

**PSCI 2601A**  
**International Relations: Global Politics**  
Monday and Wednesdays, 14:35 - 15:25  
**Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

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**Course Description:**

In the last decade of the 20th century the world experienced momentous changes. The Cold War ended, the Soviet Bloc disintegrated and was replaced by the Russian Federation and a multitude of newly transformed states emerged. Some of these states transformed themselves and joined the European Union and NATO while others have remained unstable and engaged in regional conflicts. The world has also seen a number of “failed states” while conflict in the Middle East has continued to rage. At the same time with a globalized economy and the emergence of a range of transnational problems such as drug trafficking, environmental pollution, ethnic conflicts, terrorism, forced migration and human rights violations the world has become much more interdependent. 9/11 and the reaction of the USA to these events have accentuated the degree of this interdependence and culminated in the emergence of new security challenges during the first decade of the new millennium. The causes, management and solution of these problems do not recognize neatly drawn state boundaries. What is “national” and what is “international” have become blurred. The search for order and security in international relations has become much more complicated and difficult. The term security has acquired new meanings compared to the one during the Cold War. Security is not any more simply “national” security with an emphasis on military and defense issues. The term itself has acquired a much broader and multi-faceted meaning. Yet, classic issues of inter-state conflicts and at times wars continue to dominate the agenda of world politics too.

This course will aim to achieve a more meaningful understanding of this complexity called global politics by introducing the class:

1. To an overview of the evolution of contemporary international political history,
2. To basic concepts, analytical tools and theoretical approaches in the study of international relations,
3. To a wide range of political actors, structures and processes that drive global politics,
4. To analyzing and debating a range of issues high up on the agenda of international relations.

The course will be based on lectures as well as class debates. A documentary on the United Nations and/or a guest speaker will be hosted.

**Course materials** (available for purchase at the Carleton University Bookstore):

Required **textbook** is: J. Baylis, S. Smith and P. Owens, *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations* (Oxford University Press, 2008, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)

Supplementary **textbook** for class debates is: M. Charlton (ed.) *Cross Currents: International Relations* (Thomson and Nelson, 2005, 4<sup>th</sup> edition).

Students will be expected to do regular reading from the textbook. There excellent academic journals such as *International Affairs*, *Foreign Affairs*, *International Organizations* etc.. that students are encouraged to consult. Students are also encouraged to follow current international events and especially relate them to **class debates**. Students are encouraged to follow these events from *New York Times* and/or *BBC World News* as well as *Globe and Mail*, the *Washington Post*, *Le Monde*, the *Guardian* etc...

**Course requirements:**

Summary chart:

<b>Debate/discussion essays:</b>	<b>20 %</b> (to be explained in class)
<b>Mid-term exam</b>	<b>30 %</b> (to be held on June 8 <sup>th</sup> / results posted on WebCT by evening of Thursday, June 11 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>Final exam</b>	<b>40 %</b> (to be scheduled during formal exam period, June 30, July 2 - 4)
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>10 %</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**Debate/Discussion essays (20%):** Toward the end of regular class-time there will be a “debate” session on a pre-determined topic listed in this syllabus. Students will be broken into groups and one group of students for each “debate” will prepare a 10-15 minutes long presentation followed by a brief commentary by the course TA or the instructor. There will then be a 20-25 minute class debate/discussion. The class will be required to do the reading assigned for the class debate. Each group will do their own additional research to develop two opposing views on the assigned topic and present them to class as well as lead a discussion. Each group will prepare a short “**position paper**” reflecting two opposing views and present the paper no later then 10:00 am to the TA and instructor on the day of the presentation. Subsequently, members of each group will each **individually** write a 2-3 pages (one and a half space, 12 point font, regular margin size) long “summary-abstract-review” of the material they have read or alternatively they can also write a 2-3 pages long “debate essay” on the topic assigned for the debate. The topics will be assigned to each group in class during the first meeting. These “summary”

or “essays” will constitute 15 % of the overall grade and will have to be handed to the instructor or TA the following class after the presentation. Late delivery will lead to loss of grades. The presentation itself will be worth 5 %.

