

**PSCI 1002A**  
**Global Political Issues**  
**Lecture: Fridays 11:35am to 1:25pm**  
**Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

**Instructor:** James Milner  
**Office:** Loeb A639  
**Office hours:** Wednesdays, 10:00am to 12:00pm (or by appointment)  
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**Please note that e-mails relating to the course will be sent to your Carleton Connect account, *not* via WebCT. Also, please use your Carleton Connect account when sending an e-mail to the instructor and include the course code in the subject line.**

**Teaching Assistants will advise students in their discussion groups of their specific office hours and the preferred method of contacting them with questions relating to the course.**

**First class:** 11 September 2009  
**Last class:** 4 December 2009

**WebCT:** On-line components of this course will be managed through WebCT. Please visit the WebCT site at least once a week to receive the most current information pertaining to the scheduling of the course and required readings.

**Course objectives:**

The first meeting of this class will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attacks of 9/11. For many, these attacks, and the US-led response, ushered in a new era of global politics, organized around the so-called 'war on terror'. But many of the issues we confront today – from nuclear proliferation, to poverty, to refugees – have roots that are much deeper than 9/11. In fact, the study of global politics is a dynamic and exciting field of political science that provides us with a range of tools and approaches that help us more critically and systematically understand the world around us and how it works. How do we understand the currents of global politics? Are global events inevitable? Or can global politics be more fully explained by tracing the historical and thematic origins of the challenges that face our world today?

The objective of this course is to provide students with a foundation for the undergraduate study of global politics through three learning objectives:

1. Develop an understanding of the key events and themes in global politics
2. Develop critical thinking and analysis skills as they relate to global politics
3. Develop research and writing skills necessary for the undergraduate study of global politics

To further these objectives, the first half of this course will consider the historical evolution from the establishment of the modern state system in 1648 to the dynamics of global politics after 9/11. Special emphasis will be placed on particular events that have come to serve as key reference points in the study of global politics, such as the signing of the Treaty of Westphalia, the establishment of the Concert of Europe, the end of the First World War, the end of the Cold War and 9/11.

The second half of the course will turn to a critical examination of the key themes that dominate the study of contemporary global politics, including:

- Changing perspectives on security
- Trade and international political economy
- Development and poverty reduction
- Displacement and humanitarian action
- Resources and the environment
- Global governance and the United Nations

Students will be required to write a research essay that relates to one of these six themes. A number of essay workshops and skills sessions will be included in the course to help students produce this essay and to develop their research and writing skills.

**Readings and required texts:**

The required textbook for this course is:

Steven L. Spiegel, Elizabeth G. Matthews, Jennifer M. Taw and Kristen P. Williams, *World Politics in a New Era*, Fourth Edition, New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Copies of this textbook have been ordered to the Carleton University Bookstore.

Students are also encouraged to take advantage of the textbook's accompanying web-page: <http://www.oup.com/us/spiegel>

Additional readings from journals may also be required during the course. These readings are available electronically through the Carleton University Library system **at no cost to the student**.

On-line journals may be accessed through the Carleton Library portal:

<http://www.library.carleton.ca/eresources/databases.html>

**Provisional outline of course topics:**

Below is a **tentative** weekly breakdown of the course and core readings.

Please consult WebCT regularly for updates to this list of weekly topics and readings, in addition to information about the course.

**Requirements:**

While the specifics of the individual requirements will be discussed in class and in the weekly discussion groups, following is a breakdown of the individual class .

<b>In-class quizzes</b> (23 October 2009: 5%) (13 November 2009: 5%)	<b>10%</b>
<b>Essay proposal</b> (Due at the start of the Week 4 discussion group)	<b>5%</b>
<b>Essay bibliography</b> (Due at the start of the Week 7 discussion group)	<b>5%</b>
<b>Research essay</b> (Due <b>before</b> the start of class on 20 November 2009)	<b>30%</b>
<b>Participation in discussion groups</b> (Participation will be graded on attendance to discussion groups, level of participation and evidence of preparation for discussion)	<b>10%</b>
<b>Final exam</b> (Dec 9-22)	<b>40%</b>

As per **early feedback** guidelines, the essay proposals submitted in Week 4 will be graded and returned during Week 5.

