



Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
INR 2002 – INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (3 credits)
STUDY ABROAD SOUTH AFRICA

Course dates: Monday May 9-June 20, 2022
Travel dates: Monday May 16-Thursdays May 26, 2022

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[South Africa political map](#)



[The city of Cape Town](#)



SPC 2019-20 Catalog Course Description

INR 2002 International Relations is an introductory study of the factors that affect relations among nations, including the development of nationalism; the elements that determine national power; the formulation of foreign policy; the art of diplomacy; the history and application of international law; international economics; international organizations; militarism and war; case studies involving the above; and contemporary events in international relations. Prerequisite: POS 2041. This course partially satisfies the writing requirements outlined in the General Education Requirements. Study Abroad opportunities also apply to this course (<https://www.spcollege.edu/future-students/why-spc/perfect-fit/study-abroad>).

South Africa

Though this course deals with International Relations (IR), as part of study abroad, it will specifically focus on South Africa. Through this study abroad opportunity, where SPC students will get to experience a different culture and learn in a foreign context, attention would be paid to relations between South Africa and the United States and how the South African experience can inform life in different settings such as the U.S. Beyond an introduction to key theories and concepts of IR, such as states and non-state actors, the course will attempt to cover topics such as the place of pre and post-Apartheid South Africa in world affairs, international cooperation, the dilemma between environmental and economic development concerns, and race and inequality issues to name a few.

Generally, students can look forward to visiting multiples historical sites dealing with political, economic, and social issues in South Africa. This includes Robben Island, a symbol of human resilience in the face of adversity. It is the place where South Africa's post-Apartheid first democratically elected president Nelson Mandela spent 18 years of his 27 years of incarceration. Other sites include the world-famous Kruger National Park, an example of conservation effort in the world; the Cradle of Mankind, a UNESCO World Heritage site; the Castle of Good Hope; and many more as detailed in the accompanying program itinerary.

Required Texts

[*International Relations: A Very Short Introduction*](#) (2007). 1st edition. by Paul Wilkinson. Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 978019280157. *Used (from \$2) and new (\$12.39) on Amazon.*

[*Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela*](#) (1995). By Nelson Mandela. Back Bay Books; 1st Paperback edition. ISBN-10: 0316548189; ISBN-13: 978-0316548182. *Used (from \$2) and new (\$12.39) on Amazon.*

Class assignments

1. **Quizzes (100 points):** various quizzes will be administered before and after travel starts.
2. **Discussion posts (200 points):** students will be required to contribute to a discussion forum in MyCourses on selected topics.
3. **Team player behavior (100 points):** in this travel course, students are always expected to behave professionally and be respectful of other people cultures. This is a team trip and while students are expected to enjoy this journey, it is paramount that they follow all rules and procedures for their own safety.
4. **South Africa pre-departure student guide (200 points):** before departing for South Africa, students are expected to develop their trip guide. The graded trip guide should be comprehensive. It should provide students enough information about the country, culture, customs, political system, and so on that would be helpful to them during this trip. Expected length: 1,000 words.
5. **Post-trip critical reflection (400 points):** one week after returning from the trip, students are expected to critically reflect on their South African experience. Further details will be provided in time. Students will then share their experience during our debriefing session back here in the USA. Expected length: 2,000 words.

Grading Procedures

A =	90-100%
B =	80-89%
C =	70-79%
D =	60-69%
F =	Below 60%

College Policies and campus resources

ACADEMIC HONESTY: 'St. Petersburg College expects students to be honest in all of their academic work. By enrolling at the College, students agree to adhere to high standards of academic honesty and integrity and understand that failure to comply with this pledge may result in academic and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the College. As members of the College community, students also have an ethical obligation to report violations of the SPC academic honesty policies they may witness.'

Cheating, plagiarism, copying and any other behavior that is contrary to SPC's standards of behavior will not be tolerated. **Any forms of academic dishonesty will automatically lead you to failing this course ('F' grade). Students may also face expulsion from the college.** It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with SPC policy regarding academic honesty and to avoid violating such policies. Policy information is found at: <https://go.spcollege.edu/AcademicHonesty/>

How to Be A Successful Student: SPC Syllabus Addendum Link:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/>

Important dates:

See academic calendar: <https://spcollege.edu/academic-calendar>

Students with disabilities

St. Petersburg College is committed to providing academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Accessibility Services Department (<https://go.spcollege.edu/Accessibility/>) and provide appropriate documentation. SPC encourages students with disabilities to follow these procedures as early as possible within the semester.

Mental health help:

As a SPC student it's vital that you know Titans Care. You can access resources through SPC's Student Assistance Program (SAP) (<https://mycoursesupport.spcollege.edu/student-assistance-program>), a collaborative resource for students with mental health or general life issues. SAP provides help and education in suicide prevention, mental health, substance abuse awareness and more. It is SPC's belief that supporting mental wellness is everyone's charge, and that one loss as a result of substance abuse, mental illness, or suicide is one too many. If you or a loved one are considering suicide, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Student Survey of Instruction:

The Student Survey of Instruction (SSI) is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement. The SSI will be given online using the **MyCourses**.

Tentative course schedule

(to be adjusted at the discretion of the instructor, especially the non-travel part)

WEEK	TOPICS AND READINGS	DUE ASSIGNMENTS
1	Intro to IR (basic theories and concepts)	
	States and non-states actors and preview of SA trip	
2-3	Travel abroad SA	<i>SA pre-departure student guide assignment</i> due before travel starts
3-4	Intergovernmental organizations	
	Global environment	
5	Continue discussion of IR topics and debriefing session 1	
6	Debriefing session 2 and conclusion of the class	<i>Post-trip critical reflection assignment</i> due