



2018–2019 Academic Year
Fall 2018



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 381 L02
INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INSTRUCTOR: Chris W. J. Roberts

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OFFICE: SS 702

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday 1200-1300 or by appointment

EMAIL: christopher.roberts@ucalgary.ca

COURSE D2L: <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

COURSE DAY/TIME: Tuesdays 1700-1945

COURSE LOCATION: AD 140

COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The term “international relations” reflects a general observation that states interact with other states, but since the early part of the 20th Century, International Relations (IR) has emerged as a discipline that attempts to understand and explain state behaviour, the causes of war, and, ultimately, the whole range of global politics and economic exchange that occurs beyond the confines of state borders. States themselves are products of and not just actors in international relations, and they are also not the only actors in the study of IR.

This course will provide an intensive introduction to the vocabulary, concepts, theories, assumptions, and methods applied in the study of IR. Tensions between theoretical frameworks (e.g., neorealism versus liberal interdependence, or Western versus non-Western approaches) and methodological assumptions (e.g., appropriate levels of analysis; rationalist versus reflectivist) will be illustrated throughout our historical and contemporary examination of the substantive and process aspects of IR, including the state and other actors; international society, international system, and globalization; foreign policy; security and war; global political economy; international law and organization; and ethical dilemmas centred around the tension between state sovereignty and human rights.

Considerations of some of the central challenges of the contemporary period – including climate change, weapons of mass destruction, development and inequality, mass human displacement, and terrorism – will provide opportunities for the application of different analytical frameworks.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students will ...

- be able to employ the basic vocabulary, concepts, and theories in the study of IR.
- understand the variation, roles, origins, capabilities, and interactions of various actors in IR.
- understand, in at least a preliminary way, different methodological approaches available in the study of IR, including their strengths and weaknesses.
- understand the historical foundations which shape the contemporary world order as well as the historical evolution of IR as a discipline, including key thinkers, ideas, and influences.
- develop competencies to assess current international trends, events, and challenges from a variety of perspectives.
- improve their verbal and written analytical skills relevant to IR, political science, and the social sciences generally.
- be prepared to advance into more specialized courses in international politics, including international law and organizations, global political economy, strategic studies and the law of armed conflict, human rights, nuclear non-proliferation, terrorism, etc.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Elizabeth Matthews and Rhonda Callaway, *International Relations Theory: A Primer* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017). Additional required readings are listed below and will be available via D2L or other online sources including UCalgary Library.

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
TOPHAT Participation & Quizzes	10%	Throughout
Mid-Term Exam	25%	Tues, Oct. 23rd (90 minutes)
Essay Assignment – Part 1	15%	Tues, Nov. 6th (hard copy in class)
Part 2	20%	Sat., 23:59, Dec. 8th (D2L Dropbox)
Three Hour Final Exam	30%	Scheduled by registrar: between Dec 10th and Dec 20th
Total	100%	

CLASS PARTICIPATION INCLUDING TOPHAT (10%)

Due to the size of this class, student participation grades will be accumulated via TopHat, an online response application available for free for all University of Calgary students. Using a laptop, tablet, or smart phone, students answer questions in real-time in class or, sometimes, as homework outside of class. Some questions generate participation points only, while other questions (short quizzes announced in advanced) also generate points for correct answers.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION (25%)

A mid-term exam will be done in class on Tuesday, Oct. 23rd. It will comprise multiple-choice and short answers/exercises, and be scheduled for 90 minutes. (Class will resume after a break.)

Note: This will be a closed book exam. No notes, laptops, cell phones, etc., will be allowed.

ESSAY ASSIGNMENT (35%)

Each student will complete a two-part essay assignment during the term. The first part will be about 4-5 pages, where students will illustrate their understanding of two specific IR analytical frameworks by delineating their historical foundations, appropriate contemporary theorists, and compare and contrast their fundamental assumptions. The second part will be a case study analysis about a contemporary event or phenomena in IR/IPE. This will require the student to apply those two frameworks towards answering a specific research question about a contemporary event or phenomena in global politics (approx. 8-10 pages, incorporating much of your part 1 essay).

Detailed instructions will be discussed in class with the assignment details and parameters posted on D2L.

Part 1 (15% course weighting) – Due Tues, Nov. 6th (paper hard copy in class, with title page and reference list)

Part 2 (20% course weighting) – Due Sat., 23:59, Dec. 8th (D2L Dropbox - uploaded in PDF or MS-WORD formats only)

Late penalties of five percent (5%) will be applied for each 24 hours past the deadline, including weekends.

FINAL EXAMINATION (30%)

A Registrar-scheduled Final Exam (3 hours) will include multiple-choice, short answers/exercises, and an essay, and will be cumulative for the whole course.

