This course provides a comprehensive overview of the quest for peace. It traces major issues in the field of peace studies and introduces a variety of strategies to achieve peace. Students are encouraged to explore the numerous dimensions of violence and the prospects for peace in our world today. It is hoped that by gaining a deeper understanding of the global dialogue on the meaning of peace, students will be able to participate in creative thinking about how humankind might build societies based on non-violence, social, political, and economic well-being, social justice, and ecological balance.

Fulfills the GEC Social Science & International Issues requirement.
This course presents an introductory overview of the historical background to modern Western Europe. It surveys the development of society and politics in seven European countries, as well as the evolution of art, architecture and music from the 11th century until the outbreak of the Second World War.

Prerequisites: None. GEC Social Science, and International Issues course. GEC-R History course.
This course introduces the beginning student to the field of development studies. The subject of development studies is the development process in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The definition of the concept "development" is controversial, but its core idea is improvement in human well-being. Economics has been the leading discipline in development studies, but historians, anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists and others have also made major contributions to the field.

Fulfills the GEC Social Science & International Issues requirement.
Rise & Fall of the Soviet Union

Dr. Tatyana Nestorova
M W 11:30 AM - 1:18 PM
Room 160, Jennings Hall
Call #: 21709
Credits: 5

This course will provide a general survey of the former Soviet bloc countries with a special emphasis on the diversity of the region. Students will explore the rise and fall of the Communist regimes in Eastern Europe and will assess the nature of the post-Communist changes in the area. Particular emphasis will be placed on the disintegration of Communist Yugoslavia and the role played by the U.S. in this process. Students will be expected to develop an understanding of the prospects and challenges facing Eastern Europe today.

Prerequisites: None. GEC Social Science, and International Issues course.
Introduction to China & Japan

Prof. Alexandre Pantsov and
Prof. Michael Yosha
M W 4:30-6:18 PM
Room 0040, Jennings Hall
Class #: 5449
Credits: 5

This course provides an introduction to the historical and social development of China and Japan. The primary focus of the course is to demonstrate the contemporary similarities and differences between the two countries in regard to geography/ecology, social structure, religious beliefs, politics, and economics. This course will provide adequate preparations for students interested in pursuing other course work in the culture area of East Asia.

Prerequisites: None. GEC Social Science, and International Issues course.
Prof. Kelechi Kalu  
M W 11:30AM - 1:18 PM  
Room 034, Lazenby Hall  
Class #: 5450  
Credits: 5

This course is designed for students in any field who wish to gain a foundation in the diverse aspects of the African continent, past and present. Class discussions (lectures, films) will cover such topics as African history, geography, literature, art, music, social life, economics, politics, and government.

Fulfills the GEC Social Science & International Issues requirement.
Introduction to Homeland Security

Major Matthew Donald
M W 3:30PM -5:18 PM
Room 215, Converse Hall
Class #: 5451
Credits: 5

This undergraduate course provides students with a comprehensive overview of U.S. homeland security. It places homeland security in the context of overall national security and introduces students to the historic, current and emerging threats to strategic interests in the U.S. homeland, with particular emphasis on domestic and foreign terrorism. Students are also introduced to the organizations, laws, strategies, plans, programs and technologies that exist or are being developed to deal with current and future homeland-security challenges. As well, they are prepared to assess systematically, objectively and rigorously various homeland-security problems and issues and to develop and effectively communicate appropriate recommendations to responsible decision makers. Finally, the course acquaints students with government and non-government career opportunities related to various areas of homeland security.

Prerequisites: none
Among the important consequences of the tragedies of 9/11 have been a renewed emphasis upon the importance of intelligence gathering and analysis for the protection of modern societies and a critical concern for the problems and dangers inherent in such a complex and uncertain enterprise. This class will provide the student with a comprehensive introduction to the intelligence arts. After a brief historical introduction to the U.S. intelligence system, the “nuts and bolts” of intelligence collection, analysis, covert action and counterintelligence will be explored.

Prerequisites: None.
The ability to manipulate, analyze, and present data is an essential career tool in the 21st century. Students in this class will be taught the basics of data presentation and analysis, as well as, how to use the most common data analysis and presentation software packages available (EXCEL, SAS, SPSS, Stata and R). Upon completion of the course, students will be able to analyze and present data using the most common software packages in the private and public sectors as well as academia.

