

PSCI 2601-A
International Relations: Global Politics
Tuesday 11:35 – 13:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Dr. Brian C. Schmidt
Office: B657 Loeb
Office Hours: Monday 13:00-15:00, Wednesday 12:00-15:00
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I. Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of international politics. Students are introduced to the subject matter of international politics as well as to some of the important theoretical and analytical approaches that are used to study the subject. The course covers a variety of issue areas including peace and security, international political economy, international organization, nuclear proliferation, human rights, and development. In addition to emphasizing the role of theory in understanding international politics, the importance of history is also accentuated. A historical approach is needed in order to understand the phenomenon of globalization that is one of the core themes of the course.

II. Course Aims and Objectives

The primary objective of the course is to introduce students to the academic study of international relations. The core aim is to help students develop the intellectual skills that are necessary to comprehend contemporary international politics. In addition to acquiring an appropriate amount of factual knowledge about international politics, students are expected to develop the capacity to make their own critical judgements about the events unfolding in the international realm. By the end of the course a student should be familiar with the study and practice of international politics and possess a basic foundation for advanced study in the field of international relations. More specifically, you should be able to

- comprehend and discuss the major theories in the field
- detail the main features of contemporary international history
- identify and evaluate the important issue areas of international politics
- critically assess international structures and processes
- assess and evaluate the phenomenon of globalization.

III. Required Course Materials

John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens eds., *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

*Students should utilize the excellent Online Resource Centre that was developed for this text. The Resource Centre includes review questions, case studies, glossary, and Web links. The web address is www.oxfordtextbooks.co.uk/orc/baylis_smith4e/ Additional reading has been assigned for the discussion sessions. This is required reading and you should be prepared to discuss the material assigned in Baylis, Smith, and Owens, as well as the articles assigned for the discussion sections. The exams will include the material from the articles that have been assigned for the discussion sections. All of the articles have been placed on reserve and most can be accessed by using JSTOR that is available through the Carleton University library website (<http://catalogue.library.carleton.ca>).

In addition to reading the course text and the reserve materials, students are responsible for keeping informed of current international events. During the course of the semester you are strongly encouraged to read a quality newspaper such as the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com), *Globe and Mail*, *International Herald-Tribune* or *Toronto Star*.

IV. Course Requirements

You are strongly advised to attend all lectures. The content of the lectures will not necessarily be identical to the content of the readings, and thus regular attendance is crucial for achieving success in the course. You are strongly encouraged to complete all of the assigned readings and it will be most helpful if you complete them before attending the lectures and seminars. For seminars, it is compulsory to complete all of the required readings prior to class, since discussion is organized around the assigned readings.

Your final grade will be determined on the following basis:

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| • Discussion group participation | 15% |
| • Take-home Mid-term Exam (Due Oct. 19) | 20% |
| • Paper Assignment (Nov. 23) | 25% |
| • Final Exam (Dec. 9 - 22) | 40% |

V. Explanations

1. Participation: Attendance to the weekly one-hour discussion sections is compulsory. Your participation grade is based on your attendance at each discussion section and the quantity and quality of your participation in the discussion section meeting. You should come to each discussion section prepared to discuss the assigned readings. You should strive to make a meaningful contribution to each class session. To earn a top grade, you must participate verbally and demonstrate that you have completed the assigned reading and that you are able to engage the material. You must show respect for the course TA and the other students in the section. Disrespectful, rude, and intimidating behavior will not be tolerated. Please be aware that there is no way to make up your participation grade at the end of the term; if you chose to miss seminars and/or not participate in the discussion without explanation, you will forfeit this mark. You should notify your TA immediately if there are legitimate reasons (health, family emergency) why you are unable to attend a discussion section.

2. Mid-term Exam: The mid-term will be a take-home exam. Exam questions will be distributed in class on October 12 (the exam will also be posted on WebCt). You will

have one week to complete the exam and the exam is due in-class at 11:30 a.m. on October 19. Please **do not** use the Political Science drop box; hand-in your paper directly to me at the start of class on October 19. There are no extensions and exams handed-in after the deadline will receive a grade of 0. There are no exceptions and in order to pass the course you must submit your mid-term exam on October 19. This is an individual, not a collective, exercise and you are responsible for ensuring that the exam you turn-in is your own work. All direct references to the course material must be properly documented. You should make sure that you have a back-up copy of your exam that is accessible and can be reproduced upon request.

