

**PSCI 2601B**  
**International Relations: Global Politics**  
**11:35 a.m. – 1:25 p.m. Thursdays**  
**This course will be held remotely online**

**Instructor:** Dr. Eric Van Rythoven  
**Office Hours:** Thursday 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. Please include the course code in the subject line of the email. All email must be through official Carleton university email accounts and not personal email. 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 cuLearn and applications like Big Blue Button for online lectures and group discussions. The course will be taught synchronously with live lectures every Thursday, 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 cuLearn.

### 4. Evaluation

<u>Item</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
Discussion Group Participation	15%	Weekly, starting on January 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%	March 4 <sup>th</sup>
Online Quiz #2	15%	April 8 <sup>th</sup>
Take-home Exam	25%	April 27 <sup>th</sup>

**\*\*Students must submit at least one response paper by February 11<sup>th</sup>\*\***

Discussion Group Participation (15%)

Beginning on Thursday, January 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.

It is important that you to come prepared to discuss the readings assigned for each class and that you join the correct discussion group (you can view your assigned group through Carleton Central). 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 cuLearn. 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 first online quiz will be in-class on **March 4<sup>th</sup>**  
The second online quiz will be in-class on **April 8<sup>th</sup>**

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 January 21<sup>st</sup> at noon. You can submit your response paper via cuLearn.

**Important: Students are required to submit at least 1 response paper by February 11<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 April 8<sup>th</sup>. The exam is due on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and must be submitted electronically via cuLearn. 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 Thursday between 11:35 a.m. – 1:25 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 cuLearn and clicking on the BBB session for that day. The slides for the lecture will also be uploaded to cuLearn 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.

### *Class Length*

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

### *cuLearn Logs and Recordings*

Please be advised that cuLearn 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 cuLearn logs will serve as the final authority.

While every session 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.

### *Accommodations during COVID*

Due to COVID, instructors will not request or require a doctor's note when students seek accommodation for missed term work or exams due to illness. Instead, students will be asked to complete the self-declaration form available here:

[https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19\\_Self-declaration.pdf](https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19_Self-declaration.pdf).

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

### **Class 1 – January 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 – January 21<sup>st</sup>**

*Liberalism*

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

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

*Realism*

- Chapter 8: Realism
- ® Kirshner, "The tragedy of offensive realism", (pages 53-69)

### **Class 4 – February 4<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 – February 11<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\*\***

### **Holiday – February 18<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Class 6 – February 25<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Post-colonialism and Feminism*

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

### **Class 7 – March 4<sup>th</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 – March 11<sup>th</sup>**

#### *International Security & Nuclear Proliferation*

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

### **Class 9 – March 18<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Law and Race in World Politics*

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

### **Class 10 – March 25<sup>th</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 – April 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### *Trade and Nationalism*

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

### **Class 12 – April 8<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\*\**

## **7. Academic Accommodations**

### Pregnancy

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 obligation

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)

### 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, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.

### Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its 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](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

### 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 compete or perform 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](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

### 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.

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).