

**GPOL 1500 A**

**Debates in Global Politics**

Tuesdays, 11:35 – 13:25 (lecture) + mandatory TA group

In-person, not suitable for online-students

Please confirm location of lecture and TA group meetings on Carleton 360

Instructor:

**Dr. Martin Geiger**

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Office:

Office hours:

Email:

**I) Course schedule (at a glance)**

Start of lecture classes	January <b>9</b>
Start of TA group meetings	Week of January 15
No lecture	January 30 (work in TA groups with TA and Instructor)
Different location (lecture)	February 6 (joint class with PSCI 4808, Prof. Andree)
No TA group meetings	Week of February 19 (reading week)
No lecture	February 20 (reading week)
Last TA group meetings	Week of March 18
Last lecture	April 9

**II) Evaluation (at a glance)**

Social media assignment (individual grade)	January 26 (23:59/11:59pm)	20%
Annotated bibliography (individual grade)	February 9 (23:59/11:59pm)	20%
Research paper (individual grade)	March 8 (23:59/11:59pm)	30%
Small group presentations (group grade)	March 26, April 2 or 9	15%
Participation (and attendance) (individual grade)	all TA group meetings	15%

**III) Course description**

This course first introduces students to some of the relevant and recent theories and debates concerning global politics. It continues by providing students insights into specific fields of global politics, including humanitarian assistance, the difficulties in countering fake news, and addressing climate change and forced migration. This course is conceptualized as a fully in-person/offline lecture course combined with mandatory weekly small-group meetings conducted with the help of teaching assistants (TAs). In addition to providing students with key concepts and insights into relevant debates, the course familiarizes students with academic research. It enables each student to conduct their own small literature-based research projects. Students will receive training on conducting research and summarizing and presenting their research findings in collaboration with and alongside other students. The course features guest visits and additional content conveyed by these visitors.

**IV) Learning outcomes**

By the end of the course, students will be familiar with key theories and understand the central debates, issues, and challenges related to the relevance and importance of international institutions and organizations (e.g., the United Nations and European Union), (international) non-governmental organizations, individual

states, and other entities. Students can justify their position concerning human rights, state and international responsibilities, evolving modes of global governance, and particular challenges in world politics. They will be able to participate in academic and policy-oriented debates about climate change, internal and international displacement, conflicts and wars, the contexts and outcomes of state-led, civil-society-led, and international policy efforts, and the current state and possible future(s) of global governance. In addition, by the end of this course, students will have acquired advanced and comprehensive research skills necessary to conduct academic research effectively and successfully, including, e.g., their future honour's research projects.

### **V) Course readings**

Most readings used in this course are open-access sources, which students can download free of charge from the internet domains mentioned in this course outline. The remaining literature can be downloaded free of charge through Carleton's library system 'ARES' (link from our Brightspace website).

### **VI) Detailed explanation: Assignments and their evaluation**

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.

#### **Assignment 1: Social media assignment (20%)**

At the beginning of the semester, each student will be assigned a specific topic (e.g., displacement following Russia's invasion of Ukraine) and asked to conduct initial research using non-academic open-access internet sources. By January 26, 2024 (cut-off: 23:59/11:59 pm), students will be asked to provide their teaching assistant with a thematic Pinterest® board containing three to five different sources related to their topic. Each 'pin' needs to be annotated (2-3 sentences maximum); the annotation needs to point out the source's relevance and contribution to the understanding of the assigned topic. Students will receive training on conducting this assignment during the lecture and in their TA group. Students will be asked to independently prepare their 'Pinterest' board and not work in groups. The 'Pinterest' assignment must be submitted to the teaching assistant (boards must be open, not copy-protected, and all links/pins accessible for evaluation). Students will receive feedback and their grade five business days after submitting their 'Pinterest' board/social media assignment.

