



Course Specifications (Postgraduate Degree)

Course Title:	International Futures
Course Code:	MSFS 6322
Program:	MSc Futures Studies
Department:	Futures Studies
College:	College of Sciences and Human Studies
Institution:	Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3
2. Course type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Elective
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: MsC, Year 2
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): MSFS 5301 MSFS 5302 MSFS 5303 MSFS 6311 MSFS 6312 MSFS 6313
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): N/A

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	45	100%
2	Blended		
3	E-learning		
4	Distance learning		
5	Other		

7. Actual Learning Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Learning Hours
1	Lecture	33
2	Laboratory/Studio	
3	Seminars	
4	Others (specify): Syndicate work	12
Total		45

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

The course introduces the students to the field of futures studies as it relates to global issues, trends and practices, as well as the implications for development, international relations and policymaking. It aims to build skills for future-oriented thinking and policymaking in an interconnected global context.

2. Course Main Objective

- To introduce students to the role of futures studies in informing global policy and decision-making.
- To identify and analyze key global challenges, drivers of change, and practices, and assess their implications for sustainable development, international relations, and policymaking (including implications for governance, conflicts, and cooperation)
- Synthesize and integrate future-oriented insights into broader development and international relations frameworks.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)		Aligned PLOs*
1	Knowledge and Understanding	
1.1	Understand important concepts of futures studies as applied to global systems and practices	K1
1.2	Recognize in-depth understanding of concepts of global futures challenges, trends, and practices.	K2
1.3	Understand that foresight can be applied in international development, policy and relations, and demonstrate a well-rounded understanding of its diversities, advantages and limitations	K3
2	Skills :	
2.1	Apply various approaches and methods for futures studies in analysing futures trends, drivers of change, and opportunities.	S1
2.3	Apply and evaluate approaches and analyses to futures studies, particularly critical thinking and analytical skills to anticipate and assess global futures challenges and opportunities.	S3
2.4	Apply Futures Literacy framework to international futures research and practice	S4
3	Values:	
3.1	Exhibit self-directed and peer collaborative learning through effective communication skills	V1
3.2	Lead quality research in international futures studies, and understanding of professional and ethical responsibilities	V2

* Program Learning Outcomes

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Introduction to International Futures: Global trends, drivers of change and sustainability	9
5	Future of Global Governance: Geopolitical Shifts, International Relations and Diplomacy	9
6	Regional Fous: Global south, Arab world, Europe, America, China	9
7	Practical Application and Project Work	12
8	Rehearsals of presentations and presentations	6
Total		45

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding		
1.1	Demonstrated understanding of important concepts of futures studies as applied to global systems and practices	Readings, Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Research Papers
1.2	Acquire an advanced and in-depth understanding of concepts of global futures challenges, trends, and practices.	Readings, Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Research Papers
1.3	Ability to understand that foresight can be applied in international development, policy and relations, and demonstrate a well-rounded understanding of its diversities, advantages and limitations	Readings, Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Research Papers
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Ability to apply various approaches and methods for futures studies in analysing futures trends, drivers of change, and opportunities.	Readings, Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Research Papers
2.2	Ability to apply and evaluate approaches and analyses to futures studies, particularly critical thinking and analytical skills to anticipate and assess global futures challenges and opportunities.	Readings, Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Research Papers
2.4	Develop and apply Futures Literacy framework to international futures research and practice	Readings, Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Research Papers
3.0	Values		
3.1	Exhibit self-directed and peer collaborative learning through effective communication skills	Class participation and Discussions	Written and oral presentation assessments, peer evaluations
3.2	Capable of conducting and leading quality research in international futures studies, and understanding of professional and ethical responsibilities	Lectures, Class participation and Discussions	Written and oral presentation assessments, peer evaluations

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Individual assignments and class participation	12 ,9 ,6 ,3	20%
2	Syndicate assignment	14	20%
3	Exam	16	40%
4	Research Paper	16	20%

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

- Advisors are assigned in Banner Student System for individual (general) student consultations and academic advice.
- Office hours are provided for students to ask questions related to the course.

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	<p>Transforming the Future: Anticipation in the 21st Century, Riel Miller (ed.), 2018, Routledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject matter expert faculty member will determine best up-to-date textbooks, references, periodicals, and web resources prior to offering the course in accordance with course learning outcomes. • Course materials are subject to updates as part of the periodic assessment and development of curriculum.
Essential Reference Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Foresight Special Issue on Re-Conceptualising Foresight and its Impact: Experiences in Decolonising Futures from the Global South” by Karuri-Sebina, Miller & Feukeu (eds), 2023, Emerald • "Anticipatory Governance for Social-Ecological Resilience in the Global South" by Per Olsson et al., 2015 • Regional Case studies
Electronic Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course PowerPoint Presentations
Other Learning Materials	

2. Educational and research Facilities and Equipment Required

Item	Resources
<p>Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)</p>	Classroom with computer, data projector and white / smart board suitable for graduate students
<p>Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)</p>	Smart Board
<p>Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)</p>	

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Effectiveness of Teaching and Assessment	Independent reviewers by Program leaders and Deanship of Quality and Accreditation	Course survey through online Course Evaluation System
Effectiveness of Assessment	Independent reviewers/peer review	Independent Evaluation of Assessment Forms
Achievement of Course Learning Outcomes	Faculty	Exam Questions, Rubrics
Learning Resources	Student	Learning Resources Annual Survey
Effectiveness of Teaching and Assessment	Independent reviewers by Program leaders and Deanship of Quality and Accreditation	Course Survey through online Course Evaluation System

Evaluation Areas/Issues (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	