GEC Data Analysis course.
The terrorist attack of 9/11 brought about the international coalition against the Taliban-dominated Afghanistan regarded as the hotbed of global terrorism led by Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda network. Who are the Taliban? Why and how did Afghanistan fall under the Taliban to become a "breeding ground" of terrorism and safe haven for extremists? Will the War on Terrorism work in the region? Is peace possible in Afghanistan without Taliban? This course will critically examine these and related questions. It begins with an introduction to the social, ethnic and historical background. Topics to be covered include the formation of modern Afghanistan, Islam, the Soviet invasion, the role of women, and the current state and future of the country.

Prerequisites: None
Nationalism in Post-Communist Russia: the Chechen War

Dr. Kamoludin Abdullaev
TR 1:30PM – 3:18PM
Room 0001, Lazenby Hall
Class #: 25952
Credits: 5

This course provides a comprehensive overview of a particular case that has important implications for post-independence nation building. It is designed to provide students with a survey of the role of nationalism and associated – ethnic and religious - identity politics in post Soviet Russia in its relation to the ruinous Chechen War. Topics include the ethnicity, religion and cultural traditions of Chechens, Russian colonialism, Soviet policies, Stalin’s deportations, liberation movements, warlordism, international terrorism and Islamic militancy. Special attention will be given to the recent Russo-Chechen conflict that from 1991 to present has gone through several violent and non-violent stages. No previous courses are required.

Prerequisite: None.
Located in an important geo-strategic position between Russia, China, Southern Asia and the Middle East and with extensive natural resources, in the aftermath of the September 11 Central Asia has found itself in the center of world’s attention. This introductory course addresses traditional issues of world affairs. These involve states, (Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan) and peoples of the region. Topics include ethnicity, colonialism, nationalism, Islamism, Pan-movements as well as democratization, human rights, civil conflict, economic development, the environment, globalization, regionalism and principles of collective security.

Prerequisite: None.
By the 1950s and 1960s, much of the educated elite in the both the developed and developing worlds subscribed to the idea that the world was becoming a more secular—and therefore less religious—place. They believed that economic growth, technological progress, and scientific inquiry would eliminate hunger, disease, and ignorance, which historically had driven people to turn to religion for answers. Obviously this thesis was mistaken—by the end of the twentieth century religion had staged a powerful comeback around the world and distressingly, had come to drive a host of violent extremist movements.

This course is a small, discussion-driven research seminar that will investigate the sacred origins of political extremism. The course has two objectives. The first is to explore both the global resurgence of religion in the late 20th century as well as the ways in which secular movements appropriated the character of religion in order to understand how political movements become ideological crusades for their true believers. This exploration, in turn, is meant to serve as a means toward the second goal of the course, which is the identification by individual students of a topic of interest within the realm of organized political violence and the development of an independent research project to investigate this topic more fully. By the end of the course the student is expected to produce a short, yet thorough draft of a research paper that has the potential to be expanded into a much larger project such as a senior honors’ thesis.

Prerequisites: INTSTDS 553 or Permission of Instructor.
This course will examine various aspects of crime and corruption in post-communist Europe, a region which has witnessed an explosion of transnational crime since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Its focus will be on Russian, Italian, and East European organized crime groups, their activities and enterprises, and U.S., EU, and UN efforts to combat them. Topics will include: drug, cigarette, and organ trafficking; human trafficking; money laundering; small arms and fissile materials dealing; stolen art; stolen automobiles; political corruption; and terrorism. The impact of today’s Russia as well as the Bosnian War of 1991-95 and the Kosovo War of 1999 will also be key themes.

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or higher, or permission of instructor
Economic Development in Developing Countries

Prof. Joyce Chen
M W 3:30 PM – 5:18 PM
Room 010, Page Hall
AEDE Class #: 1205
IS Class #: 5460
Credits: 5

This course is designed to introduce students to the major problems of the developing world and to analyze them using the principles and concepts of development economics. It is aimed at students who want to develop an understanding of real world problems. Initially it will focus on problems of poverty, inequality, unemployment, rapid population growth, and rural development. Later the course will explore issues surrounding the globalization of trade and finance, the transition from former communist to market economies and the interface between sustainability of the environment and economic development.

