

Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs
Carleton University

GINS 4090: Decolonizing International Society

Fall Term, Mondays 2.35-5.25pm
Nicol Building 3038

Instructor: Professor David Long
Contact: david.long@carleton.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-4pm, remotely by appointment.

Description

This course engages in a critical assessment of international society. It begins with a presentation of the core ideas of international society as an approach to international relations. It then advances a series of critiques drawing from postcolonial perspectives. The approach in the course is broadly historical, that is, where possible it draws on writings, ideas and theories derived from the twentieth century. This is a deliberate strategy intended to indicate the depth and longevity of the critical outlooks.

The format of the class will mostly be seminar discussion with a short introduction to the topic of the week by the instructor.

After taking this course, students will be able to

- describe and critique International Society as an approach to International Relations;
- articulate a postcolonial critique of International Relations as an academic discipline; and
- apply critical approaches related to EDI in the subject matter of International Relations.

Requirements

	%	Due Date
Participation	20	_____
Mid-term Assignment	20	21 October
Research Proposal	20	11 November
Final Paper	40	12 December

Students are expected to have completed all the readings each week, unless directed otherwise, and to come prepared to identify the crucial elements of the topic under discussion each week and to justify their arguments with reference to the readings. Student **participation** will be judged on the quality as much as the quantity of their interventions and also on responses to questions from the instructor.

The **mid-term assignment** is a critical review of one of the texts listed in the first seven weeks of the term. Students are expected to find external sources in order to bolster their assessment. This five-to-seven page (text double-spaced, normal margins) assignment is due on Friday 21 October.

The **research proposal** is a preliminary outline of the final paper. It will be no longer than three pages long and will include a title, a summary of the argument (theory being used), description of the empirical subject, and tentative results (conclusions) as well as a short indicative bibliography. The research proposal is due on Friday 11 November.

The **final paper** will be an analysis of an aspect of decolonizing international society. The specific topic is to be chosen by the student. The paper will be 15 pages long (text double-spaced, normal margins). The final paper is due on Monday 12 December.

All written work will be graded not only for content but also for grammar, writing style, organization and presentation, and is to be submitted to me in paper copy at my office by **noon** of the due date. Assignments not submitted on time will be subject to a penalty.

Students are requested to read the section 'Instructional Offences' in the University's Graduate Calendar and in the NPSIA Information Package. Cheating, plagiarism and/or complementarity will be severely penalized. Penalties range from a zero on the assignment to suspension from studies at or expulsion from the University.

Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: 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*) at <http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>

Mental Health Resources

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Information Regarding Covid Regulations

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are a number of actions you can take to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you must follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Carleton has paused the [COVID-19 Mask Policy](#), but continues to strongly recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. It may become necessary to quickly reinstate the mask requirement if pandemic circumstances were to change.

Vaccines: Further, while proof of vaccination is no longer required as of May 1 to attend campus or in-person activity, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible, and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

Seminar Schedule and Readings

1. Introduction(s)

12 September

- Paolo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* (Continuum International, 1970), chs. 1-2.

2. International Society

19 September

- Alan James, 'International Society', *Review of International Studies*, 4, 2, 1978, pp. 91-106.
- Sanjay Seth, ed., *Postcolonial Theory and International Relations: A Critical Introduction* (Routledge, 2013), ch. 1 (pp. 15-31).
- Robbie Shilliam, 'Behind the Rhodes Statue: Black Competency and the Imperial Academy', *History of the Human Sciences*, 32, 5, 2019, pp. 3-27.

RECOMMENDED

- Uday Chandra, 'The Case for a Postcolonial Approach to the Study of Politics', *New Political Science*, 35, 3, 2013, pp. 479-91.

3. The Discipline

26 September

- Vineet Thakur, Alexander E. Davis, and Peter Vale, 'Imperial Mission, 'Scientific' Method: An Alternative Account of the Origins of IR', *Millennium*, 46, 1, 2017, pp. 3-23.
- Audrey Alejandro, 'The Narrative of Academic Dominance: How to Overcome Performing the 'Core-Periphery' Divide', *International Studies Review*, 19, 2, 2017, pp. 300-04.

4. Global International Relations; Regions

3 October

- Amitav Acharya, 'Global International Relations (IR) and Regional Worlds: A New Agenda for International Studies', *International Studies Quarterly*, 58, 4, 2014, pp. 647-59.
- Andrew Hurrell, 'One World? Many Worlds? The Place of Regions in the Study of international Society', *International Affairs*, 83, 1, 2007, pp. 127-46.

*** * * * * THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS 10 OCTOBER * * * * ***

5. Order and Justice

17 October

- Hedley Bull, 'Order vs. Justice in International Society', *Political Studies*, 19, 3, 1971, pp. 269-83.

- Andrew Hurrell, 'Order and Justice in International Relations: What's at Stake?', in Rosemary Foot, John Gaddis, and Andrew Hurrell, eds., *Order and Justice in International Relations* (Oxford University Press, 2003).