This course does not lend itself to the early feedback deadline

3. Paper Assignment: You are required to write a 7 page (2000 words) paper that is due in class on **November 23, 2010**. You are asked to select one of the questions that will be handed out on October 26, 2010 and construct a 7 page (typed and double-spaced) response (please be sure to indicate the question that you are answering). You are not required to undertake additional research, but you may if you wish. The material from the course text and reserve readings is sufficient to help you answer the question that you have selected. In addition to the material from the text, you may also utilize additional sources such as newspaper and journal articles to answer the question that you have selected. Your task is to demonstrate your understanding of the course material. The questions provide you with a framework to engage the material that we are covering in the course.

All direct quotations must be properly documented. Any sources that you use must be included in a bibliography. Spelling, punctuation, organization, and all the rules of composition are important and will be taken into account when your TA evaluates your essay.

You must submit a paper in order to pass the course. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade category per day, including weekends. For example, a B+ paper, one day late, will receive a B. No papers will be accepted by fax, e-mail, or under my door. The Political Science drop-box cut-off time is 4 pm. Any paper submitted in the drop-box after 4 pm will be stamped for the following weekday. The Political Science drop box is intended to collect late assignments only if you have extenuating circumstances and are unable to submit the paper directly to me in class.

4. Final Exam: The final exam is comprehensive in nature, but will emphasize the material that has been covered since the mid-term exam. The final exam will include short answer and essay questions. The exam will take place during the university-scheduled exam period (Dec 9 - 22).

VI. Other Guidelines

- Assignments sent by fax to the Department of Political Science will not be accepted.
- It is not acceptable to hand in the same assignment for two or more courses.
- To obtain credit in this course, students must meet all of the course requirements. Failure to complete all of the assignments will result in a failing grade for the course.

VII. Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
1	Sept. 14	Course Introduction/Globalization	Introduction, Ch. 1
2	Sept. 21	Realism and Liberalism	Chs. 5-7
3	Sept. 28	Critical IR Theory	Chs. 8,9,15
4	Oct. 5	International History: The 20 th Century	Ch. 3
5	Oct. 12	The Post-Cold War Era	Ch. 4 Mid-term Exam handed out
6	Oct. 19	International Security and War	Chs. 12, 13 Mid-term Exam Due
7	Oct. 26	International Political Economy and Regimes	Chs. 14, 17
8	Nov. 2	The United Nations	Ch. 18
9	Nov. 9	Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention	Chs. 29, 30
10	Nov. 16	Environmental Issues, Development, and Human Security	Chs. 20, 27, 28
11	Nov. 23	Terrorism and Nuclear Proliferation	Chs. 21, 22 Paper Due
12	Nov. 30	Globalization and the post-Cold War Order	Ch. 32

VIII. Discussion Schedule

Week 1 (Sept 14) No discussion sections

Week 2 (Sept 21) Globalization, and Realism and Liberalism

Reading: Niall Ferguson, "Sinking Globalization." *Foreign Affairs*, 84:2 (March/April 2005): 64-77.

Discussion questions:

1. Has globalization eroded the Westphalian states system?
2. Is there a timeless wisdom of realism?
3. How do realists and liberals account for the globalization of world politics?
4. Does the contemporary practice of international politics correspond better to the realist or liberal theory of international relations?
5. Is globalization a myth or reality?
6. Is Ferguson correct that globalization may come to an end?

Week 3 (Sept 28) IR Theory

Reading: Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories." *Foreign Policy*, 145 (November/December 2004):53-62.

Discussion questions:

1. What are the main ideas behind constructivism? Evaluate the usefulness of constructivist approaches for thinking about world politics.
2. Is the study of international politics gendered?
3. Which, if any, theory of IR is most useful to policymakers?
4. What theory did the Bush administration follow (realism, liberalism, or idealism)?