Prerequisites: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200.
This course intends to extend understanding of the economic issues facing Middle Eastern countries. Building upon basic principles of economics, this course seeks to introduce students to current economic issues from a regional standpoint to shed light on cross-regional similarities and differences. After covering background information on the geography, culture, and social environment of the Middle East, the course will cover each country's internal situation (e.g. growth, inflation, unemployment, fiscal and monetary policy) and external situation (e.g. import, export, foreign debt, and exchange rate policy). Throughout the course, we will also discuss current events and issues related to Middle Eastern countries.

Prerequisite: AED ECON 200 or ECON 200.
The objective of the course is to help students understand some dimensions of the Latin American economic experience to better appreciate the link between economic analysis and policy and some of the recent development and policy debates. A historical approach will be used initially to analyze the experiences of the major nations over the course of the last century. Key economic concepts will be used to trace the important shifts in Latin American economic thinking, such as the move from inward looking investment programs to structural adjustment as mediated by the oil shocks and debt crises. Major issues such as corruption, poverty, inequality and the environment will also be discussed.

Prerequisite: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200.
International Commerce & the World Economy

Agricultural Economics & International Studies 540

Prof. Ian Sheldon
MW 3:30 PM – 5:18 PM
LOCATION Room 060, Jennings Hall
AEDE Class #: 26526
INT STDS Class #: 25883
Credits: 5

The primary objective is for you to understand how international trade theory and policy can aid business and trade policy decisions. The historical and future importance of international trade to the U.S. economy will be examined. You will apply concepts of international trade theory to a wide variety of issues fundamental to the success of business firms which operate within a global environment. You will develop a framework of thinking analytically about trade policy issues so you won’t fall prey to unscientific advocacy positions or simplistic thinking.

Prerequisite: AED Econ 200, or Econ 200, or permission of the instructor.
This course explores recent trends to forge robust rule of law in Mexico and to combat various forms of political violence including electoral violence and political assassination, organized crime, police brutality, death squads, state-sanctioned violence against political opponents and other human rights abuses. Examples of successes and failures from other Latin American nations in combating organized crime, reducing state-sanctioned violence and armed conflicts against the state are closely examined.

The inter-disciplinary readings for the course were selected to analyze the social and legal underpinnings of political violence in the transition from authoritarianism to electoral democracy. We will pay particular attention to the transition in Mexico since 1988.

Prerequisite: Sophomore Standing or Higher.
The terms cultural diplomacy and soft power are used to describe the exchange of information, ideas, art, values and beliefs among nations and their peoples. While hard power focuses on political diplomacy, foreign trade, military might and propaganda, cultural diplomacy deals primarily with non-government organizations and individuals. Cultural diplomacy promotes the appreciation of different national and regional cultural traditions, reduces the tensions of cultural fragmentation and globalization, safeguards peace, defends human rights, balances economic interests and protects sustainable resources.

This course starts by examining different definitions of cultural and public diplomacy employed by U.S. agencies and international organizations like the Department of State, the European Union, the British Council, and the Goethe Institute. Students will then study several scholarly publications dealing with the historical development of cultural diplomacy, with the current debates about soft power, and with issues of cultural internationalisms. Several units will be devoted to specific case studies, including initiatives like Business for Diplomatic Action, the EU as model for a new cultural diplomacy, the recent rise of anti-Americanism, the image of the U.S. in contested regions of the world like the Middle East, and current activities of the Office of the Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or higher.
Terror and terrorism have been prominent features of Western political culture since the French Revolution. For the most part, modern terrorism is of European origin, and the ideas, goals, and methods of European terrorists have inspired terrorists in non-Western nations. The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the ideology, motivation, and methods of numerous terrorist groups of the last two centuries in order to provide a basis for an understanding of contemporary terrorist organizations.

Specifically, we will address the terror of the French Revolution, anarchism and revolutionary terrorism in 19th century Europe, terrorism in Latin America, European domestic terrorism in the 1960s and 1970s, national liberation and separatist movements, Middle Eastern terrorism, and the impact of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States.

Prerequisites: None.
This course offers students an overview of the issues relating to atomic, biological, and chemical weapons, commonly referred to as weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Since the end of the Cold War, the proliferation of these kinds of weapons has become one of America's primary security concerns; thus an understanding of the weapons and their capabilities is an essential component of understanding national security more broadly.

This class will approach WMD from three angles. First, it will take a historical perspective, exploring the development and use of these weapons in past conflicts. Second, it will examine the scientific foundation of the most significant WMD threats. While not a science class, students must certainly have a basic understanding of the way that these kinds of weapons function in order to assess the threat that they represent. No prior science background on the part of students is assumed, but they must be prepared to learn some basic biology, chemistry, and physics.

