Why do countries go to war? Are most interactions between countries peaceful or conflictual? How do politics affect global economic relations? How can countries cooperate to fight global threats like human and drug trafficking, international terrorism, climate change, and pandemics?

This course provides an introduction to the topics and methods associated with the study of world politics. As one of the three main subfields in political science, international relations evolved as the study of nation-states and their interactions in the global sphere. Over the past several centuries the type and frequency of these interactions, along with the range of actors involved, have increased exponentially. Given that global political and economic events are increasingly relevant for individuals around the world, it is important that we develop a solid understanding of the actors, incentives, and processes that drive these events.

THIS COURSE IS PART OF THE GLOBAL POLITICS AND SECURITY TRACK!