



University
of Victoria

POLI 240 International Politics

Instructor Spring 2023: Dr. Sarah E. Sharma

Course delivery: POLI 240 will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

Course description:

International politics does not only occur in distant countries, the backrooms of capital cities and global centres, or at the United Nations. In a globalized world, international politics occurs all around us, and is fundamentally connected to issues that affect our daily lives, the structure of our societies, and the form of our economies. At its root, the study of international politics is the study of power: who has it, who seeks it, and how it is used. This course provides students with a general introduction to both international politics and the discipline of International Relations (IR).

Course outcomes/objectives:

- Identify the major theoretical approaches to IR and the differences between them;
- Develop a basic knowledge of key issues in international politics;
- Apply IR theories to key issues in global politics, and critically reflect upon the merits and limitations of the different theoretical approaches;
- Participate in informed discussion about key issues in world politics;
- Write a research essay that contains a clear central argument, sufficient and appropriate evidence, proper grammar and writing style, and correct citation practices.

Topics may include:

International systems and governance
Climate change
Migration
Conflict and security
Human rights
International law

This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.