

Queen Mary Summer School 2020

SUM501H Issues and Debates in International Relations
School of Politics and International Relations

Course outline

Date: 29 June - 17 July 2020

Level: 5 / 6

Credits: 15 (Queen Mary credits)

Course leader: Dr Nick Hostettler (n.d.hostettler@qmul.ac.uk)

Assessment: 1,500 word portfolio (75%) and a presentation (25%)

Course description:

During the Summer school programme you will be exposed to a broad range of seminars, lectures and discussions about the issues facing us in a globalised world. The programme will provide you with a sophisticated theoretical and applied understanding of international relations including areas of expertise such as war and security, globalization and development, and EU foreign policy. Subjects that will be covered include an overview of International Relations since 1945, the major International Institutions and Actors, War and Security in a Global Era, and the European Union as a Global Actor.

The programme aims to provide you with knowledge of debates and ideas within International Relations, with a critical understanding of key theoretical and conceptual approaches, and with an understanding of various contemporary conflicts and dilemmas within international Politics. You will also be introduced to a variety of study skills for undertaking further study, particularly case study and comparative analysis of different conflicts, institutions and practices. You will also receive guidance in preparing short reports, summaries and analyses, and presentations with the specific aim of improving their writing, study and presentation skills.

Learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding of:

- the basic theoretical and conceptual frameworks used in the study of international relations
- how to apply theoretical frameworks/arguments to contemporary issues of war and conflict resolution
- how to critically assess the role of international (or supra-state) institutions and interrogate their relationship with domestic and local institutions and actors.

Approximate cost:

The tuition fees for the **Issues and Debates in International Relations** course are **£1,700**. There may be additional costs for field trips, such as entry to exhibitions, which will be in the region of **£10 - £20**. All reading material is provided digitally so you are not required to purchase any books.

Assessments:

The course assessments are not compulsory, however, if you wish to transfer credit for this course to your home university it is essential to complete the assignments.
1,500 word portfolio (75%) and a presentation (25%)

Preparation:

Before you arrive on campus, it is advised that you familiarise yourself with the course content before it begins. You will be given instructions for accessing our Virtual Learning Environment (QMplus) before you arrive on campus.

Teaching:

The course is taught in two two-hour sessions per day (10.00 - 12.00 and 13.00 - 15.00), held Monday to Thursday each week.

Course content:

Session 1	International Relations: Continuity or Change?
Session 2	The Global Financial Crisis
Session 3	Global Poverty
Session 4	The Global War on Terror
Session 5	The Eclipse of the West
Session 6	The Rise of Capitalism
Session 7	Imperialism and the (post-) Colonial World
Session 8	War and Security
Session 9	The “Wretched of the Earth”
Session 10	A Cold and Hot War!
Session 11	The Cold War and the Development Project
Session 12	Oil and the Middle East

Suggested reading:

The Oxford Handbook of International Relations, Edited by Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199219322.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199219322>

Andrew Heywood, Global Politics

<http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/global-politics-andrew-heywood/?k=9781137349262>

Global Politics: A New Introduction Edited by Jenny Edkins, Maja Zehfuss

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415684811/>

Please note that the information provided may be subject to change.