



**Sub-Committee for Curriculum Development**  
**Political Science**

**Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations (Major/Minor)

**Introduction:**

Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts offers International Relations both as a major and a minor subject that can be taken up by students during their time here. The International Relations major course comprises of a total of ten papers while the International Relations minor course consists of the first six of the ten major papers.

These are:

1. Introduction to International Relations
2. Conflict, Diplomacy and War
3. India's Foreign Policy
4. International Law and United Nations
5. International Political Economy
6. Issues in World Politics
7. Introduction to Political Science
8. Comparative Politics
9. Ideology and Politics
10. Leadership and World Politics



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major/ Minor Paper 1: Introduction to International Relations

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 3

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 2

**Course Description:**

With imperialism, globalization, liberalization, and finally neo-imperialism, the political path of every nation has become interdependent on the political economy of other nations. The study of International Relations has therefore become an indispensable tool in the analysis of the politics and economics of any nation-state.

This paper not only introduces the need to study international relations, but also expands upon various concepts of the same with the help of numerous case studies. Towards the end of the paper, various approaches of studying international systems are introduced and expanded upon, such as the Neo-Imperialist Approach, the Behavioural Approach and Post-Behavioural Approach.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major/ Minor Paper 2: Conflict, Diplomacy and War

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 4

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

This paper aims to analyse theories regarding concepts such as conflict, diplomacy, and war, which are imperative for an in-depth understanding of world politics.

This paper not only highlights the relationship between external relations of countries and their internal socio-economic and political system, but also goes on to showcase the role of ideology and diplomacy in international relations. Towards the latter section of this paper, the concept of conflict and war is introduced in order to give a more conceptual understanding of the impacts of war and conflict, along with providing a more detailed understanding of the various different models of conflict resolution.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major/ Minor Paper 3: India's Foreign Policy

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 5

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

The past decade has been witness to India's rise as a major power in the multipolar world. This naturally calls for understanding the influences, nuances, and content of India's foreign policy that has developed over the years.

This paper revolves around the concept of foreign policy primarily in India, and covers phases and principles of foreign policy along with India's policies towards regional integration. In addition, students make use of case studies to cover topics based on India's relations with its immediate neighbors, and with the rest of the world.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major/ Minor Paper 4: International Law and United Nations

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 6

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

With globalisation, the world has developed into a global network. As a result, issues today, whether political, social, economic or legal, are no longer national issues, but international concerns. With the presence of not only sovereign nation states, but organizations such as the United Nations, which are supranational and transnational in nature, there is an increased necessity to understand the laws that govern their relations, demarcate their boundaries, and settle their disputes.

This paper covers not only international law, international law of the sea and its influence during times of peace and war, but also other topics such as international treaties, settlements and disputes, and negotiations. The latter half of the paper covers topics such as extradition, asylum, and other international laws governing individuals as well as international organizations such as the United Nations and the International Court of Justice, that are instrumental in the context of international relations.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major/ Minor Paper 5: International Political Economy

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 7

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

Religion, ideology, territorial disputes, ethno-communal conflicts, and racial conflicts have shaped international politics from the ancient ages, but what has shaped international relations in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century most prominently, is the concept of economic pragmatism.

This paper revolves around international economics, and begins by covering basic economic concepts, before providing a timeline denoting the developments in economics post World War II, to current times. The paper also covers world political economic institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, along with Global Production Distribution Network, Finance Liberalization, and Finance Capital in current times. Lastly, the paper covers the aspect of Multi-lateralization vs. Regionalization.



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**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major/ Minor Paper 6: Issues in World Politics

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 8

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

This paper seeks to address the issues that have had a significant impact on the current world order. The course is organized around a series of major issues in the world order, such as globalization, forms of resistance, religious and cultural issues, the importance of global finance, global migration, the persistence of poverty and inequality, global competitiveness, the arms race and the military industrial complex, and concerns around environmental change and energy resources.





**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major Paper 7: Introduction to Political Science

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 5

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 2

**Course Description:**

“Man is by nature a political animal.” This oft quoted line from Aristotle’s *The Politics*, holds true till today and provides an understanding of contemporary politics. This paper introduces the concept of political science and also provides a conceptual understanding of key political science terms such as sovereignty, liberty and civil society.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major Paper 8: Comparative Politics

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 6

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

In an age marked with intolerance, this paper will help the students, who are members of a global network, to comprehend the behavior of nations and people who charter the course of world politics.

This paper covers aspects such as an introduction to the concept of comparative politics, nationalism, labour theory of value, theory of accumulation, dependence theory, and the concept of development of underdevelopment. The paper also covers world system analysis and new social movements.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major Paper 9: Ideology and Politics

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 7

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 4

**Course Description:**

Ideology has dominated the socio-political-economic world since the Age of Enlightenment. It plays a prominent role in the way the world functions even today.

This paper not only defines the concept of ideology but expands upon numerous ideologies, prominent in today's age, such as secularism, civil society, race, modernism and postmodernism, and feminism and further expands upon their impact upon global politics.



**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** International Relations Major Paper 10: Leadership and World Politics

**(UG/PG):** UG, Semester 8

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 Hours)

**Level:** 3

**Course Description:**

This course seeks to understand the role played by various important leaders across the globe, and their impact on world politics. The course consists of a study of select leaders from across the globe, and evaluates their significance in the world politics. The influences of leaders have been acknowledged on the formation and consolidation of the nation-state, and also on the character of institutions.

Some important global leaders covered under this paper are Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt from Europe and the United States respectively, Latin American leaders such as Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez, Middle Eastern leaders such as Yasser Arafat and Saddam Hussein, as well as Soviet and Chinese leaders such as Joseph Stalin and Mao Tse-Tung/Zedong respectively.