and 65% in August.

SAMPLE THESIS TOPICS

Some recent MA paper titles include:

- "From Knowledge to Power: The Social Sciences, Propaganda, and America's Rise to Hegemony"
- "The Structural Origins of Tax Havens"
- "Listening to the People: How Declining Responsiveness Drives Populist Sentiments"
- "American White Nationalists: Discourses of the Nation, the State, and Globalization."
- "'Doing Good Looks Good On You?' Evaluating Corporate Social Responsibility and Women's Empowerment at the UN Global Compact"
- "Segregation and the Spatial Distribution of Violence in the Northern Ireland Conflict"
- "Still Dying to Win: The Coercive Logic of Suicide Attacks against Autocracies"
- "Practicing Nationalism in Historical Writing: Japan's Changing Image in Official Chinese Historical Narratives, 1950s to 1990s"
- "Mark the Earth with Ruin: Official Memory and Memorialization in Post-Genocide Cambodia and Rwanda"
- "Clientelism and Programmatic Politics: The Political Economy of Export Taxes in Argentina"
- "An Open Book?: A Look at How Democratic Security-Seekers Signal their Intentions"
- "Globalization and the Convergence of Power"

M.A. WITH SPECIALIZATION

During their first year in residence, students may apply for a fully funded second year of study, the MA with specialization. During their second year, selected students take an additional nine courses for credit. Admission to the second year program is very competitive.

JOINT BA/MA PROGRAM

Qualified students in the College who wish to pursue a joint MA degree in International Relations should consult with their College adviser and the Associate Dean of Students for Admissions in the Social Sciences (Lindsey Weglarz, lweglarz@uchicago.edu). These meetings should happen in the Autumn Quarter of the student's third year.

HOW TO APPLY

The application with instructions and deadlines, is available online on the Division of the Social Sciences website (<https://socialsciences.uchicago.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/>). Current students in the University of Chicago College may be eligible to apply through UChicago Advanced Scholars (<https://careeradvancement.uchicago.edu/student-opportunities/one-and-multi-year-programs/uchicago-advanced-scholars-4-1-masters-programs/>) instead.

Qualified students in the College who wish to pursue a joint BA/MA degree should consult first with their College Adviser, then with the Associate Dean of Students for Admissions and Data Reporting in the Division of the Social Sciences (Lindsey Weglarz (lweglarz@uchicago.edu?subject=re:%20BA/MA%20inquiry%20(MAPSS))).

Prospective BA/MA students must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies in their college major and fill out a form available through Lindsey Weglarz (lweglarz@uchicago.edu?subject=re:%20BA/MA%20form%20for%20the%20MAPSS%20application) in the Dean of Students office to confirm their eligibility for the BA/MA, to specify how many of the 9 graduate courses they would take will be double-counted to satisfy their BA requirements, and to assure that all BA requirements will be met no later than June convocation of their fourth year. That form, with the signature of the Director of Undergraduate Studies (or their designee), must be submitted as part of the BA/MA application.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Additional program information may be found at the Committee's website, <https://cir.uchicago.edu/>. You can contact the Student Affairs Administrator, at 773.702.8304

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSES

INRE 30000. Perspectives on International Relations. 000 Units.

This required, non-credit course is designed to introduce students to the craft of research in International Relations. For the first half of Autumn quarter, the full cohort will meet for lectures on two central themes: (i) the fundamental aspects of conducting research in the social sciences, and, specifically, in International Relations; and (ii) preparation of the MA thesis proposal. Then, the three preceptor student groups will meet for workshops over the latter half of the quarter. The purpose of the workshops is to give each student the opportunity to present his or her proposal draft.

Instructor(s): Paul Staniland Terms Offered: Autumn

Note(s): Open only to CIR students.

INRE 30005. Graduate Practicum in the Social Sciences. 100 Units.

Students interested in gaining applied experience in a specific pathway or completing a capstone should consider taking the Graduate Practicum in the Social Sciences course. The practicum is a hands-on experiential course designed to enable students to apply and expand their knowledge and skills based on their unique interests and improve their technical and applied writing skills, project management abilities, business communication and acumen, with a focus on client deliverables all while providing a useful service to a Chicago-based community partner. During the course, students work individually or in small teams to identify and address issues/needs faced by a local community partner of their choice. Each student or team receives guidance from their instructor and community partner throughout the project. The experience culminates in a final project (report and formal presentation to the community partner and/or class). Past projects have centered on non-profit administration, policy analysis, grant writing and philanthropy, impact reports, training and development, museum exhibitions, and user/patient experience.