RECOMMENDED

- Andrew Hurrell and Ngaire Woods, 'Globalisation and Inequality', *Millennium*, 24, 3, 1995, pp. 447-70.

* * * * * **READING BREAK: NO CLASS 24 OCTOBER** * * * * *

6. Culture **31 October**

- Barry Buzan, 'Culture and International Society', *International Affairs*, 86, 1, 2010, pp. 1-25.
- Edward W. Said, 'Orientalism Reconsidered', *Cultural Critique*, 1, Autumn 1985, pp. 89-107. Also in *Postcolonial Criticism* (Routledge, 2014), pp. 126-144, **or**
- Edward Said, 'Orientalism Once More', *Development and Change*, 35, 5, 2004, pp. 869-79.

RECOMMENDED

- Barry Buzan, 'The 'Standard of Civilisation' as an English School Concept', *Millennium*, 42, 3, 2014, pp. 576-94.

7. Sovereignty **7 November**

- Robert H. Jackson, 'Negative Sovereignty in Sub-Saharan Africa', *Review of International Studies*, 12, 4, 1986, pp. 247-64.
- Sheryl R. Lightfoot, 'Decolonizing Self-Determination: Haudenosaunee Passports and Negotiated Sovereignty', *European Journal of International Relations*, 27, 4, 2021, pp. 971-94.
- Robbie Shilliam, 'What About Marcus Garvey? Race and the Transformation of Sovereignty Debate', *Review of International Studies*, 32, 3, 2006, pp. 379-400.

RECOMMENDED

- Siba N. Grovogui, 'Regimes of Sovereignty: International Morality and the African Condition', *European Journal of International Relations*, 8, 3, 2002, pp. 315-38.

8. Race **14 November**

- W.E.B. DuBois, 'Worlds of Color', *Foreign Affairs*, 3, 3, 1925, pp. 423-44.
- Alexander Anievas, Nivi Manchanda, and Robbie Shilliam, 'Confronting the Global Colour Line: An Introduction', in *Race and Racism in International Relations* (Routledge, 2014), pp. 1-10.

- Meera Sabaratnam, 'Is IR Theory White? Racialised Subject-Positioning in Three Canonical Texts', *Millennium*, 49, 1, 2020, pp. 3-31.

RECOMMENDED

- W.E.B. DuBois, 'Inter-Racial Implications of the Ethiopian Crisis-A Negro View', *Foreign Affairs*, 14, 1935, pp. 82-.
- Siba N. Grovogui, 'Come to Africa: A Hermeneutics of Race in International Theory', *Alternatives*, 26, 4, 2001, pp. 425-48.

9. Transatlanticism and Eurocentrism

21 November

- Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness* (Harvard University Press, 1993), ch. 1.
- Yogita Goyal, 'Africa and the Black Atlantic', *Research in African Literatures*, 45, 3, 2014, pp. v-xxv.
- Martin Hall and John M. Hobson, 'Liberal International Theory: Eurocentric But Not Always Imperialist?', *International Theory*, 2, 2, 2010, pp. 210-45.

10. Intersectionality

28 November

- Chandra Talpade Mohanty, 'Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses', *Boundary*, 2, 1984, pp. 333-58.
- Brooke Ackerly and Jacqui True, 'An Intersectional Analysis of International Relations: Recasting the Discipline', *Politics and Gender*, 4, 1, 2008, pp. 156-173.

RECOMMENDED

- Chandra Talpade Mohanty, "'Under Western Eyes" Revisited: Feminist Solidarity through Anticapitalist Struggles', *Signs: Journal of Women in culture and Society*, 28, 2, 2003, pp. 499-535.
- Nikita Dhawan, Maria do Mar Castro Varela, and Maria do Mar, "'What Difference Does Difference Make?": Diversity, Intersectionality, and Transnational Feminist Politics', *Wagadu: A Journal of Transnational Women's and Gender Studies* 16, 2016, pp. 11-39.

11. Strategies of Resistance; Pan-Africanism

5 December

- Frantz Fanon, "Concerning Violence", in *The Wretched of the Earth* (Grove Weidenfeld, 2007).
- Ali A. Mazrui, 'On the Concept of "We Are All Africans"', *American Political Science Review*, 57, 1, 1963, pp. 88-97.
- Ama Biney, 'The Legacy of Kwame Nkrumah in Retrospect', *Journal of Pan African Studies*, 2, 3, 2008.

RECOMMENDED

- Halford H. Fairchild, 'Frantz Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth* in Contemporary Perspective', *Journal of Black Studies*, 25, 2, 1994, pp. 191-99.
- Ali A. Mazrui, 'Pan-Africanism: From Poetry to Power', *African Issues*, 23, 1, 1995, pp. 35-8.

12. Conclusions and Roundtable Discussion

Friday 9 December ***Note the day change***

- *Additional readings may be suggested at a later date.*