

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
Kroeger College of Public Affairs
Global and International Studies

GINS 1010
Introduction to International Law and Politics
Fall 2015 | THU 2:35 – 4:25 | Southam 416

Instructor: Prof. Candace Sobers
E-mail: candace.sobers@carleton.ca

Office Hours: THU 1:00 – 2:00
Office: 2407R River Building

Teaching Assistants: TBA

*Note: Students can generally expect an e-mail response within 48 hours,
weekends and holidays excepted.*

Course Outline

The course outline posted to the BGINs website is the official course outline.

Course Website

This course has content on CULearn. You are advised to check the course website regularly.

Course Description

Welcome to International Law and Politics. This course introduces key concepts and issues in the study, development, and practice of international politics and international law. Beginning with an inquiry into the disciplinary development of the field of International Relations, this course presents key analytical tools for understanding how political actors and entities make decisions and view the world. We then examine the development of international legal frameworks, legislation, and institutions, and explore the relationship between the law and contentious issues. Through an examination of key documents, the historical record, and current events, this course prepares students for future study in the fields of global politics, International Relations, and international law, as well as preparing students to understand today's issues and to meet tomorrow's challenges.

Lectures & Tutorials

This course is comprised of thirteen (13) lectures and twelve (12) tutorials. **Attendance at both lectures and tutorials is required.** Students with poor attendance will have this fact reflected in their final grade.

You must be enrolled in a tutorial section. Your participation grade will reflect the extent to which you *contribute* to class discussions in an *informed and critical manner*, not only your attendance. If you miss a lecture or a tutorial meeting you are still responsible for all course material discussed on that day, and it is your responsibility to acquire the relevant notes. I do not post my lecture notes online.

Tutorial Sections

Section	Day	Time	Location
A1	Tuesdays	14:35-15:25	ME 3328
A2	Tuesdays	11:35-12:25	RB 3228
A3	Tuesdays	16:35-17:25	RB 3201
A5	Tuesdays	15:35-16:25	PA 234
A6	Thursdays	12:35-13:25	RB 3110

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Define and describe the concepts “global,” “international,” and “transnational;”
- Demonstrate critical thinking about key global issues, such as humanitarian intervention, terrorism, and globalization;
- Demonstrate understanding of the development and major theories of the study of International Relations;
- Critically evaluate evidence from primary and secondary sources, and use this evidence to effectively support an argument and to write an analytical political essay that goes beyond narration.

Required Texts

This course requires the following books. Please avoid purchasing the incorrect edition. The books are available at the Carleton University Bookstore or can be purchased online at major retailers. You are welcome to purchase e-editions if available:

- Steven Lamy et al. Introduction to Global Politics. Third Edition. Oxford UP, 2015
- Eric B. Shiraev and Vladislav M. Zubok, eds. Current Debates in International Relations. Oxford UP, 2015

Additional readings will be posted on the course website. You are responsible for checking the course website regularly and reading and/or listening to all material listed under “required.”

Required readings are just that, *required*. Recommended readings are there for the intellectually adventurous or those especially interested in a given topic. Occasionally I will post articles or links that are course-related and informative.

Assignments & Evaluation

In-class Midterm	20%	due Week 7
Short Reflections (x3)	15%	due one/month (Sept-Nov)
Research Essay (8-10 pages)	30%	due Week 11
Participation	5%	Ongoing
Final exam	30%	TBA December Exam Period

The Assignments: in this course you will complete three written assignments:

In the short reflections (1-3 pages each) you will comment of three of the tutorial discussion topics and the assigned readings for that week. You may choose which weeks you wish to comment on, provided you choose one from each month (September, October, and November);

In the midterm you will demonstrate your knowledge of key topics and themes to date;

In the Research Essay (8-10 pages) you will write an analytical essay that answers a specific research question rooted in the study, development, or practice of international politics and law.

Detailed assignment guidelines are posted on the Course Website under “Course Material.” All course assignments and examinations must be submitted in order to pass the course.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

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.

Deadlines & Late Submissions

All assignments are due in hardcopy at the beginning of lecture unless otherwise specified. If so instructed, please submit an exact copy of your assignment to the Course Website (instructions will follow). Late penalties are as follows: 2% per day; weekends count as one day. Late assignments will not be accepted after one (1) week past the original due date without written permission from the instructor.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. Late assignments may be submitted to the BGIInS office in 2404R, River Building. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Academic Accommodations

Learning difficulties and/or impairments: Students with differing learning needs are welcome in this course. The [Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities](#) (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

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).

Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an [Equity Services 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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Intellectual Property

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s). I maintain the copyright to all course materials; they may not be posted, transferred, or sold without my written consent.

Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from BGINs will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and CUlearn accounts.

Medical Certificates & Illness

In the unfortunate case of illness or injury, only a [Medical Certificate](#) signed by a licensed physician and indicating that treatment/counsel was sought on the day of the missed class, assignment or examination, will be accepted. Please note: “Doctors notes may not always be issued for the following reasons:

- Missed classes/labs except in extenuating circumstances.
- Minor illnesses (e.g. colds, flu).
- Past illnesses that have been resolved and that there is no documentation for.
- Obvious injuries (e.g. broken bone in a cast).”

Course Conduct

In this course informed and critical discussion of complex and contentious issues is the central component of the learning experience. Thus all participants are expected to arrive on-time, prepared to conduct themselves with decorum and civility, and to actively contribute to an atmosphere of scholarly inquiry and mutual respect. While spirited discussion and disagreement are encouraged, rudeness, combativeness, and disruption are not.

