

DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL STUDIES	COURSE TITLE: HONORS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSE NUMBER: 147
GRADE(S): 11 - 12	PRE-REQUISITES (IF ANY):

UNIT	LENGTH	CONTENT	SKILLS	METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	FRAMEWORK STRAND(S) & STANDARD(S)
Introduction to International Relations	7 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of studying world politics, including danger of ignoring world politics, world politics and your pocketbook, and world politics and your life (environment, war) How to study world politics, including introduction to political science analysis (realism and idealism), levels of analysis How individuals make a difference in world politics Understanding interests: national, state, government, global, and individual An introduction to foreign policy decision making within the US government 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work cooperatively to advocate a policy position and make decisions. Learn to think and problem solve in a pressure situation. Write concise position papers. Write an effective analysis of the simulation, including insights into the foreign policy process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Up Close</i> foreign policy simulation and paper 	LS 16, 17, 18, 19, 20
Evolution of the International Political System	4 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evolving world system: major trends The evolution of the world system: rise of nationalism, imperialism, and the multi-polar balance of power system Changes in the world system: post WWII 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key events in the evolution of a system. Build an accurate, effective, and attractive timeline. Present key events to create a coherent narrative. Develop test taking skills, including objective and written (essay). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timeline project: Evolution of the International Political System AD 500– Present Test: chapters 1 and 2 	LS 1, 2, 6, 8, 15, 16, 20
Analysis of the International System	12 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding international systems: system characteristics, factors that cause systems to change, <i>system-level analysis</i> <i>State-level of analysis</i>: domestic systems, policy situations and policy issues <i>Individual-level analysis</i>, three approaches: nature-of-humankind, humans-in-organizations, and humans-as-individuals 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce library and research skills, specifically: use of periodical indexes (electronic and non-electronic) to find current sources. Apply the tools of international political analysis to a contemporary political problem. Write effective analysis. Use parenthetical documentation effectively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent reading quizzes Levels of Analysis research project (7-10 page paper) 	LS 3, 16
Which Way? Realism vs. Idealism, Interests, Moral, Ethical, and Humanitarian ideas, and Nationalism	7 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realism vs. Idealism, including: neorealism and feminist idealism Interests: national, state, government, global and individual Difference between states, nations, 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and synthesize complex ideas of political philosophy. Practice skills of argumentation in a debate format. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realism vs. Idealism debate Frequent reading quizzes 	LS 5, 8, 16, 19

		<p>nation-states, and nationalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationalism as “builder” and “destroyer” • Future of Nationalism • Case study of nationalism: The Middle East • Do universal moral principles exist? • Morality for state? Individuals? • Is it prudent to apply moral principles to statecraft? • Practical morality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulate a personal international political philosophy. 		
National Power and the State	7 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of power: power as an asset, the status of power, measuring power, and characteristics of power • Determinants of power: national core, national infrastructure, national economy, the military • Case study: China and the US 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop library and research skills, specifically: using almanacs and other “data heavy” sources. • Integrate objective and/or subjective data into an oral presentation. • Evaluate the relative power of countries based on data gathered in library research. • Combine individual research into a coherent group presentation. • Use visuals effectively in a presentation. • Evaluate data from all presentations to determine current and potential power of nation states. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determinants of Power project and take home test • Reading quiz 	LS 3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20
Security/War	7 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of studying war • Causes of war: the three levels of analysis • Force as a political instrument • Changing nature of war: small arms, terrorism, nuclear war 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze contemporary trends to determine future of armed conflict. • Synthesize information from a variety of sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuclear terrorism—class activity • The Future of Warfare—class activity • Chapter test 	LS 1, 2, 8, 16
International Organizations/ UN simulation	15 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of international organizations: global, regional, specialized, and multipurpose • Origins and growth of international organizations • Changing role of the international organization • Case study: the United Nations 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reapply library and research skills. • Understand the basic workings of a major international organization. • Speak effectively in large and small group settings. • Practice parliamentary procedure. • Write concise, but well supported, legislation and position papers. • Think creatively, but realistically, as a decision maker from an assigned country. • Understand the strengths and limitations of a specific country within the international community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN simulation portfolio and participation 	LS 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 20

