

**POLI 240 Introduction to International Politics
Spring 2019**

Lectures: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 1:30-2:20 pm
Location: HSD A240, Human and Social Development Building

Instructor: Dr. Wilfrid Greaves
Office: A341, David Turpin Building
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:30 am-12:30 pm or by appointment
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Teaching Assistants (TAs):

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

International politics does not only occur in distant countries, at the United Nations, or in the backrooms of global capitals and great cities. 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).

The course is divided into two sections. The first focuses on key concepts and theoretical debates in IR, and the second introduces major issues in historical contemporary international politics. Key issues and concepts that will be explored include: the sovereign state, the international system, intergovernmental institutions, IPE and development, climate change and the Anthropocene, conflict and security, race and nationalism, democracy, and human rights. We will examine a range of state and non-state political actors, and scales of analysis ranging through the global, regional, national and local. The course employs a variety of academic readings, print and digital media, lectures, tutorials, and written assignments.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

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

COURSE MATERIALS

One book is required reading for this course and is available at the University of Victoria bookstore:

1. John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, *The Globalization of World Politics, 7th Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017). [referred to hereafter as BSO]

All other required course readings will be made available through CourseSpaces.

COURSE FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS

The course will meet for three 50 minute lectures per week, plus 50 minutes of tutorial per week beginning in Week 3.

Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials, and to complete all assignments. Lectures, tutorials, and course readings are complementary but distinct. Students are advised to complete assigned readings before the start of their weekly tutorials. Students are responsible for learning the major themes and central arguments discussed in lectures, tutorials, and all required course readings.

MARKING SCHEME AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading + News Response – 10%
Tutorial Participation – 10%
Mid-Term Test – 20%
Research Essay – 5% + 25%
Final Examination – 30%

Reading + News Analysis (10%): In the reading + news analysis, students will critically examine a current event in international politics using news media and at least two assigned course readings. The goals of the assignment are to briefly summarize a current political event using reputable journalistic sources, and relate that event to the course material from a single week. Students will sign up for their reading responses in tutorials. Reading responses should be approximately 500-700 words long, or two-three (2-3) double-spaced pages.

Tutorial Participation (10%): Tutorial participation will be graded on the basis of regular attendance and active engagement in discussions and activities.

Mid-Term Test (20%): There will be a mid-term test held in class on February 15, 2019 (Week 6).

Essay (5% outline + 25% essay): Each student is required to write a research essay of no more than 2500 words (approximately 10 double-spaced pages, plus references) on one of three designated topics related to the course material. Prior to the final essay, each student is required to prepare a brief essay outline, including a preliminary bibliography. The outline should consist of two paragraphs: the first paragraph should identify the essay topic and clearly specify the thesis (i.e. the main argument). The second paragraph should lay out at least three supporting arguments for the thesis, and indicate how the student intends to support those arguments and what kind of evidence

they intend to use. The essay outline should include a bibliography of at least 10 academic or other expert sources that support your argument, with all sources properly cited according to the Chicago Manual of Style's author-date citation style. Essay outlines are due in tutorials in Week 9. Ideally, essay outlines should consist of a single double-sided printed page, with the paragraphs on one side and the bibliography on the other.

Final essays are due in lecture on Friday April 5, 2019 (Week 12). Specific instructions for the essay will be provided in class and on CourseSpaces.

Final Exam (30%): A final exam will be held during the final exam period at the end of the semester. The exam will be cumulative and cover all materials from the course.

PERCENTAGE GRADING SCALE

Passing Grades	Grade Point Value	Percentage	Description
A+	9	90 – 100	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
A	8	85 – 89	
A-	7	80 – 84	
B+	6	77 – 79	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
B	5	73 – 76	
B-	4	70 – 72	
C+	3	65 – 69	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
C	2	60 – 64	
D	1	50 – 59	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
Failing Grades	Grade Point Value	Percentage	Description
F	0	0 – 49	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0 – 49	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

1. The percentage grading scale applies to all Faculties at the University of Victoria.
2. The percentage grades should be associated with a letter grading schema.
3. A percentage grade for an N grade should be assigned in the following manner:

N GRADE: If a student has not completed the exam, or has not completed the course requirements, but has submitted course requirements that total more than 49% of the total grade for a course, an instructor will assign a percentage grade of 49%.