Instructor(s): Shelly Robinson Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): MAPS 30005, MACS 30005

INRE 30600. Constructing a Society of Human Rights: A Psychological Framework. 100 Units.

This course is designed to discuss the ways that cultural and social psychology contribute to understandings about human rights conceptually, and how human rights issues emerge from social dynamics. Over the course of the quarter, students will learn about theories on intergroup conflict and prejudice, how an individual's beliefs emerge from social contexts and shape their relationships with others, how obedience to authority is created and abused, and how social positioning and narratives influence conceptions of self and other. We will also discuss the relevance and impact of psychological study and data on human rights issues.

Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 25220, PBPL 25220, HMRT 25220

INRE 30965. Geopolitics of the Global Green Transition. 100 Units.

This course examines the geopolitical implications of the global shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. As the world moves toward more sustainable energy systems, the course explores how states and international institutions are competing and collaborating to secure critical resources according to their strategic priorities. The course investigates how the demand for critical minerals and rare earth elements is shaping global alliances and altering international supply chains. Through scholarly reading and case studies, students will examine the social, environmental, and economic impacts of green initiatives, as well as the tensions between sustainability and resource extraction. By the end of the course, students will be able to critically assess how the green transition is both reshaping and entrenching international power structures and evaluate key geopolitical trends driven by the evolving global energy landscape.

Instructor(s): Peter Tinti Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open to Graduate Students Only

INRE 31602. Human Rights: Philosophical Foundations. 100 Units.

In this class we explore the philosophical foundations of human rights, investigating theories of how our shared humanity in the context of an interdependent world gives rise to obligations of justice. We begin by asking what rights are, how they are distinguished from other part of morality, and what role they play in our social and political life. But rights come in many varieties, and we are interested in human rights in particular. In later weeks, we will ask what makes something a human right, and how are human rights different from other kinds of rights. We will consider a number of contemporary philosophers who attempt to answer this question, including James Griffin, Charles Beitz, Joseph Raz, Jiewuh Song, Pablo Gilabert, and Martha Nussbaum. Throughout we will be asking questions such as, "What makes something a human right?" "What role does human dignity play in grounding our human rights?" "Are human rights historical?" "What role does the nation and the individual play in our account of human rights?" "When can one nation legitimately intervene in the affairs of another nation?" "How can we respect the demands of justice while also respecting cultural difference?" "How do human rights relate to global inequality and markets?" (A)

Instructor(s): Ben Laurence, Pozen Center for Human Rights Instructional Professor Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 42002, PHIL 31002, HIST 39319, HIST 29319, DEMS 21002, PHIL 21002, HMRT 31002, HMRT 21002

INRE 31700. Human Rights: History and Theory. 100 Units.

This course is concerned with the theory and the historical evolution of the modern human rights regime. It discusses the emergence of a modern "human rights" culture as a product of the formation and expansion of the system of nation-states and the concurrent rise of value-driven social mobilizations. It proceeds to discuss human rights in two prevailing modalities. First, it explores rights as protection of the body and personhood and the modern, Western notion of individualism. Second, it inquires into rights as they affect groups (e.g., ethnicities and, potentially, transnational corporations) or states.

Instructor(s): Savitri Kunze, Pozen Center for Human Rights Social Science Teaching Fellow Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 39302, HMRT 20200, HMRT 30200, HIST 29302

INRE 32100. Civil-Military Relations and the Politics of Militaries. 100 Units.

How do we define a military? What is a military's purpose? How have militaries around the world embedded themselves into the social and institutional fabric of the state? How do military leaders act compared to their civilian counterparts when placed in similar political roles? This seminar will help students answer the

mentioned questions by introducing them to the literature on civil-military relations. The general structure of the class readings will focus on two primary themes. The first half of the course will introduce students to long-standing debates over the role of politicization in military organizations and whether such trends are desirable or not. The latter half of the class will focus on research that analyzes the militarization of politics and how such trends might subvert traditional notions of the military profession. This course is intended for CIR students and all course assignments will be structured around helping students complete the writing of their MA theses. Non-CIR students should contact the instructor directly about taking the class.

Instructor(s): Kevin Weng Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): CIR students only.

INRE 32500. The Power Behind the Police. 100 Units.