Please refrain from conducting non-course-related activities during class time (i.e., social media, chats, games, constant texting, and the like). Electronic and/or digital devices (including mobile devices) which impede or hamper the class discussion will not be tolerated. Unacceptable conduct includes, but is not limited to, discrimination or harassment, threatening, stalking, and unwelcome communication either in person or through electronic or other means. I reserve the right to remove disruptive elements (including devices) and persons from the classroom.

Lecture and Reading Schedule

[CU] = reading will be made available on the course website
Readings and schedule are subject to change

Key Documents in International Law and Politics

Periodically, students will be asked to review key documents in international law and politics, such as, but not limited to:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- Convention on the Political Rights of Women, 1953
- Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries, 1960
- OAU Convention on the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, 1965
- Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, 1990
- The Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court, 2001

Links to such documents will be posted on the course website.

Keeping up with Current Events

Understanding international politics and law also requires keeping up with current events and engaging with differing perspectives. As well as reputable media outlets such as the Globe and Mail, the New York Times, and the BBC and Times (UK), if possible you should endeavour to read papers in different languages and/or from different countries. There are numerous free sites for keeping up with international affairs, including think-tanks such as the Council on Foreign Relations, the Brookings Institution, the Canadian International Council, and Chatham House. For interesting blogs, try 'The Duck of Minerva' (<http://duckofminerva.blogspot.com/>) and 'e-International Relations' (<http://www.e-ir.info/>), which is written by students.

Week 1 – August 31- September 4

Course Welcome & Introduction

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 1
- Shiraev & Zubok – Part I Editorial Introduction
- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 1

Recommended Readings:

- Manfred Steger and Paul James, Interview with Saskia Sasken, Globalizations, 11:4 (2014), 461-472 [link on CU]

Week 2 – September 8-12

TUTORIALS BEGIN THIS WEEK
Monday, September 7 - Statutory holiday, University closed.

The Evolution of Global Politics

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 2

Tutorial Readings:

- Document Collection [CU]

Recommended Readings:

- Barry Buzan and Richard Little, “The Idea of ‘International System’: Theory Meets History,” International Political Science Review / Revue internationale de science politique, Vol. 15, No. 3 (Jul., 1994), pp. 231-255 [link on CU]
- David A. Welch, “Can the United States and China avoid A Thucydides Trap?” CIGI Online, April 11, 2015 [link on CU]

Week 3 – September 14-18

Thinking about Global Politics I

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 3

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 2

Week 4 – September 21-25

Thinking about Global Politics II

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 4

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 3

Week 5 – September 28 – October 2

Global Actors and their Influences

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 5
- Lamy et al. – Chapter 7

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 4, readings 4.1-4.3
- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 10
- Thomas Risse, “Transnational Actors and World Politics,” in Corporate Ethics and Corporate Governance, Walther Ch. Zimmerli, Klaus Richter, Markus Holzinger, eds. New York, NY: Springer, 2007 [CU]

Week 6 – October 5-9

International Law and Cooperation

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al – Chapter 6
- Lamy et al. – Chapter 7

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Part II Editorial Introduction
- Shiraev & Zubok – Documents 6.1 – 6.2
- Week 6 Document Collection [CU]

Recommended Reading:

- Akira Iriye, “Introduction,” in Global Community: the Role of International Organizations in the Making of the Contemporary World, Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2002
MacOdrum JZ4841 .I75 2002
- Martti Koskeniemi, “The Politics of International Law – 20 Years Later,” The European Journal of International Law, Vol. 20 no. 1, 2009, pp. 7-19 [CU] [*NB: a very advanced read]

Week 7 – October 12-17

MIDTERM

Monday, October 12 – Statutory holiday, University closed.

Catch-up week / Midterm

- We will use the first part of this week to ensure that we are caught up on the lecture and reading schedule, if necessary.
 - The second part will consist of a one (1) hour in-class midterm.
- Film Screening: “Zero Dark Thirty” (Dir. Kathryn Bigelow, 2012) [NB: tentative]

Week 8 – October 19-23

International Security

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 8
- Lamy et al. – Chapter 9

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 5, readings 5.1 – 5.4
- Daniel R. Brunstetter, “Can We Wage a Just Drone War?” [The Atlantic](#), 19 July 2012 [link on CU]

Recommended Readings:

- Carpenter, Charli (2005) Women, Children and Other Vulnerable Groups’, [International Studies Quarterly](#), 49(2): 295–334 [link on CU]

October 26-30 – Fall Break – No Classes

Week 9 – November 2-6

Human Rights & Human Security

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 10

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 9, readings 9.1-9.5
- Excerpt from INSTRAW, “A Sight for Sore Eyes: Bringing Gender Vision to the Responsibility to Protect Framework,” March 2006, pp. 16-21 [CU]

Week 10 – November 9-13

Global Economy

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 11
- Lamy et al. – Chapter 12, pp. 376-382, 394-402

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 7, readings 7.1-7.4

Week 11 – November 16-20

RESEARCH ESSAYS DUE

Global Poverty, Global Consequences

Lecture Readings:

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 13
- “Not Always with Us,” [The Economist](#), 1 June 2013 [link on CU]

Tutorial Readings [links on CU]:

- Tanya Basu, “How Many People in the World Are Actually Poor?” The Atlantic, June 19, 2014
- UNDP, Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), World Map
- UN Millennium Goals Project Website
- Human Development Tree

Week 12 – November 23-27

Global Environment & Indigeneity

Lecture Readings;

- Lamy et al. – Chapter 14

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Part III Editorial Introduction
- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 8, readings 8.1 – 8.4

Week 13 – November 30-December 4

The Global World: Champions, Critics, and Conclusions

Lecture Readings:

- TBA
- TBA

Tutorial Readings:

- Shiraev & Zubok – Section 11, readings 11.1-11.4
- TBA

End of syllabus