COURSE RULES AND POLICIES

Communication: The first point of contact for all students in this course is their TA. Students should contact their TA by email or in tutorials with any questions or concerns they have about the course, after which they may contact the instructor by email, during office hours, or by appointment. Before asking basic or logistical questions about the course, students should **consult the syllabus**.

All email communication should be clear and professional, and should include the course code or name in the subject line. **Pro Tips:** Don't start emails with 'hey' or 'yo'; do use full sentences; do spell your TA's and professor's names correctly; and do sign your name at the end of your message.

Before you press send, ask yourself “How does this email make me look in the eyes of the person receiving it?”. Except in extenuating circumstances, the professor will respond to all emails within 48 hours (not including weekends).

Extensions and make-ups: Extensions will only be granted for valid and documented medical or personal reasons. If possible, students should discuss extensions with the professor **in advance** of assignment deadlines.

NB: Valid reasons for extensions or make-ups do **not** include scheduling conflicts with assignments from other courses, work commitments, oversleeping, technical/printing difficulties, hungry pets, commuting/transit problems, hangovers or bad weather, so plan accordingly.

Late penalties: Assignments are due *at the start of class* on the date for which they are assigned. In fairness to students who hand in their work on time, a 1% penalty will be applied to assignments received after class has started but before 5 pm on the day they are due. After that, the late penalty is 2% per late day, *weekends included*, up to a maximum of seven days late. Assignments submitted after 4 pm will be considered submitted on the next workday. Assignments submitted more than one week after they were due will not be accepted without an extension from the instructor.

Submitting late assignments: Late assignments should be submitted to the mailbox marked ‘Greaves’ in the Department of Political Science, 3rd floor David Turpin Building A. All late work will be time and date stamped and assigned any appropriate late penalties. Remember to submit your work during business hours or no one will be there to receive it, and it will be considered submitted the next workday. Essays will only be accepted by email if prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Students are required to keep copies of their work until marked assignments have been returned and grades posted on CourseSpaces.

Writing Resources: Support for student writing is available through the Centre for Academic Communication: <http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/home/home/centre/>. They can provide assistance to you in preparing and writing your essays and other assignments for this course.

Students for whom English is a second language can also access support and resources through the English Language Centre: <https://continuingstudies.uvic.ca/elc>.

CourseSpaces and E-mail: Students should ensure that they have access to CourseSpaces, as reading materials and course announcements concerning dates and requirements will be posted online. Students should also ensure they have access to a UVic email, and all emails sent to the professor or TA should be from a UVic email account.

Accessibility: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to contact me and/or Centre for Accessible Learning as soon as possible. We will work with you to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The Centre for Accessible Learning (<http://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>) is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.

Care Obligations Policy: If you have an unexpected care obligation during one of our lectures (for example, you lack child care due to a babysitter cancellation or school P.D. day), you are welcome to bring the person under your care with you to lecture, tutorials, or office hours.

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

PLAGIARISM and ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is intellectual honesty and responsibility for academic work that you submit individually or as a member of a group. It involves commitment to the values of honesty, trust and responsibility. It is expected that students will respect these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research and service. Therefore, plagiarism and other acts against academic integrity are serious academic offences.

The responsibility of the institution - Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects.

The responsibility of the student - Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the responsibility of the student to know them. If you are unsure about the standards for citations or for referencing your sources, ask your instructor. Depending on the severity of the case, penalties include a warning, a failing grade, a record on the student's transcript, or a suspension. It is your responsibility to understand the University's policy on academic integrity, which can be found on pages 32-34 of the undergraduate calendar.

Plagiarism is not the only form of academic integrity issue that students should be aware of. Other potential offences include, but are not limited to: submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor; making up sources or facts; obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment; using or possessing unauthorized aids on tests and quizzes; looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test; falsifying institutional documents or grades; falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including doctor's notes. For further details, please see the (revised) academic integrity policy: <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2017-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html>

LECTURES and READING SCHEDULE

PART ONE: The State, The System, and IR Theory

Week 1 (January 8-11, 2019): Introduction to International Relations

- BSO Introduction “From International Politics to World Politics” (Owens, Baylis and Smith)
- BSO Chapter 1 “Globalization and Global Politics” (McGrew)

Week 2 (January 15-18, 2019): Sovereign States and International Order

- BSO Chapter 2 “The Rise of Modern International Order” (Lawson)
- BSO Chapter 3 “International History 1900-99” (Scott)
- Charles Tilly, “War Making and State Making as Organized Crime,” in *Bringing the State Back In*, eds. Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, 169-187 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985).