The Power Behind the Police examines policing as a core institution of both state control and citizen security. Drawing on examples from around the world, including Colombia, Iraq, Liberia, Northern Ireland, the Philippines, and the United States, the course analyzes how legitimacy, delegation, and principal-agent relationships shape police behavior, with a focus on tensions between serving citizens and protecting the state. It explores bias and repression as tools of state control, as well as how gender, race, religion, and political context influence policing outcomes. The course concludes by assessing international peacekeeping and security force assistance through the lens of police service provision.

Instructor(s): Nanes, Matthew Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate students must seek instructor consent prior to enrollment

INRE 33000. Ethics in International Relations. 100 Units.

Ethical questions pervade international politics. Do affluent states have an obligation to make economic sacrifices to mitigate the progression of global warming? Are human rights universal? Should states waive the intellectual property rights of pharmaceutical companies to enable global access to vaccines? Can military intervention be justified despite its breach of sovereignty? Despite the frequent invocation of normative language in global politics, scholars of international relations have only recently started to turn their attention toward studying ethics as an important political phenomenon. This marks a shift away from considering ethics as epiphenomena to interests and power. This seminar explores the role of ethics in international relations, both in theory and in practice. It draws on readings from normative international relations theory and political philosophy to take up ethical dilemmas encountered in world affairs in the context of debates about the environment, humanitarian intervention, nuclear weapons, development, and global health.

Instructor(s): Turco, Linnea Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Open to undergraduates with instructor consent

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 33002, PLSC 23002

INRE 33005. Peace in International Relations. 100 Units.

How has 'peace' been theorized in the study of global politics? In this graduate elective, we take up the concept of 'peace' and explore the many ways it has been defined by scholars and pursued by policymakers and practitioners in the world. We consider questions like: Is peace the mere absence of war? How is peace experienced by individuals living in the aftermath of violent conflict? What are some of the markers of successful peace agreements? Who are agents of peace? How do states pursue peace? What is the relationship between peace and violence? Throughout the course, we will examine peace through multiple levels of analysis, including everyday individuals, elite policymakers, the State as actors, and international cooperative efforts. We will also explore various approaches to peacebuilding, including grassroots and top-down efforts, and pay careful attention to perspectives on peace and peacebuilding beyond Western, Eurocentric lenses. A key emphasis in this course will be connecting academic research to real-world applications of peace practices. As such, we will learn from both peace scholars and peace practitioners and will reflect throughout on the role of academia in understanding and building peace in the world.

Instructor(s): Hooser, Kara Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Undergraduate students must seek instructor consent prior to enrollment

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 23005, PLSC 33005

INRE 34506. The Rights of Immigrants and Refugees in Practice. 100 Units.

This course employs an interdisciplinary approach to examine the work of social justice advocacy for and by non-citizens in the U.S. including asylum seekers, immigrant workers, women as migrants, migrant children, and the undocumented. Our readings will place selected case studies in their local, national, and international context. We will draw on sources from law, history, sociology, political science, and the arts. Texts, films, and guest speakers will address the history of immigrants' rights advocacy in the Chicago and the U.S., with selected global examples. Topics will include the rights of asylum seekers, the problems of migrant workers (guest-workers and the undocumented), women and children as migrants, and the impact of the global pandemic on migration in general. The case studies will illuminate the role of immigrants as leaders and the relationship between impacted communities and the state. We will meet with journalists, elected officials, organizers, academics, artists, lawyers, and immigrant community leaders to discuss distinct approaches to migrants' rights advocacy.

Instructor(s): Susan Gzesh Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): CHST 24506, HMRT 26813, GLST 24506, SOSO 24506, LLSO 24506

INRE 34600. Case Study Methods. 100 Units.

How do social scientists utilize case studies as a method for identifying causal relationships? What are the epistemological assumptions that underlie the use of case studies? How similar or different are these assumptions from those of large-N and other quantitative methodologies? What are some of the limitations of case study research? This seminar will help students address the aforementioned questions by introducing them to ongoing methodological debates within the social sciences surrounding the use of single and comparative case studies. The course is organized according to a "snowball method" of first cementing a baseline understanding of certain individual lessons (e.g. single case selection) before gradually proceeding to larger themes (e.g. comparative case studies) that incorporate and reinforce the lessons learned from previous weeks.

Instructor(s): Kevin Weng Terms Offered: Spring Winter

Note(s): CIR students only!

INRE 34700. Academic Presentation in International Relations & Thesis Preparation. 100 Units.

