

COURSE OUTLINE

Year: 2006/2007

LEVEL: III High Performance Group, **TERM 2**

NAME OF THE SUBJECT: International Current Affairs

NO. CREDITS: 6

NAME OF THE TEACHER: Brian McGarry

SHORT CV OF THE TEACHER: Brian McGarry has a bachelor's degree in Mathematical Sciences and a master's degree in Economics, Finance and Management. He has worked in strategic consultancy, economic and political analysis, and journalism. He has been Spanish correspondent of the Economist Intelligence Unit since 1992

SEMESTER 2

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is multi-disciplinary course that seeks to analyse, in depth and from the broadest number of perspectives, some of the main political, economic, social and cultural issues affecting the world today. The analysis will always be forward looking, seeking to question established views and assumptions, and drawing conclusions on likely future scenarios. The course will never lose sight of the fact that this is a business class: as such, students must always identify the business risks and opportunities in their analysis. Classes will be discussion-based and will demand a high level of class participation.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: The course aims to stimulate students' ability to research, analyse, and interpret the main forces at work in the world today.

COURSE STRUCTURE: The course is on "current affairs", and issues addressed will be decided together in class. However, as an example, I list below possible subject matters.

SYLLABUS

SEMESTER 2			CLASS SUBJECT
08 Jan -12 Jan	Teaching Week 1	Wk 1	Terrorism
15 Jan -19 Jan	Teaching Week 2	Wk 2	Democracy, populism, authoritarianism
22 Jan -26 Jan	Teaching Week 3	Wk 3	The United States
29 Jan -02 Feb	Teaching Week 4	Wk 4	The European Union
05 Feb -09 Feb	Teaching Week 5	Wk 5	International governing institutions
12 Feb -16 Feb	Teaching Week 6	Wk 6	Inequality
19 Feb -23 Feb	Teaching Week 7	Wk 7	Gold, inflation and fiat currencies
26 Feb -02 Mar	Teaching Week 8	Wk 9	House prices
05 Mar -09 Mar	Teaching Week 9	Wk 9	Asset price bubbles
12 Mar -16 Mar	Teaching Week 10	Wk 10	Multinationals
19 Mar -23 Mar	Teaching Week 11 19 Mar Bank Holiday	Wk 11	Globalisation, the environment, global warming
26 Mar -30 Mar	MIDTERM EXAMS	Wk 12	The media and the Internet
02 Apr -06 Apr	Easter vacation	Wk 13	Telecommunications
09 Apr - 13 Apr	Teaching Week 12	Wk 14	Low-cost airlines
16 Apr - 20 Apr	Teaching Week 13	Wk 15	Education
23 Apr-27 Apr	Teaching Week 14	Wk 16	Financial derivatives and hedge funds
30 Apr-04 May	Teaching Week 15		

	30 Apr – 01 May Bank Holiday	Wk 17	Nationalism
07 May -11 May	Teaching Week 16	Wk 18	Russia
14 May -18 May	Teaching Week 17	Wk 19	Shifting global political alliances
21 May -25 May	Teaching Week 18	Wk 20	
28 May -31 May	EXAMS	Wk 21	
	TOTAL HOURS		