Week 4 (Oct 5) International History

Reading: George Kennan, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," *Foreign Affairs* 25:4 (July 1947): 566-82.

Discussion questions:

1. What were the most significant consequences of World War I?
2. What were the most significant consequences of World War II?
3. Was the Cold War inevitable or could it have been avoided?
4. Why did George Kennan recommend containment and what did he mean by it?

Week 5 (Oct 12) Post-Cold War Era

Reading: John J. Mearsheimer, "Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War." *The Atlantic Monthly*, 266,2 (August 1990). [[pdf](#)]

Discussion questions:

1. Is the world a safer or more dangerous place since the end of the Cold War?
2. How does US primacy impact the practice of international politics?
3. How has the war on terror changed international politics?
4. Do you agree or disagree with Mearsheimer's claim that we will soon miss the Cold War.

Week 6 (Oct 19) International Security and War

Reading: Niall Ferguson, "The Next War of the World," *Foreign Affairs*, 85,5 (September/October 2006).

Discussion questions:

1. How should we understand the concept of 'security' in the study of international relations? (i.e. national, international, global).
2. What explains the continuing recurrence of war to the present time?
3. Do you accept the argument that the character of war has changed?
4. Do institutions help contribute to international security?
5. Is great power war still a possibility in the twenty-first century?

Week 7 (Oct 26) International Political Economy and Regimes

Reading: Helen V. Milner, "Globalization, Development, and International Institutions: Normative and Positive Perspectives," *Perspectives on Politics*, 3, 4 (December 2005): 833-854.

Discussion questions:

1. Does the free trade agreement (NAFTA) benefit Canada?
2. Is globalization fundamentally transforming international politics?
3. Has the Bretton Woods system been a success or failure?
4. Compare and contrast the realist and liberal view of international regimes.
5. Do the core economic institutions serve the interests of poor states?

Week 8 (Nov 2) The United Nations

Reading: Michael J. Glennon, "Why the Security Council Failed," *Foreign Affairs* 82:3(May/June 2003).

Discussion questions:

1. Is the United Nations a relevant international organization today?
2. How effective has the UN been in maintaining international order?
3. Do you agree or disagree with Glennon's analysis of the United Nations?
4. If the United Nations did not exist, would we have to invent it?

Week 9 (Nov 9) Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention

Reading: James Kurth, "Humanitarian Intervention after Iraq: Ideals vs. Military Realities," *Orbis*, 50, 1 (Winter 2006): 88-101.

Discussion questions:

1. Does Canada have a duty to protect strangers?
2. Should the protection of human rights take precedence over the norm of non-intervention?
3. Are there universal human rights?
4. What should be done to promote and protect human rights?
5. Should a state, in the absence of UN authorization, undertake "humanitarian intervention"?

Week 10 (Nov 16) Environmental Issues, Development, and Human Security

Review the Millennium Development Goals at <http://www.undp.org/mdg/basics.shtml>

Discussion Questions:

1. What can explain the persistence of world hunger?
2. Why and how have environmental issues been placed on the global agenda?
3. What is the significance of the concept of sustainable development?
4. Is world government needed to solve global warming?
5. Has globalization alleviated or worsened global poverty?
6. How realistic are the Millennium Development Goals?

Week 11 (Nov 23) Terrorism and Nuclear Proliferation

Reading: Stephen P. Rosen, "After Proliferation: What to do if More States Go Nuclear," *Foreign Affairs*, 85, 5 (September/October 2006).

Discussion questions:

1. Does the proliferation of nuclear weapons pose a threat to international peace and, if so, what should be done about it?
2. Should we be optimistic or pessimistic about nuclear proliferation?
3. Does terrorism pose a serious threat to the sovereign state system?
4. What is the relationship, if any, between globalization and terrorism?

Week 12 (Nov 30) Globalization and the post-Cold War Order

Discussion questions:

1. What is the nature of international order today?
2. Is the United States a force for order or dis-order in the world today?
3. Does globalization contribute to a distinctive form of international order?

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 **November 15 2010 for December examinations and March 11 2011 for April 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).

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: 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, visit our website at 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.