This class will provide instruction in the norms of publicly presenting one's research in front of an academic audience. Using examples drawn from the literature on International Relations and Comparative Politics, students will learn about the typical practices of structuring a research project for academic consumption. Specific topics will include: addressing alternative hypotheses, formulating a literature review, addressing missing data issues and selection bias, formulating an empirical puzzle, tenets of constructive criticism, etc. At certain intervals in the course, students will present their own work-in-progress research to the class body where they will be expected to utilize the lessons from previous sessions.

Instructor(s): K. Weng Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): This course is intended for CIR students in the final stages of writing their Master's Thesis. Non-CIR students should contact the instructor if they wish to attend the class.

INRE 34800. Historical Processes of State Formation. 100 Units.

How did states come into being? How do we assess "state-ness" or the "strength" of state institutions? Why did nation-states become the primary actor in the international system instead of alternative forms of political organization such as empires, city-states, or city-leagues? What explains variations in the institutional makeup of states? This course helps students formulate an initial set of answers to the previous set of questions by providing an overview of the state-formation literature. Specifically, the class will cover theories that address how states come into being, organize their societies, extract resources, and structure their political institutions. Course readings will initially start with an introduction to varying conceptualizations of the state before moving onto a discussion of how to operationalize and measure degrees of "state-ness". The remaining course readings will explore themes surrounding war, colonialism, civil society, taxation, economic development, & (ultimately) state breakdown.

Instructor(s): K. Weng Terms Offered: Winter

INRE 34900. Comparative State Formation. 100 Units.

The course introduces students to the seminal arguments and ideas on the origins and long-term evolution of nation-states around the world. The syllabus is organized around the most salient debates in the literature. For example, wars and state-building, domestic conflict and institutions, integration to world capitalism, the natural resource curse, social resistance, nationalism, etc. Throughout these topics, the readings allow inter-region and within-region comparisons. Students will discuss seminal publications that provide the basis for contemporary debates on state formation, without privileging any particular research approach or community of scholars. The syllabus draws from major publications across the social sciences, especially political science, economics, and sociology. In this way, the course provides an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to discuss and collectively dissect arguments based on different theoretical perspectives, cultivating critical thinking skills.

Instructor(s): Cabal, Manuel Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 24910

INRE 34905. International Security and Climate Change. 100 Units.

How does climate change reshape what we mean by "security" in the twenty-first century? Are the environmental transformations we face today making the world more unstable than in the past-and if so, how and why? In this course, we will investigate these pressing questions by examining how climate change, resource scarcity, and environmental degradation interact with the dynamics of conflict, cooperation, and policymaking in world affairs. The course is organized into nine theme-based seminars that build progressively from conceptual grounding to applied analysis. Each seminar pairs instructor-led discussion with student-centered activities, such as debates, group presentations, and collaborative case analysis, that encourage us to think critically and creatively about global risks. This structure allows us to develop both theoretical understanding and practical analytical skills while engaging with one another as a community of inquiry. By the end of the course, we will have developed a deep and critical grasp of how environmental and human dimensions of security intersect, and we will be equipped to evaluate the risks, policies, and ethical choices that shape responses to one of the most urgent global challenges of our time.

Instructor(s): Ahmed Abozaid Terms Offered: Winter

INRE 34910. International Security and the Global South. 100 Units.

In an era of intensifying global insecurity, how do we make sense of the world's most pressing threats when we shift our gaze from the centers of power to the margins? This course invites us to confront the big question of what "security", "peace", "stability", and "sovereignty" means in a multipolar world, and to ask why mainstream

understandings have so often overlooked the Global South (GS), where many of today's most urgent challenges are unfolding. We begin from the recognition that students often enter the study of international security with frameworks shaped by Eurocentric assumptions and traditional military paradigms. Together, we will re-examine those assumptions by exploring how states and non-state actors across Asia, Africa, and Latin America experience, contest, and reimagine security. We will engage with enduring and emerging threats—strategic rivalries, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, robust authoritarianism, cyber conflict, environmental degradation, populism, and governance breakdowns—through the analytical lenses of critical, postcolonial, decolonial, and gendered approaches. Along the way, we will ask: How do colonial legacies, technological change, and global economic inequalities intersect to produce insecurity? How do actors in the Global South navigate and challenge these structures to advance alternative visions of order, stability, and justice?

Instructor(s): Ahmed Abozaid Terms Offered: Winter

INRE 34950. Latin American Political Development. 100 Units.