**Late penalties:**

Research essays submitted after the due date will be penalized by 5% of the 100% assignment grade per 24 hours. All other assignments missed or submitted late will receive a mark of 0%. Exceptions to this policy will only be made for academic accommodations, as outlined below, or for medical or personal emergencies substantiated by official documentation.

**Late papers must be submitted via the drop box in the Department of Political Science, as outlined below. The departmental drop box cut off time is 4pm. Any assignments submitted after 4pm will be date stamped for the following weekday.**

**The role of Teaching Assistants (TAs):**

Teaching Assistants (TAs) will play an important role throughout the course. TAs will be primarily responsible for leading discussion groups and grading student assignments. The instructor will be primarily responsible for giving weekly lectures, assigning readings and managing course objectives. **Together, the TAs and the instructor form the teaching team for this course.** Students are asked to direct questions they may have, in the first instance, to their discussion group TA.

**Week 1:**

11 September 2009:

Lecture: Introduction to the course and the study of global politics

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 3 - 17**Section 1: Foundations of Global Politics****Week 2:**

18 September 2009:

Lecture: Contours of Global Politics: 1648 to 1945

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 57 - 107

Discussion group: Introduction to the course and the use of educational technology

**Week 3:**

25 September 2009:

Lecture: Imperialism and the Global South

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 155 - 199

Discussion group: Essay workshop: Proposals

**Week 4:**

2 October 2009:

Lecture: The Cold War

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 109 - 153Discussion group: Imperialism and the Cold War  
Discuss lectures and Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 109 - 199**Due: Essay proposals**9 October 2009: University Day (no lecture)  
Exam schedule posted**Week 5:**

16 October 2009:

Lecture: A new era of Global Politics? 1991 to 9/11

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 201 - 233Discussion group: A new era of Global Politics? 1991 to present  
Discuss lectures and Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 201 – 233**Return and discuss essay proposals****Week 6:**

23 October 2009:

Lecture: A new era of Global Politics? 9/11 to present

Required reading: Condoleezza Rice, "Rethinking the National Interest: American Realism for a New World", *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 87, no. 4, July/August 2008, p. 2-26 (electronic journal)**Class will start with a quiz covering Weeks 2 to 5**

Discussion group: Essay workshop: Bibliographies

## **Section 2: Themes in Global Politics**

### **Week 7:**

30 October 2009:

Lecture: Changing perspectives on security

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 237 - 320

Discussion group:

Changing perspectives on security

Discuss lectures and Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 237 - 320

**Due: Essay bibliography**

### **Week 8:**

6 November 2009:

Lecture: Trade and international political economy

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 337 - 379

Discussion group:

Essay workshop: Essay introductions and outlines

**Return and discuss essay bibliographies**

### **Week 9:**

13 November 2009:

Lecture: Development and poverty reduction

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 381 - 429

**Class will start with a quiz covering weeks 6 to 8**

Discussion group:

Trade, international political economy and development

Discuss lectures and Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 337 - 429

### **Week 10:**

20 November 2009:

Lecture: Populations, resources and the environment

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 431 - 449 and 467 - 507

**Research essays are due *before* the start of the lecture**

Discussion group:

Populations, resources and the environment

Discuss lectures and Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 431 - 449  
and 467 - 507

### **Week 11:**

27 November 2009:

Lecture: Global Governance

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 509 - 559

Discussion group: Debate: Be it resolved that the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 is proof of the irrelevance of the UN Security Council.

Required reading: Mats Berdal, "The UN Security Council: Ineffective but Indispensable", *Survival*, Vol. 45, no. 2, 2003 (electronic journal)

**Week 12:**

4 December 2009:

Lecture: Summary and review

Required reading: Spiegel *et al*, 2009, 561 - 583

**Course evaluation**

Discussion group: Summary and return essays

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**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 16, 2009 for December examinations** and **March 12, 2010 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](http://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](mailto:carletonpss@gmail.com), visit our website at [poliscisociety.com](http://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.