Prerequisites: None
The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the means of conceptualizing and assessing the impact of the process known as GLOBALIZATION. The contemporary phase of growing economic interdependence of national economies will be put in the historical context of previous periods so that students can evaluate the extent to which the contemporary global economy is something qualitatively and quantitatively unique. Students will explore the major issues and debates regarding free trade.

Prerequisites: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200, and Econ 201.
This course addresses population growth and the challenges it poses – in particular, the challenge of providing everyone with an adequate diet while simultaneously conserving the natural resources on which agriculture and other economic activities depend. Since human numbers are increasing more rapidly in poor countries than anywhere else, special attention is paid to population growth and the prospects for environmentally sound agricultural development in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The problems arising as a transition is made from communism to a market economy are examined as well since agricultural development has lagged, environmental deterioration has been pronounced, or both in many of the nations experiencing this transition.

GEC Contemporary World course.
At the present time, hundreds of thousands of children around the globe are suffering from war. This course, Children and War, will explore some of the many ways that children are affected by war. The use of children as soldiers is a common and growing pattern around the world. The children are often forcibly abducted and required to participate. The child soldier phenomenon will be explored, including causes, methods of recruitment, how children are turned into soldiers, the reintegration of child soldiers following war and possibilities for prevention of child soldiering.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or higher.
Globalization & Latin America

Prof. Abril Trigo
MW 1:30-3:18 PM
Room 024, Hayes Hall
IS Class #: 23494
Spanish Class #: 23493
Credits: 5

This course explores some of the current debates on globalization in Latin America and recent and interrelated transformations in the economies, politics, and cultures of the region. Three specific "problems" will be examined from several disciplinary perspectives: drugs and drug trafficking, the supposed dissolution of the nation-state, and the rise of indigenous movements. Students will be encouraged to address topics relevant to their major(s) in an interdisciplinary manner. The course is designed around a series of lectures by experts in their fields. This course is cross-listed with Spanish, but is taught in English.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing or Higher.
This course has developed out of the consensus among Middle East experts that a proper understanding of recent events in the Middle East requires more than a casual or narrowly-focused knowledge of the cultural, social, historical, economic, religious and political background of these events. This course will provide students with an opportunity to study, through an in-depth interdisciplinary approach, one of the world’s most complex yet important regions which, except for its crises, is virtually ignored in the news media of most Western countries. This course will seek to illuminate the host of factors underlying contemporary issues in the Middle East and in some North African and Central Asian countries. The first 15 minutes of each session will be devoted to discussions and analyses of daily developments in Middle Eastern countries.

Prerequisites: INTSTDS 245 or Junior Standing.
International law is an essential dimension of global governance that affects and shapes the lives of people, the affairs of nations, and the condition of the planet. The objective of the course is to provide students with the foundational and structural forces of international law that shape the content and character of national and international relations. It will examine the complex and varied sources, traditions, customs, functions, and structures of international law and their significance in maintaining stability, order, communication, and continuity between nations, people, and international organizations.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing or Higher.
Rebuilding Failed & Weak States
International Studies & Public Policy & Management

Rudolph Hightower
M W 1:30 PM - 3:30-5:18 PM
Room 060, Page Hall
INT STDLS:  26719
PUBPOL&M:  26743
Credits:  5

This course tackles the question of how to design policies and programs to rebuild failed and weak nation states into functioning, if not vibrant, democracies. In pursuit of this end, we will examine the causes of nation state failure, the trajectories or pathways to and from failure, and the ingredients purported to contribute to the consolidation of democracy. In addition, we will critically assess the policies and programs of international actors intent upon aiding the transition to democracy. In particular, we will examine the programmatic efforts of one of the primary development organs – the U.S. Agency for International Development – in three settings: Ukraine, Rwanda and Iraq. We will assess USAID’s current complement of programs in each of these three settings and make informed judgments about whether they should be expanded, changed, or abolished. Ultimately, we will examine whether attempting to rebuild failed and weak nation states is an activity worthy of undertaking at all. Maybe weak states should be allowed to fail.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing or Permission of Instructor.
This course will provide a broad introduction to the critical issues relating to the world’s freshwater resources. A wide range of freshwater resource, security, and human health issues, and water policy topics will be presented.