The course introduces students to classic and recent theories on the evolution of political institutions in Latin American countries. Why did Latin American countries build weaker states than Europe and the US? What countries of the region are more developed and why? Why is Latin America the most unequal region in the world? Why have the democracies of the region been historically so vulnerable and ephemeral? Where and why did ethnic conflict appear in the past decades? We will understand, evaluate, and discuss the seminal arguments and ideas on the origins and long-term evolution of Latin American nations. The course is of interest to students focused on economic development and international security, as the "state" and its capabilities have major consequences for the economic trajectory of nations and for the ability to guarantee peace within their territories. The syllabus is organized around major topics on comparative politics, such as colonial legacies, trade-led state-building, federalism, party systems, revolutions, industrialization, democratization, and ethnicity and citizenship. Through these topics, the students will learn about the political institutions of a variety of countries in the region from a historical perspective. Students will also be able to compare different theoretical approaches across the social sciences, especially political science, sociology, and political economy. The course is especially designed to practice academic skills for master-level

Instructor(s): Cabal, Manuel Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 24950, LACS 34950

INRE 35910. International Institutions in the Global South: Power, Governance, and Regional Orders. 100 Units.

This course offers a systematic reexamination of regional organizations in the Global South, challenging dominant IR accounts that portray them as institutionally weak or politically marginal. Integrating major theories of international relations with alternative analytical frameworks, it examines how power asymmetries, political rivalry, and development constraints shape institutional design, authority, and performance across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and South and Central America. Through comparative case studies, we assess the roles of these organizations in governance, conflict management, development cooperation, and diplomacy, as well as the structural limits they confront. The course is intended for students seeking advanced training in international organization, foreign policy, security studies, and comparative institutional analysis.

Instructor(s): Abozaid, Ahmed Terms Offered: Spring

INRE 36610. Beyond Great Powers: Small States in International Politics. 100 Units.

This seminar analyzes the behavior and strategic choices of small states within a formally anarchic yet hierarchically structured international system. Departing from great-power-centric International Relations theory, the course examines how structural vulnerability, asymmetric dependence, and limited material capabilities shape small-state foreign policy across security, economic, diplomatic, and institutional domains. We examine the conditions under which small states pursue strategies such as alliance formation, hedging, multilateralism, niche specialization, and norm entrepreneurship. The course reframes core IR concepts, including power, sovereignty, dependence, and diplomacy.

Instructor(s): Abozaid, Ahmed Terms Offered: Spring

INRE 37000. Latin American Political Development. 100 Units.

The course introduces students to classic and recent theories on the evolution of political institutions in Latin American countries. The syllabus is organized around major topics on comparative politics, such as colonial legacies, trade-led state-building, federalism, party systems, revolutions, industrialization, democratization, and ethnicity and citizenship. Through these topics, the students will learn about the political institutions of a variety of countries in the region from a historical perspective. Students will also be able to compare different theoretical approaches across the social sciences, especially political science, sociology, and economics. The course provides an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to discuss and collectively dissect major ideas in comparative politics, cultivate the ability to think theoretically about political phenomena, and critically assess social sciences research.

Instructor(s): Cabal, Manuel Terms Offered: TBD

INRE 39030. Islam, Race and Decoloniality. 100 Units.

This course explores western perspectives, attitudes and representations of Muslims and Islam from medieval European thought, through liberal colonial encounters to contemporary media and political discourses. Students will examine the intersection of race and religion as it applies to the construction of Muslim identity and alterity in the Western imagination. We will explore the remarkable consistency across centuries of the threatening,

menacing, barbaric and uncivilized Muslim "Other". The course centers around these Orientalist constructions and will explore the power structures, colonial modalities, epistemological frameworks, and ideological assumptions that perpetuate the racialization of Islam and Muslims within the United States and abroad. This course ultimately aims to uncover potentials for resistance, recovery and renewal through the politics and praxis of decoloniality. Students will gain familiarity with decolonial theory and practices, as well as the important project of 'epistemic delinking' as it is framed by contemporary scholars intent on challenging, possibly undoing and remapping the Muslim experience within global liberal political modernity.

Instructor(s): Maliha Chishti Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): This course meets the LMCS Committee distribution requirement for Divinity students.

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 39030, INRE 29030, RDIN 29030, KNOW 39030, NEHC 39030, AASR 39030, ANTH 39030, RLST 29030, ANTH 29030, ISLM 39030, NEHC 29030

INRE 39505. Political Violence and Terrorism. 100 Units.