Both the Mid-Term Exam and the Final Exam will be closed book exams with no external aids available (e.g., no notes, textbook, electronic devices, etc.). Students need to take both the mid-term and final exams, and submit both parts of the essay assignment, in order to pass.

Writing Statement:

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

GRADE SCALE:

The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (95+)	B+ (80-84)	C+ (66-69)	D+ (54-57)
A (90-94)	B (75-79)	C (62-65)	D (50-53)
A- (85-89)	B- (70-74)	C- (58-61)	F (0-49)

LATE PENALTIES:

Late penalties of five percent (5%) will be applied to essays for each 24 hours past the deadline, including weekends.

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS: The schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to change)		
DATE	TOPICS & THEMES	REQUIRED READINGS BEFORE CLASS Matthews & Callaway Textbook = "Chapter"
Class 1 Sept 11th	Course Introduction Syllabus & Assignments D2L & TopHat usage Class background survey IR: History, Theory, Domains	Besides readings listed below, supplemental readings will be posted in D2L modules or otherwise available online or via UCalgary Library Chapter 1
Class 2 Sept 18th	Review of the Historical Foundations of World (Dis)Order: The Paradox of State Sovereignty in Structuring International Society	Chapter 2 – pp. 30-40 + Melian Dialogue Chapter 3 – pp. 73-85 + Hugo Grotius on the laws of war & trade Links on D2L: Peace of Westphalia (1648) Wilson’s Fourteen Points (1918) Montevideo Convention (1933) UN Charter (1945) UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (UNGA Res 15/14) (1960) UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNGA Res 61/295) (2007)
Class 3 Sept 25th	Historical Antecedents: Thinkers, Theory, & Practices	Chapter 2 – complete Chapter 3 – complete Chapter 4 – pp. 123-41 + Marxist Theories of Imperialism
Class 4 Oct 2nd	Power v Interests/Institutions v Class Struggle	Jervis (1978) “Cooperation under the Security Dilemma” <i>World Politics</i> (30, 2): 167-214.

		Chapter 4 – complete Chapter 7 – pp. 257-265
Class 5 Oct 9th	Constructivist, Critical, & non-Western approaches	Chapter 7 – pp. 265-277 Chapter 5 – complete Gordon (2017) “Indigenous nationhood can save the world. Here’s how” <i>Globe & Mail</i>
Class 6 Oct 16th	Feminist IR & Foreign Policy Analysis	Chapter 6 – complete Valerie Hudson (2005), “Foreign Policy Analysis: Actor-Specific Theory and the Ground of International Relations,” <i>Foreign Policy 1: 1-30</i> .
Class 7 Oct 23rd	Mid-Term (90 Minutes) Break Global Governance & International Organization	Selected follow-up readings on international law (including ICJ), the United Nations, G7, EU, other regional organizations, peacekeeping, and other important actors (INGOs, IFIs, etc.) will be linked within PPT slides.
Class 8 Oct 30th	Global Governance & International Organization (con’t)	See above.
Class 9 Nov 6th	Essay Part 1 Due in class / paper copy (In)Security & War	Review the “Proliferation” case study sections across the various chapters in the textbook; other follow-up readings will be linked within PPT slides.
Nov 13th	Reading Break	No class – do research for part 2 of your essay.
Class 10 Nov 20th	Revisiting the Paradox of Sovereignty: Human Rights & Human Security	Selected follow-up readings on the UN UDHR, IHL, LOAC, R2P, HDI, etc. will be linked within PPT slides.
Class 11 Nov 27th	Global Political Economy – Part I: Trade, Investment, and Monetary Issues	Review the “WTO” case study sections across the various chapters in the textbook; other follow-up readings will be linked within PPT slides.
Class 12 Dec 4th	Global Political Economy – Part 2: Development & the Global Commons	Selected follow-up readings on development theory, practices, and actors, the evolution of environmental governance, the Paris Agreement and the SDGs will be linked within PPT slides.
Sat, Dec 8th	Essay Part 2 Due /D2L Dropbox (23:59)	
	Registrar Scheduled FINAL EXAM (3 hours)	TBA: Between Dec 10th to 20th

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions. If you cannot make it to office hours, please request a one-on-one meeting outside of these hours. It is imperative that students regularly check their UofC email accounts and D2L for course related information and announcements. If you have sent the instructor an email but have not received a reply within 24 hours, please resend.

Students may use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course, though there will be times when you'll be asked to turn the technology off. No recording of lectures (audio and/or video) is permitted without prior approval of the instructor, with exceptions of course made in the case of approved accommodations. Please be considerate of others and switch off all phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing social media is extremely disruptive to others, and your own performance will also suffer.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons (e.g. illness with the appropriate documentation) are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

University Regulations:

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)

Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>