**Mid-term exam (30%):** There will be a mid-term exam on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June during regular class time. The mid-term will be in a short essay as well as multiple choice questions format. The mid-term will constitute 30 % of the overall grade. The mid-term will cover material up to the class prior to the exam. The exam will be held in the first half of regular class and that week there will not be a “debate/discussion” session.

**Final (40 %):** The final exam will be similar to the mid-term but will include all the material covered during the term as well as class “debates” and literature. The final exam will be worth 40 %.

**Attendance (10 %):** Regular class attendance will be taken and graded over 10 % for the whole term. Attendance will be taken some time during the class at random.

**LATE DELIVERIES:** In the case of late delivery of class assignment one point out of the grade assigned for the course work will be take-off for each day. In other words if the debate essay is handed in three days late three points will be taken out from the 15 points assigned for the exercise. Medical reasons for delays will be accepted if accompanied with a doctor’s note.

### **Course Schedule:**

*Please note: The course schedule is subject to change with respect to class debates.*

#### **1. May 11 – Introduction**

Baylis et al, Introduction and chapter 1  
Distribution of class-debate assignments

#### **2. May 13 – History of international politics**

Baylis et al, Chapters 2, 3 and 4.  
**Class debate:** Is Globalizing Undermining the Power of the Nation-State?  
Charlton – Issue 2

#### **May 18 – No class**

#### **3. May 20 – Theories I: Realism and Liberalism**

Baylis et al, Chapters 5, 6 and 7.

**Class debate:** Is the World Fragmenting into Antagonistic Cultures?  
Charlton – Issue 3

**May 25-29 University closed**

**4. June 1** – Theories II:

Baylis et al, Chapters 9, 10 and 11

**Class debate:** Was the “Battle in Seattle” a Significant Turning Point in the Struggle against Globalization? Charlton – Issue 10

**5. June 3** – War and global security

Baylis et al, Chapters 12, 13, 21 and 22

**Guest speaker:** Peter Jones, Ottawa University, Reading assignment “Canada and Track Two Diplomacy” (Canadian International Council, December 2008)  
**OR** Documentary on “Uncertain Soil: The Story of U.N. Peacekeeping”

**6. June 8** – Transnational relations, international cooperation and international regimes

Baylis et al, Chapters 17 and 19

**Mid-term (90 minutes)**

**7. June 10** – International organizations, Regionalism and International Law

Baylis et al, Chapters 18 and 16.

**Class debate:** Has NATO Become Irrelevant in an Age of Terrorism?  
Charlton – Issue 7

**8. June 15** – International political economy

Baylis et al, Chapters 14, 26 and 27.

**Class debate:** Will the 2008 financial meltdown entail the end of Western dominance in world politics and economy? P. Altman, “The Great Crash 2008: A Geopolitical Setback for the West” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 88, No. 1, Jan/Feb 2009.

**9. June 17** – Human rights, human security and humanitarian intervention

Baylis et al, Chapters 28, 29, 30

**Class debate:** Do we need an International Criminal Court? Charlton – Issue 15

**10. June 22** – Development, gender and environment

Baylis et al, Chapters 15, 20 and 27

**Class debate:** Do we need a World Environmental Organization? Charlton – Issue 18.

**11. June 24** – Globalization in the future

**Class debate:** Does the independence of Kosovo set a new trend of state fragmentation and undermine international law? Readings to be assigned.

## General Review

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### Academic Accommodations

**For students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **June 12, 2009 for early summer examinations**, and **July 31, 2009 for late / full summer examinations**.

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of “F” for the course.

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfil all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

**Carleton Political Science Society:** The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email [carletonpss@gmail.com](mailto:carletonpss@gmail.com), visit our website at [poliscisociety.com](http://poliscisociety.com), or come to our office in Loeb D688.

**Official Course Outline:** The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.