

**PSCI 2601A**  
**International Relations: Global Politics**  
**12:35 p.m. – 2:25 p.m. Tuesdays**  
**This course will be held synchronously online**

**Instructor:** Dr. Eric Van Rythoven  
**Office Hours:** Mondays between 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (via Zoom)  
**Email:** EricVanRythoven@cmail.carleton.ca

**Contact Policy:** Email is the best way to contact me. I normally reply within 24-48 hours, weekends excluded. All email must be through official Carleton university email accounts. For longer questions I recommend scheduling a Zoom appointment.

**Social Distancing Policy:** Please note that this course will be conducted virtually (i.e. with no in-person contact). We will use Brightspace and applications like Big Blue Button for online lectures and discussion groups. The course will be taught synchronously with live lectures every class, but lectures will also be recorded. A computer with a reliable internet connection is required to participate effectively. A working microphone is highly recommended but not mandatory.

## **1. Course Overview**

This online course provides students with a broad introduction to the study of international politics. The central focus will be a stock taking of the current state of globalization. For decades international politics has been marked by an unprecedented period of global integration and growing interdependence. But in recent years we've seen a series of fractures and disruptions—the Covid-19 Pandemic, the emergence of Brexit, the destabilization of NATO, and rising opposition to trade—all of which raise questions over the continuing momentum of globalization. To understand these issues the course will introduce students to the central theories, concepts, and historical perspectives of the academic discipline of International Relations (IR).

## **2. Aims and Objectives**

The central aim of the course is to provide students with a broad introduction to the academic discipline of IR. The course will increase students' general knowledge of international politics, familiarize you with the central theories, concepts, and debates in the field, and help you to understand key processes in international history. The course is divided into two sections. In the first part of the course we'll be looking at a series of key IR theories. These include:

- Liberalism
- Realism
- Marxism & Critical Theory
- Constructivism
- Post-colonialism & Feminism

In the second half of the course we'll be looking at a series of key issues in international politics. These include:

- Globalization
- International Security and Nuclear Proliferation
- Law and Race in World Politics
- International Organizations and Global Health
- Trade and Nationalism

By the end of the course students will comprehend key concepts, theories, and debates in the field, identify and analyze important issues in international politics, and be able to generate critical and informed views on current events.

### 3. Required Texts

John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens eds., *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations, 8th ed.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.

This is the central textbook for the course and we will use it in almost every single class. It can be purchased via the Carleton University bookstore or the online retailer of your choice in either hardcopy or electronic edition. Unfortunately, due to current library restrictions a physical copy will not be available on reserve and Oxford University Press does not sell electronic licenses to libraries. All other required readings will be posted on Brightspace.

### 4. Evaluation

<u>Item</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
Discussion Group Participation	15%	Weekly, starting on September 14 <sup>th</sup>
Writing Response #1	15%	Noon on the day the reading is discussed in class**
Writing Response #2	15%	Noon on the day the reading is discussed in class
Online Quiz #1	15%	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Online Quiz #2	15%	December 7 <sup>th</sup>
Take-home Exam	25%	December 23 <sup>rd</sup>

**\*\*Students must submit at least one response paper by October 12<sup>th</sup>\*\***

### Discussion Group Participation (15%)

Beginning on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, students will participate in 50-minute discussion groups led by Teaching Assistants (TAs) using the Big Blue Button online platform. The purpose of these discussion groups is to allow a more detailed examination and discussion of the course material. Participation grades are based on attendance as well as the quality and quantity of participation in each meeting. **Each session is worth 5 points. Students receive 2 points for attendance and up to 3 points based on participation in the session.** Discussion group activities can range from answering questions in small groups, to participating in debates, to watching short movie clips.

At the beginning of the term students will be assigned to a group and the group details will be posted on Brightspace. It is important that you come prepared to discuss the assigned readings for each class and that you join the correct discussion group. If you have questions about the material that were not addressed in the lecture the discussion group is the ideal place to raise them.

Disrespectful, rude, and intimidating behavior will not be tolerated. **There is no way to make up your participation grade at the end of term.** Please notify your TA immediately if there are legitimate reasons (health, family emergency) why you are unable to attend a specific discussion group.

### Online Quizzes (2 x 15%)

The in-class assessment for this course will be organized around 2 quizzes administered through Brightspace. The quizzes will consist of multiple-choice questions and will evaluate students on their knowledge of the course material including lectures, readings, and discussion group activities. The quizzes start at the beginning of class and last 30 minutes.

The first online quiz will be in-class on **November 2<sup>nd</sup> and will start at 12:35pm.** The second online quiz will be in-class on **December 7<sup>th</sup> and will start at 12:35pm.**

### Response Papers (2 x 15%)

Students will write two **one-page single-spaced** response papers on different assigned readings from the course. The purpose of the response paper is for you to engage in an in-depth examination of an academic article by summarizing and assessing its contribution. Each response paper will:

1. Identify the central thesis of the article
2. Summarize key arguments or concepts
3. Assess one strength and one weakness of the article
4. Pose two discussion questions

**Readings eligible for response papers are marked with the ‘@’ symbol in the reading list below.** Papers which are written on ineligible readings (e.g. textbook chapters) will not be accepted. Papers are due at noon on the day that the reading is discussed in class. For example, a response paper covering Ikenberry’s “The end of liberal international order?” would be due on September 21<sup>st</sup> at noon. You can submit your response paper via Brightspace. Papers will be evaluated according to the grading rubric posted on Brightspace. It is highly recommended you look at the grading rubric and sample response paper before beginning your assignment.

**Important: Students are required to submit at least 1 response paper by October 12<sup>th</sup>.** This policy is designed to allow students time for feedback on their first response paper before they work on their second.