Terrorism as a form of political violence remains in the headlines given the spread of deadly insurgencies, the increased threat posed by lone wolf terrorists, and the violent attacks of rival militant groups competing for power and recognition. This course is designed to introduce students to important theoretical and empirical puzzles, analytical approaches, and methods in terrorism studies. As such, we will cover a wide range of topics from the causes of terrorism to the characteristics, targets, and strategies of terrorist organizations, the motivations of suicide bombers, and states' responses to terrorism. Relying on case studies and quantitative data, we will explore and try to address questions such as: Why do some terrorist groups target indiscriminately, while others are more discriminate in their attacks? Why do some terrorist groups provide social services to their constituents when others do not? Why do some terrorist groups use women operatives while others mostly recruit men? Why do some counterterrorism policies succeed while others fail, and generate more terrorism? By the end of this class, students will be familiar with the prominent debates, competing explanations, and up-to-date scholarly research on terrorism, and be able to systematically analyze empirical puzzles regarding terrorism and political violence using different theoretical and methodological approaches.

Instructor(s): Alakoc, Burcu Pinar Terms Offered: Winter

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate students must seek instructor consent prior to enrollment

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 29505, INRE 29505, PLSC 39505

INRE 39550. International Migration. 100 Units.

This course examines the drivers of international migration and its consequences for international politics. Students will consider the reasons people move from one country to another, and analyze how states and international organizations facilitate, obstruct, and deter people from crossing borders. The goal of the course is to provide students with a strong foundation for understanding the key theoretical, legal, and political concepts that shape current debates over international migration. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the course covers themes such as how globalization, global capitalism, conflict, and climate change impact contemporary patterns of regular and irregular migration, how states and the international community respond to forced displacement, and the ways in which border externalization, militarization, and surveillance are proliferating throughout the globe. Students will write one op-ed advocating for a change or continuation in current approaches to managing migration, and two policy papers examining two separate case studies related to international migration. A key component of this course is editing and analyzing others' work.

Instructor(s): Peter Tinti Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Open to graduate students only

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 30999

INRE 39650. Transnational Organized Crime: Contemporary Issues. 100 Units.

This course delves into global impacts of transnational organized criminal networks on political, social, and economic outcomes. Students will grapple with the successes and failures of international and state approaches to combating transnational organized crime, and will examine the ways in which international organizations, governments, and communities interact with transnational criminal groups and illicit markets. The goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of contemporary issues of TOC (drug trafficking, cybercrime, human trafficking, migrant smuggling, arms trafficking, illicit trade in wildlife and non-renewable resources, etc.), and challenge them to take a forward-looking approach to analyzing criminal markets and identifying emerging trends.

Instructor(s): Peter Tinti Terms Offered: Winter

INRE 39999. Reading/Research: International Relations. 100 Units.

Consent only. This is a full-credit independent study course, offered at the discretion of the instructional professor. Interested students should seek a petition from the CIR Student Affairs Administrator and email the instructor with an intended reading list and a method of evaluation. Required meetings, academic work, and course expectations will be set by the instructor before the quarter begins.

INRE 40805. Africa and the International System. 100 Units.

This course focuses on Africa's evolving role in the international system, emphasizing key political, economic, and security trends on the continent. Students will examine Africa's historical interactions with global powers and international institutions, from the eras of colonialism and the Cold War to the present day. Blending key theoretical debates with contemporary case studies, students will investigate how African nations interact with and shape global governance structures, and will critically examine the influence of external powers such as the

United States, China, Russia, the European Union, Turkey, Gulf States, and various emerging powers. By the end of this course, students will have a nuanced understanding of Africa's increasingly influential role in the international system, and the ways in which various state and non-state actors compete and collaborate to shape political, economic, and security outcomes throughout the continent.

Instructor(s): Peter Tinti Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open to Graduate Students Only

INRE 42000. Writing about Complex Issues. 100 Units.

This course will challenge students to engage critical questions of human security in the context of three contemporary case studies that have come to represent "policy quagmires" at the international level: international stabilization efforts in the Sahel region of Africa; the US-led "War on Drugs" in Latin America and the Caribbean; and the migration "crisis" in Europe. Students will be required to think critically about existing policy approaches pursued by various actors in these settings. Drawing from a range of sources and disciplines, students will learn how to analyze these issues, write persuasively in a variety of formats, and come away better equipped to research and write about other complex international crises. In all three case studies, the prevailing development-security nexus, promoted and financed by the international community and national governments, has proved insufficient as a framework for meeting respective challenges. Meanwhile, non-state actors, including criminal networks, armed groups, civil society organizations, NGOs, and humanitarian agencies compete and collaborate with state actors and each other to shape security and governance outcomes according to their own interests and ideologies. Students will submit written assignments on each of the three case studies. A key component of this course will be editing and analyzing the work of their peers.

