

PSCI 2601B
International Relations: Global Politics
11:35 a.m. – 1:25 p.m. Thursdays
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Dr. Eric Van Rythoven
Office: B647
Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Thursdays
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1. Course Overview

This 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. In recent decades, international politics has been marked by an unprecedented period of global integration and development. But in recent years we've seen a series of fractures and disruptions—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, help you to understand key processes in international history, and familiarize you with the central theories, concepts, and debates in the field. The course is divided into two sections. In the first part of the course we'll be looking at a series of different 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

- Trade, Poverty, and Development
- Law and International Organizations
- Race 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 events and processes in international relations.

3. Required Texts

John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens eds., *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations, 7th ed.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.

The textbook can be purchased at the Carleton University bookstore. A reserve copy will be available at the library. All other required readings will be posted online.

4. Evaluation

Discussion Group Participation (Weekly)	15%
Essay Proposal (February 14 th).....	15%
Research Essay (March 21 st).....	35%
Final Exam (TBA).....	35%

Note: Students **must** complete all items to receive a passing grade.

Discussion Group Participation (15%)

Beginning the second week of the course, students will attend weekly 1-hour discussion groups led by a Teaching Assistant. Participation grades are based on attendance as well as the quality and quantity of participation in each meeting. It is important for you to come prepared to discuss the readings assigned for each week. It is essential that you show respect to the TA and other students participating in the discussion group. Disrespectful, rude, and intimidating behavior will not be tolerated.

Please note that there is no way to make up your participation grade at the end of term. If you choose to miss all discussion group meetings, your evaluation for this element of the course will be deemed incomplete and you will be unable to receive a passing grade. Please notify your TA immediately if there are legitimate reasons (health, family emergency) why you are unable to attend a specific discussion section.

Essay Proposal (15%)

Due February 14th, this assignment is intended to help students begin preparing for their major research essay. The core proposal is 2-pages (single spaced), and will:

- Identify a specific issue or area in international politics (e.g. what do you plan to research; what is the specific case under study).
- Formulate a clear research question (e.g. why did state 'A' do policy 'B'; what causes international cooperation in policy area 'X').
- State a thesis or central argument which directly responds to your research question and explains the issue under study. A good thesis will frame your argument around a specific theoretical perspective.
- Provide an overview of three to four arguments which will support your thesis.

On an separate page, students will include a proposed bibliography with a minimum of 5 scholarly and relevant sources. Sources can be referenced in either MLA or APA styles. The full proposal will be 3-pages (2 for the core proposal, 1 for the bibliography). Other requirements for the proposal include:

- 1-inch margins
- 12-point Times New Roman font
- Title
- Numbered Pages

In terms of grade breakdown, the core proposal constitutes 12% of your final grade, the bibliography is worth 3%. Papers are to be handed in at the end of class on the day they are due. If they are not submitted in class, they must be submitted to the drop box outside the Political Science Department before 4pm (in Loeb Building B640).

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.

Research Essay (35%)

Due March 21st, this essay builds on the earlier proposal. The central purpose of the research essay is for students to apply a theoretical framework discussed in the first section of the course to an issue in international politics. The essay will be 7-8 pages (double spaced), and is intended show independent research building on the material discussed in the course.

The essay should include properly documented references and a bibliography with a minimum of eight sources (including at least 5 scholarly sources). Essays will primarily be evaluated based on argument and content, but spelling, grammar, and organization will also be taken into consideration. Other requirements for the essay include:

- 1-inch margins
- 12-point Times New Roman font
- Title Page
- Numbered Pages

Papers are to be handed in at the end of class on the day they are due. If they are not submitted in class, they must be submitted to the drop box outside the Political Science Department before 4pm (in Loeb Building B640).

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.

Final Examination (35%)

The final exam is comprehensive and will include material covering the entire course. It will be scheduled during the official university examination period. The exam will be divided between multiple choice, short answers questions, and one long-form essay.

5. Course Schedule & Assigned Readings

Week 1 – January 10th

Course Introduction: Studying International Relations

- Introduction (pages 1-14),
- Chapter 2: The rise of the modern international order

Week 2 – January 17th (Discussion Groups Begin)

Liberalism

- Chapter 7: Liberalism
- Ikenberry, “Liberal Leviathan”, (pages 1-22)

Week 3 – January 24th

Realism

- Chapter 6: Realism
- Kirshner, “The tragedy of offensive realism”, (pages 53-69)

Week 4 – January 31st

Marxism & Critical Theory

- Chapter 8: Marxist theories of international relations
- Robert Cox, “Social forces, states and world orders: beyond international relations theory”, (pages 126-155)

Week 5 – February 7th

Constructivism

- Chapter 9: Social Constructivism
- Allan, Vucetic, & Hopf, “The Distribution of Identity and the Future of International Order: China's Hegemonic Prospects”, (pages 1-31)

Week 6 – February 14th (Essay Proposal Due)
Critical Perspectives: Post-colonialism and Feminism

- Chapter 11: Post-colonialism
- Chapter 12: Feminism

Week 7 – February 21st

Winter Break – No Class

Week 8 – February 28th
Globalization

- Chapter 1: Globalization
- Stokes, “Trump, American hegemony and the future of the liberal international order”, (pages 133–150)

Week 9 – March 7th
International Security & Nuclear Proliferation

- Chapter 15: International and global security
- Chapter 26: Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

Week 10 – March 14th
Trade, Poverty, and Development

- Chapter 28: Global trade and global finance
- Chapter 29: Poverty, hunger, and development

Week 11 – March 21st (Research Essay Due)
Law and International Organizations

- Chapter 19: International law
- Chapter 20: International organizations in world politics

Week 12 – March 28th
Race and Nationalism

- Chapter 18: Race in world politics
- Chapter 27: Nationalism, national self-determination, and international relations

Week 13 – April 4th
Whither Globalization? Critically Assessing Alternatives

- Musgrave, “The Grim Fantasia of a Civilizational War”

- Bell, “The Anglosphere: new enthusiasm for an old dream”
- MacKay & LaRoche, “Why Is There No Reactionary International Theory?”, (pages 234–244)

6. Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

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 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. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

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

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.

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

cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

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 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, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> 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.