#### **Assignment 2: Annotated bibliography (20%)**

Teaching assistants and a Carleton library specialist will provide students with applicable skills training on finding academic sources (articles, chapters, monographs, edited books) relevant to their research topic. By February 9, 2024 (cut-off: 23:59/11:59 pm), each student is asked to submit an annotated bibliography summarizing their independent literature research to their TA. The bibliography must cover titles relevant to their topic and list at least five relevant sources (maximum ten sources). Each source needs to be listed with complete bibliographic details and carry an annotation (3-5 sentences maximum) that speaks to the source's relevance and the contribution it makes to the understanding of the assigned topic. The annotated bibliography must be submitted as a PDF file and emailed to the teaching assistant. Students are not allowed to work in groups on this assignment. Students will receive feedback and the grade for this assignment five business days after submitting the annotated bibliography.

#### **Assignment 3: Research paper (30%)**

Based on their initial literature research (academic and non-academic sources), students will expand the list of sources and research their topic more deeply with the help of their teaching assistant and the instructor. By March 8, 2024, each student is asked to submit a concise and well-informed research paper (maximum 4,000 words) to the course instructor. Instructions for preparing this assignment will be provided during the lecture and the mandatory TA group meetings. The paper must be saved in PDF format; it will be graded based on the following criteria: Argumentation, Organization, and Logic (Is the paper and case presented logically and convincingly?); Research and Use of Evidence (Is the paper based on a comprehensive

literature review and does it make effective use of available research sources? Does the paper include a minimum of 10 sources? Does the paper have proper footnotes/endnotes and bibliographic citations?); Communication (Is the paper structured and written as clearly and concisely as possible?). The paper should also be free of spelling and grammatical errors. Research papers that do not address the topic assigned to the student at the beginning of the term will receive a "fail" grade. The research paper must be based on the student's own intellectual work. Students will receive feedback and their grade five business days after submitting their research paper.

#### **Assignment 4: Group presentation (group grade) (15%)**

The previous independent research efforts that resulted in a social media-based assignment, an annotated bibliography, and a research paper will also form the basis of small group presentations at the end of the term. According to the assigned topics, the group presentations occur on March 26, April 2, or April 9, 2024. Students are allowed and asked to work together in small groups. The presentations aim to summarize key findings on a specific umbrella topic derived by students in their previous individual research projects (e.g., group presentation on war and displacement drawing on specific previous student assignments, including, e.g., on Ukrainian displacement, Syrian displacement, etcetera). The time allotted to each student group depends on the final class enrolment and will be communicated to students well before their assignment. Students are encouraged to use Powerpoint, Prezi, or alternative modes of presentation. Additionally, each student group must name/provide one required media or academic article that all class students must read in preparation for the group presentation. The Instructor must receive these readings/their bibliographic details at least two weeks before the date of the group presentation.

#### **Participation (and Attendance) (15%)**

Participation and attendance will be taken during TA group meetings and during weeks when no TA group meetings take place, as well as during the lecture class. Students will be evaluated based on their regular attendance and active, consistent, informed, and thoughtful participation. Students are expected to read all the readings, come prepared for all lectures and small group/TA group meetings, and complete their assigned research. Failure to actively contribute to small group meetings/TA meetings and the presentation group to which they are assigned may result in a low or failing grade for the course. Students who cannot attend one or more lecture(s) or TA group meeting(s) for valid reasons must provide the instructor or their TA with valid documentation justifying their absence.

#### **VII) General Policies**

The University takes instructional offences (including plagiarism) very seriously. Please make sure that you are familiar with the regulations regarding instructional offences, which are outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar. It is also not acceptable to submit the same assignment in two or more different courses.

1. Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).
2. Late submissions will be subject to a penalty of 3% of the assignment grade per 24 hours (not including weekends). Assignments will not be accepted later than 7 business days after the due date. Exceptions to this policy will only be made for academic accommodations, as outlined below, or for medical or personal emergencies substantiated by official documentation. If you anticipate any problems, please approach the instructor as soon as you can and well in advance of the respective assignment.

## VIII) Course schedule (incl. mandatory readings and assignments)

### I: Theories and Recent Debates in Global Politics

#### **January 9 – Introductory lecture (mandatory)**

Course overview: content, learning outcomes, requirements, and assignments.

Preparation of first assignment ([social media assignment](#)).