*Late Paper Policy:* Papers are deducted 3% for each day they are late (e.g. an 80% grade becomes 77% for 1 day late). Weekends count as 1 day late.

### Take Home Exam (25%)

The final exam for this course will be an open book take-home exam. The exam will be focused on long-form essay questions and will cover material from the entire course. Sources must be cited appropriately in either Chicago, APA, or MLA styles. Students will be issued the examination questions at the end of the final class on December 7<sup>th</sup>. The exam is due on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and must be submitted electronically via Brightspace. It is acceptable to participate in group discussions as you prepare for the written exam, but your exam must be written by you alone.

## **5. Class Format**

### *Using BBB*

Classes will be held synchronously every Tuesday between 12:35 p.m. – 2:25 p.m. The class will include an online lecture with slides delivered through the Big Blue Button (BBB) online learning platform. For students who are unfamiliar with BBB it is highly recommend you [watch this tutorial for students](#). The instructor will create the BBB session 10-15 minutes before class and you will be able to join by opening Brightspace and clicking on the BBB session for that day. The slides for the lecture will also be uploaded to Brightspace before class. BBB sessions will also be used for all discussion groups. **It is highly recommended that you use Chrome as your internet browser when using BBB.**

### *Class Etiquette*

As this is an online class the etiquette for participation is slightly different. At the beginning of the lecture I will mute the microphones for all students. **Please limit your comments in the public chat to material that is directly relevant to the course.** If you have a question please type [Question] in the public chat followed by your question.

This will help me quickly identify your question in the public chat log. Please keep in mind that it may take some time until I see your question.

There is a very high chance I will mispronounce your name. If this happens, please let me know either in chat, private BBB message, or through email, and I will do everything I can to correct it.

### *Lecture Length*

The lecture will last approximately 1 hour and 50 minutes and some days we will have a short break in the middle.

### *Brightspace Logs and Recordings*

Please be advised that Brightspace tracks and logs all usage by students. This means that in any dispute over attendance in a discussion group, or the date and time an assignment is submitted, the Brightspace logs will serve as the final authority.

While every lecture is recorded it can take some time for the BBB platform to upload the recording. In some cases it can take 1-2 days for a video to become available.

### *Technical Difficulties with Brightspace*

Most students are still unfamiliar with Brightspace. If you have questions please ask me or the TAs and we will do everything we can to help. For serious technical issues, please contact technical support here: <https://carleton.ca/brightspace/students/>. If students encounter a technical problem which is interfering with their ability to participate in the course, it is **their responsibility to document it and notify me and your TA as soon as possible**.

## **6. Course Schedule & Assigned Readings**

### **Class 1 – September 14<sup>th</sup>**

*What is International Relations? Three Answers*

- Introduction (pages 8-18),
- Zvogbo & Loken, “Why Race Matters in International Relations”, (pages 1-7)

**\*\*Discussion groups start today\*\***

### **Class 2 – September 21<sup>st</sup>**

*Liberalism*

- Chapter 6: Liberal internationalism
- ® Ikenberry, “The end of liberal international order?”, (pages 7-23)

### **Class 3 – September 28<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Realism*

- Chapter 8: Realism
- © Kirshner, “The tragedy of offensive realism”, (pages 53-69)

### **Class 4 – October 5<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Marxism & Critical Theory*

- Chapter 7: Marxist theories of international relations
- Robert Cox, “Social forces, states and world orders: beyond international relations theory”, (pages 126-135)

### **Class 5 – October 12<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Constructivism*

- Chapter 12: Social Constructivism
- © Allan, Vucetic, & Hopf, “The Distribution of Identity and the Future of International Order: China's Hegemonic Prospects”, (pages 1-31)

**\*\*First response paper must be submitted by today\*\***

### **Class 6 – October 19<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Post-colonialism and Feminism*

- Chapter 10: Post-colonial and decolonial approaches
- Chapter 9: Feminism

### **Holiday (Reading Week) – October 26<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*No class\*\***

### **Class 7 – November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

#### *Globalization*

- Chapter 1: Globalization
- Farrell and Newman, “Will the Coronavirus End Globalization as We Know It?” (1-7)

**\*\*Online Quiz #1 covering classes 1-6\*\***

### **Class 8 – November 9<sup>th</sup>**

#### *International Security & Nuclear Proliferation*

- Chapter 15: International and global security
- Chapter 29: Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

**Class 9 – November 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Law and Race in World Politics*

- Chapter 19: International law
- Chapter 18: Race in world politics

**Class 10 – November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

*International Organizations and Global Health*

- Chapter 20: International organizations in world politics
- ® Youde, “The Development of a Counter-Epistemic Community: AIDS, South Africa, and International Regimes” (pages 421-439)

**Class 11 – November 30<sup>th</sup>**

*Trade and Nationalism*

- Chapter 27: Global trade and global finance
- Chapter 30: Nationalism, national self-determination, and international relations

**Class 12 – December 7<sup>th</sup>**

*Whither Globalization? Critically Assessing Alternatives*

- ® MacKay & LaRoche, “Why Is There No Reactionary International Theory?”, (pages 234–244)
- Musgrave, “The Grim Fantasia of a Civilizational War” (pages 1-8)
- Bell, “The Anglosphere: new enthusiasm for an old dream” (pages 1-7)

**\*\*Online Quiz #2 covering classes 7-12\*\***

## Appendix

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### **Covid-19 Information**

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](#) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca)

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

### **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:

***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 more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

***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, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

***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 information, please visit [carleton.ca/pmc](http://carleton.ca/pmc).

***Accommodation for student activities:*** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>.

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).

## **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 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, 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.

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.

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. During the COVID-19 pandemic, 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:

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

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.