

## International Relations A | POU22021

Year	Senior Fresh
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22 hours of lectures and 5 hours of tutorials
Pre-requisite	POU11011 & POU11012 or POU11033 & POU11034
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Professor William Phelan
Contact Email	phelanw@tcd.ie

## Module Outline

### Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Understand the basic causal mechanisms underlying approaches to explaining state behaviour in international politics.
- Assess the explanatory power of leading theoretical approaches to international relations, including as relates to particular historical examples.
- Understand the different collective action problems associated with different issue-areas in international politics.
- Contribute, on the basis of theory and knowledge of a range of issue-areas, to contemporary debates in international relations scholarship about the relative influence of power, international institutions, domestic interests and international norms in state behaviour.

### Module Learning Aims:

To introduce students to theoretical approaches to studying international relations, including scholarly debates old and new.

### Module Content:

This course is an introduction to the positive, descriptive study of international relations. Why do states make war? What are the conditions for the growth of cross-border trade and finance? What is the impact of international organisations on relations between states? This course considers these questions by looking at differing theoretical approaches to international relations and a selection of topics in historical and contemporary politics.

## Assessment

- Tutorial: 10%
- Essay: 25%
- In Person Final Exam: 65%

## Recommended Reading List

Stephen Brooks and William Wolforth. *World Out of Balance: International Relations and the Challenge of American Primacy* (Princeton UP, 2008).

Keohane, Robert O. *After Hegemony* (Princeton UP, 1984).