Instructor(s): Tinti, Peter Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): Open to undergraduates with instructor consent

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 22001

INRE 43000. Core Seminar: International Order and Security. 100 Units.

This seminar is a graduate-level course on international order and security, with a focus on the pragmatic intersections between scholarship and real-time policy-applicable forecasting. The central objective will be to help students develop the skills to relate the empirical world to the theoretical, developing skills that will contribute to useful and appropriate independent research. By the end of this part of the core sequence, students will be able to (1) formulate compelling research questions in the study of anarchic political systems; (2) center their investigations on well-specified alternative explanatory accounts drawn from a focused consideration of the existing literature; and (3) link social scientific theories of politics to their multifaceted empirical implications.

Instructor(s): Kara Hooser Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Note(s): Open only to CIR students

INRE 43100. Core Seminar: Global Governance and Structures of International Power. 100 Units.

Global climate change, human rights violations, war in Ukraine, the COVID-19 pandemic. These are issues that do not abide by borders; they are truly global in scope. To address these challenges, create stability in global relations, and further collective interests, states and other actors construct, revise, and enforce elaborate architectures of global governance. This seminar thus explores global governance - the rules that are intended to govern the world. Rather than taking those rules as given, however, we will interrogate the ways in which governance is supported by specific structures of power, which emerge together to create something called the 'international order.' We will attempt to understand how governance and international order are related, and whether governance arrangements that are meant to solve the problems that pervade global politics distribute the benefits and costs of doing so fairly. The course proceeds in three parts. First, we examine the order and structural power that undergirds the international system. We also investigate the (evolving) architecture of global governance that upholds this order. Then we take a closer look at this architecture of global governance, which has changed dramatically from its origins, when it was dominated by large intergovernmental organizations designed by states to serve states' interests. Finally, we consider four areas of global governance: climate change, security, human rights, and global health.

Instructor(s): Turco, Linnea Terms Offered: Autumn

INRE 43200. Core Seminar: Global Governance, Rights, and Norms. 100 Units.

TBD

Instructor(s): Turco, Linnea Terms Offered: Winter

Note(s): Open only to CIR students

INRE 43305. Globalization & Labor. 100 Units.

Increased globalization-in the form of freer trade, more open immigration, the international flow of capital, and the spread of information technologies-has profoundly influenced both international and domestic politics in the present age. While some credit increased globalization with dramatic reductions in extreme poverty and rising standards of living, others see it as a new form of colonial domination driving environmental degradation and labor exploitation. In this course, we will examine these developments through the lens of labor. We will look at how workers and their unions have shaped, and been shaped by, the politics of globalization on issues ranging from tariffs to democratization and from fiscal austerity to climate change. Students will emerge with a greater understanding of the power of, and challenges to, worker solidarity.

Instructor(s): Parker, Adam Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): INRE 23305, PLSC 23306

INRE 43600. Critical Security Studies. 100 Units.

This graduate-level elective course is designed to introduce students to approaches to global politics beyond the traditional mainstream canon, surveying a range of perspectives that fall under the heading of 'critical.' The main goal is to develop an understanding of what is at stake, politically, with some of the main concepts, theories, methodological approaches, and empirical objects within the study of international relations (IR) and international security. The course is divided into two sections. First, we begin by considering what makes a critical approach critical—that is, how is it set apart from conventional approaches? In particular, we will explore how critical approaches encourage us to question our assumptions, first, about what security, power, sovereignty, and other core concepts mean in global politics, and second, about who or what (individuals, groups, nonhuman animals, states, the planet) can be agents of global politics. Some examples of approaches we cover are: theories from the Global South, approaches to human security, global feminisms, securitization theories, ontological security, emotions and affect, the visual turn, new materialisms, and post-colonial perspectives. In the second half of the course, we apply these approaches to a range of issues, including nuclear weapons, borders and immigration, drone warfare, terrorism, and climate change.

Instructor(s): Kara Ann Hooser Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate students must seek instructor consent prior to enrollment

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 43602

INRE 43605. The Politics of the Middle East. 100 Units.