Attendance is mandatory. Unable to attend today? Send me an e-mail ([martin.geiger@carleton.ca](mailto:martin.geiger@carleton.ca))

> Week of January 15: Start of TA group meetings (mandatory) <

#### **January 16 – Theories and recent debates in global politics (I)**

Legacy of the Westphalian Nation-State Concept

The ‘national/state’ vs. the ‘international/global’ order

Globalization in economic and political domains

*Compulsory readings:*

- Madhok, A. (2021), “Globalization, de-globalization, and re-globalization: Some historical context and the impact of the COVID pandemic”, *BRQ Business Research Quarterly* 24(3): 199–203, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/23409444211008904>
- Steeger, M. (2023), *Globalization: A very short introduction*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, Chapters 1 (What is Globalization?), 2 (The Economic and Technological Dimension of Globalization), and 3 (The Political Dimension of Globalization).
- Walby, S. (2003), “The Myth of the Nation-State: Theorizing Society and Politics in a Global Era”, *Sociology* 37(3): 529–546, <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass/resources/sociology-online-papers/papers/walby-mythofthenationstate.pdf>

#### **January 23 – Theories and recent debates in global politics (II)**

International institutions and organization(s)

Transnationalism, rise of the global citizenry, power of social media and globalization in social domains

Non-governmental organizations and social movements

International vs. global governance. Governance beyond/without government

*Compulsory readings:*

- Geiger, M. and Koch, M. (2018) “World Organizations in Migration Politics: The International Organization for Migration”, *Journal of International Organizations Studies* 9(1): 23-42.
- Keck, M. E. and Sikkink, K. (1998), “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics: Introduction”, in: Keck, M. E. and Sikkink, K., *Activists beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*, New York: Cornell University Press, pp. 1–38.
- Saaida, M. B. E. and Alhouseini, M. A.M. (2023), “The Influence of Social Media on Contemporary Global Politics”, *International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews* 10(1): 799-809, <https://dspace.pass.ps/bitstream/123456789/311/1/THE%20INFLUENCE%20OF%20SOCIAL%20MEDIA%20ON%20CONTEMPORARY%20GLOBAL%20POLITICS.pdf>

> January 26 (23:59/11:59pm): Social media assignment due <

> January 30: No lecture today (Research training in TA groups with TA and Instructor) <

## II. Selected Topics and Debates

### II.1) Environmental Change, Wars and Conflict: Refugees and Displacement

#### February 6 – Environmental change and climate change-induced displacement

Today, our class takes place in Loeb A602. Students will have the opportunity to meet and work in small teams with senior graduate students enrolled in PSCI 4808A (Global Environmental Politics) and with the instructor and Prof. Peter Andree (instructor, PSCI 4808A).

*Compulsory readings:*

- Reading material will be announced and shared at least two weeks before the class.

> February 9 (23:59/11:59pm): Annotated Bibliography due <

#### February 13 – Conflicts and wars: Asylum-seeking, refugee resettlement and internal displacement

*Compulsory readings:*

- Congressional Research Service (2023), *Afghanistan. Background and US Policy*, CRC: Washington D.C., <https://sgp.fas.org/crs/row/R45122.pdf>
- UNHCR (2023), Global Compact on Refugees. Booklet: <https://www.unhcr.org/media/global-compact-refugees-booklet>
- Additional reading material may be added. Students will be informed at least two weeks before the class.

> Week of February 19: No TA group meetings (reading week) <

> February 20: No lecture today (reading week) <

### II.2) Fake News and Foreign Interference

#### February 27 – Addressing fake news and foreign interference in a time of global confrontation

*Compulsory readings:*

- Brookings Institute (2017), *How to combat fake news and disinformation*, Brookings Institute: Washington D.C., <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-to-combat-fake-news-and-disinformation/>
- Jackson, N. J. (2021), “The Canadian government’s response to foreign disinformation: Rhetoric, stated policy intentions, and practices”. *International Journal* 76(4): 544–563, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/002070202211076402>
- Additional reading material may be added. Students will be informed at least two weeks before the class.

