

Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
College in High School

2024-2025
International Relations
PS 0500--3 Credits

Description: International Relations is the study of how states interact with each other. This course builds a working knowledge of our field, introducing the background, theoretical, and empirical tools necessary to understand international relations today. Students will learn about important findings in a variety of subfields, including war, international political economy, institutions, nuclear proliferation, and terrorism. Students will also solve problem sets and work with common international relations datasets to obtain a working understanding of the discipline's methodological foundations.

Prerequisites: Basic algebra is a suggested prerequisite for this course.

Textbook: There is one required textbook for the course: *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions*, Second Edition by Jeffrey Frieden, David Lake, and Kenneth Schultz. Note that this is not the current edition of the book. In addition, a few academic articles and chapters on the syllabus are available online.

Grading: Six homeworks make up the final grade. Each will be weighted equally, and final grades will be no worse than the following:

93%	<	x	A
90%	≤	x ≤ 93%	A-
87%	<	x < 90%	B+
83%	<	x ≤ 87%	B
80%	≤	x ≤ 83%	B-
77%	<	x < 80%	C+
73%	<	x ≤ 77%	C
70%	≤	x ≤ 73%	C-
67%	<	x < 70%	D+
63%	<	x ≤ 67%	D
60%	≤	x ≤ 63%	D-
		x < 60%	F

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The following topics are covered in the University of Pittsburgh PS 0500 course:

Topic 1: Introduction and International Relations Basics

Topic 2: Basic Models of Conflict and Cooperation

Topic 3: Bargaining and War

Topic 4: International Trade

Topic 5: The Democratic Peace

Topic 6: Leader-Based Explanations

Topic 7: Economic Sanctions

Topic 8: International Institutions

Topic 9: The United Nations

Topic 10: Nuclear Proliferation

Topic 11: Terrorism

Topic 12: International Intervention

Academic Integrity: All College in High School teachers, students, and their parents/guardians are required to review and be familiar with the University of Pittsburgh's Academic Integrity Policy located online at <https://www.as.pitt.edu/faculty/policies-and-procedures/academic-integrity-code>.

Grades: Grade criteria in the high school course may differ slightly from University of Pittsburgh standards. A CHS student could receive two course grades: one for high school and one for the University transcript. In most cases the grades are the same. These grading standards are explained at the beginning of each course.

Transfer Credit: University of Pittsburgh grades earned in CHS courses appear on an official University of Pittsburgh transcript, and the course credits are likely to be eligible for transfer to other colleges and universities. Students are encouraged to contact potential colleges and universities in advance to ensure their CHS credits would be accepted. If students decide to attend any University of Pittsburgh campuses, the University of Pittsburgh grade earned in the course will count toward the student grade point average at the University. At the University of Pittsburgh, the CHS course supersedes any equivalent AP credit.

Drops and Withdrawals: Students should monitor progress in a course. CHS teacher can obtain a Course Drop/Withdrawal Request form from the CHS office or Aspire. The form must be completed by the student, teacher and parent/guardian and returned to teacher by deadlines listed. Dropping and withdrawing from the CHS course has no effect on enrollment in the high school credits for the course.