This course will provide an analytical overview of the politics, regimes, and institutions of one of the most geopolitically important and exciting regions of the world: the Middle East. Blending literatures from international security, human rights, and comparative politics, we will cover a wide range of political, economic, and social issues as well as contemporary debates pertaining to the region. Some of these topics will include civil resistance and compliance under different types of authoritarianism, domestic conflict and proxy wars, the legacies of military coups and third-party interventions, the status and agency of women, political governance and participation in oil-monarchies, and the political repercussions of the Syrian civil war and ensuing refugee crisis. Where possible, we will situate these topics against the backdrop of cooperative and conflictual regional dynamics, engage contemporary debates and recent developments, and draw on multiple country profiles and case studies as illustrative examples. By the end of this class, you will be able to analyze the complex, modern-day politics of the Middle East, identifying the key players, issues and challenges, and also gain a deeper and more nuanced understanding of intra and interstate relationships that shape the region.

Instructor(s): Alakoc, Burcu Pinar Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): INRE 23605, PLSC 43605, PLSC 23605

INRE 43800. Core Seminar: International Political Economy. 100 Units.

This seminar is a graduate-level survey of international political economy (IPE) which introduces students to the key issues and debates in the field. This course will investigate the interacting effects of the economic and political factors that govern three international flows: those of goods and services (trade), those of people (migration), and those of capital (monetary policy and FDI). It will also look at the effects that these flows have on the people and countries involved in them. The course will consider explanations at both the domestic and international levels and cases from around the world. Upon completing this course, students will be able to a) articulate competing explanations of international flows, b) match these theories to empirical cases and explain areas of congruence and contradiction, and c) craft persuasive verbal and written arguments about the best explanations for important outcomes in the international economy. Students will further gain an understanding of the appropriate use of research methods in the field of IPE.

Instructor(s): Adam Parker Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Note(s): Open only to CIR students

INRE 44805. Governing Technological Change. 100 Units.

This course is a graduate-level survey of the political economy of technological change. The course begins by investigating the nature of technology and technological change, paying particular attention to the socially constructed nature of technologies. Then, in three sections, it investigates 1) where technological innovations come from, 2) how new technologies spread, and 3) the economic, political, and cultural impacts of new technologies. Throughout the course, students will be asked to interrogate the values and assumptions encoded in technologies and how technologies impact marginalized peoples and communities. Students will emerge with a greater understanding of the complex social, political, and economic forces implicated in technological change.

Instructor(s): Parker, Adam Terms Offered: Spring Winter

Note(s): Undergraduate students must seek instructor consent prior to enrollment

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 24806, PLSC 44805

INRE 45020. Research Methods for International Relations. 100 Units.

TBD

Instructor(s): Matthew Nanes Terms Offered: Autumn

INRE 46500. MA Thesis Workshop. 000 Units.

This required, non-credit course is designed to continue the preceptor-group collaboration established in Autumn's Perspectives (INRE 30000). The purpose of the workshop is to give each student the opportunity to present his or her thesis research as it develops during their first year in the CIR program. Must be taken in each of Winter and Spring quarters.

Instructor(s): Burcu Pinar Alakoc, Kara Ann Hooser, Linnea Turco, Adam Parker, Terms Offered: Spring Winter

INRE 46505. BA/MA Thesis Workshop. 100 Units.

This course helps BA/MA students meet their undergraduate major requirements for writing a single BA/MA thesis paper.

Instructor(s): Austin Carson Terms Offered: Autumn Winter

Prerequisite(s): This course is open to CIR BA/MA students only

Equivalent Course(s): INRE 26505, GLST 29998

INRE 46605. Authoritarian Politics. 100 Units.

Dictators face a variety of threats to their rule, from mass uprisings to disloyal bureaucrats. This course explores how dictators manage these threats and what implications their strategies have for citizens, political rivals, and the international community. We learn that what often appears to be movement towards democratization, for instance holding elections or allowing mass protests, is often actually a dictator's attempt to consolidate power. Students will engage with canonical and contemporary cutting-edge research on these topics.

Instructor(s): Matthew Nanes Terms Offered: Autumn Spring

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate students must seek instructor consent prior to enrollment

Equivalent Course(s): PLSC 46605

INRE 49700. Reading/Research: International Relations. 100 Units.

This course allows students the opportunity to receive course-credit for their thesis research. It may only be taken once.

Instructor(s): Austin Carson Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

Prerequisite(s): Open only to 1st year CIR students