Week 3 (January 22-25, 2019): Questioning the State and System

- BSO Chapter 4 “From the End of the Cold War to a New Global Era?” (Cox)
- BSO Chapter 22 “NGOs in World Politics” (Joachim)
- Robert Cox, “Social Forces, States and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory,” *Millennium* 10, no. 2 (1981): 126-155.
- Tutorials Begin

Week 4 (January 29-February 1, 2019): Realism and Liberalism

- BSO Chapter 6 “Realism” (Dunne and Schmidt)
- BSO Chapter 7 “Liberalism” (Dunne)
- Michael W. Doyle, “Liberal Internationalism: Peace, War and Democracy.” Available at: http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/themes/peace/doyle/.

Week 5 (February 5-8, 2019): Critical Theory I: Marxism and Constructivism

- BSO Chapter 8, “Marxist Theories of International Relations” (Hobden and Wyn Jones)
- BSO Chapter 9 “Social Constructivism” (Barnett)

Week 6 (February 12-15, 2019): Critical Theory II: Sex and Gender in IR

- BSO Chapter 12 “Feminism” (Kinsella)
- BSO Chapter 17 “Gender” (Kirby)

- February 15 – Midterm (in class)

Reading Break (February 19-22, 2019) – No Lectures or Tutorials

PART TWO: Issues in Global Politics

Week 7 (February 26-March 1, 2019): Political Economy and Development

- BSO Chapter 16 “Global Political Economy” (Phillips)
- BSO Chapter 20 “International Organizations in World Politics” (Park)
- BSO Chapter 29 “Poverty, Development, and Hunger” (Evans and Thomas)

Week 8 (March 5-8, 2019): Climate Change and the Environment

- BSO Chapter 24 “Environmental Issues” (Vogler)
- Cameron Harrington, “The Ends of the World: International Relations and the Anthropocene,” *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 44, no. 3 (2016): 478-498.
- IPCC, “Summary for Policymakers,” in *Global warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty* (World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, 2018).

Week 9 (March 12-15, 2019): Race, Nationalism, and Empire

- BSO Chapter 11 “Post-Colonialism” (Sylvester)
- BSO Chapter 18 “Race in World Politics” (Shilliam)
- BSO Chapter 27 “Nationalism, National Self-Determination, and IR” (Breuilly)
- Essay Outlines due in tutorials

Week 10 (March 19-22, 2019): War and Security

- BSO Chapter 14 “War and World Politics” (Barkawi)
- BSO Chapter 15 “International and Global Security” (Baylis)
- Mary Kaldor, Chapter 4 “The Politics of New War” and Chapter 5 “The Globalized War Economy,” *New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era*, 2nd ed (Cambridge: Polity, 2006).

Week 11 (March 26-29, 2019): Democracy, Human Rights and International Law

- BSO Chapter 19 “International Law” (Reus-Smit)
- BSO Chapter 31 “Human Rights” (Donnelly)
- Benjamin Barber, “Jihad vs. McWorld,” *The Atlantic Monthly* (March 1992). Available at: <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1992/03/jihad-vs-mcworld/303882/>.
- Paul Staniland, “The Future of Democracy in South Asia,” *Foreign Affairs* (January 2019). Available at <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/south-asia/2019-01-04/future-democracy-south-asia>.

Week 12 (April 2-5, 2019): Rising Powers and Hegemony

- BSO Chapter 5 “Rising Powers and the Emerging Global Order” (Hurrell)
- BSO Chapter 23 “Regionalism in International Affairs” (Best and Christiansen)
- BSO Chapter 32 “Humanitarian Intervention in World Politics” (Bellamy and Wheeler)

- Friday April 5 – Essays Due

Final Exam - TBD