### II.3) Peacebuilding, Humanitarian Assistance and Development Cooperation

#### March 5 – Conflict resolution and peacebuilding: Has the United Nations become obsolete?

*Compulsory readings:*

- Patrick, S. (2023), “Cutting the Gordian Knot. Global Perspectives on UN Security Council Reform,” in: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (2023), *UN Security Council Reform: What the World Thinks*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: Washington D.C., pp. 1-9, [https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Patrick\\_et\\_al\\_UNSC\\_Reform\\_v2\\_1.pdf](https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Patrick_et_al_UNSC_Reform_v2_1.pdf)
- Read some of the country chapters/perspectives you are most interested in: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (2023), *UN Security Council Reform: What the World Thinks*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: Washington D.C., [https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Patrick\\_et\\_al\\_UNSC\\_Reform\\_v2\\_1.pdf](https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Patrick_et_al_UNSC_Reform_v2_1.pdf)

- Additional reading material may be added. Students will be informed at least two weeks before the class.

> March 8 (23:59/11:59pm): Research paper due <

### **March 12 – Humanitarian assistance and development cooperation**

*Compulsory readings:*

- Alonso, J. A. (2018), *Development cooperation to ensure that none be left behind*, UN DESA: New York, [https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/publication/CDP\\_BP39\\_Mar\\_2018.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/publication/CDP_BP39_Mar_2018.pdf)
- Milante, G. and Lilja, J./SIPRI (2023), *Chronic Crisis Financing? Fifty Years of Humanitarian Aid and Future Prospects*, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI): Stockholm. Report is downloadable free of charge at: <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/chronic-crisis-financing-fifty-years-humanitarian-aid-and-future-prospects>
- Additional reading material may be added. Students will be informed at least two weeks before the class.

> Week of March 18: Final set of TA group meetings <

### **March 19 – Guest talk (tbc)**

Guest talk to cover an additional global politics-relevant topic or debate

*Compulsory readings:*

- Reading material may be added. Students will be informed at least two weeks before the class.

## III. Student Research Presentations

### **March 26 – Group presentations, groups 1 and 2**

*Compulsory readings:*

- *supplied by groups presenting today*

### **April 2 – Group presentations, groups 3 and 4**

*Compulsory readings:*

- *supplied by groups presenting today*

### **April 9 – Group presentations, groups 5 and 6**

*Compulsory readings:*

- *supplied by groups presenting today*

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## **Appendix**

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### **Student Mental Health**

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>

## **Requests for Academic Accommodation**

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

**Academic consideration for medical or other extenuating circumstances:** Please contact your instructor if you are experiencing circumstances that (a) are beyond your control, (b) have a significant impact your capacity to meet your academic obligations, and (c) could not have reasonably been prevented. Decisions on academic consideration are in your instructor's discretion; they will be guided by the course learning outcomes and the principle of good faith. Please see [here](#) for more details. For considerations relating to course work, your instructor may request that you complete the [Self-Declaration form](#). To apply for a deferral of your final exam, you must submit the Self-Declaration form to the Registrar's Office no later than three days after the scheduled examination or take-home due date.

**Pregnancy accommodation:** Please contact your instructor 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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

**Religious accommodation:** Please contact your instructor 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 [click here](#).

***Accommodations for students with disabilities:*** If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation, or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, [click here](#).

***Accommodation for student activities:*** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and to the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who engage in student activities at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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 information, please [click here](#).

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

### **Sexual Violence Policy**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated. Survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support).

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) addresses academic integrity violations, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, impersonation, withholding of records, obstruction/interference, disruption of instruction or examinations, improper access to and/or dissemination of information, or violation of test and examination rules. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's academic integrity rules.

### ***Plagiarism***

The Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include, but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, websites, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- Using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- Using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

### ***Use of Artificial Intelligence***

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor in a particular course, any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools to produce assessed content (e.g., text, code, equations, image, summary, video, etc.) is considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

### ***Procedures in Cases of Suspected Violations***

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are serious offences which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. When an instructor suspects a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the assignment/exam in question or a final grade of "F" for the course. More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **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).

## **Submission and Return of Term Work**

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. The departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

## **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:

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter grade</b>	<b>12-point scale</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter grade</b>	<b>12-point scale</b>
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

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.

## **Carleton E-mail Accounts**

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton University e-mail accounts and/or Brightspace. As important course and university information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton University email accounts and Brightspace.

## **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. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students 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 our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/>.

## **Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.