



2017–2018 Academic Year  
Winter 2018



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

**POLI 381 L01**  
**INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Chris W. J. Roberts

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**OFFICE:** SS 702

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday/Wednesday 1430-1530; Thursday 1030-1130 or by appointment

**COURSE DAY/TIME:** Tuesday & Thursday 1400-1515

**COURSE LOCATION:** ST 141

**COURSE PRE-REQUISITES:** None

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** Chelsea Boutilier (SS 703) – [crboutil@ucalgary.ca](mailto:crboutil@ucalgary.ca)

**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; institutionalism versus post-structuralism) and methodological approaches (e.g., humanist versus scientific; levels of analysis) 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.

## **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Steve Lamy, John Masker, John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, *Introduction to Global Politics*, 4th edition (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2017). [Note: There may be used copies available, but make sure used copies are the 4th edition.]

## **COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:**

<b>COMPONENT</b>	<b>WEIGHTING</b>	<b>DUE DATES</b>
<b>TOPHAT Participation &amp; Quizzes</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>Throughout</b>
<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>Tuesday, February 27th</b>
<b>Two Part Essay Assignment</b>	<b>15%</b> <b>20%</b>	<b>Part I: Thursday, March 8th</b> <b>Part II: Saturday, April 7th</b>
<b>Three Hour Final Exam</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>Scheduled by registrar</b> <b>(Apr 16-26)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

### ***PARTICIPATION (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, February 27th. It will comprise multiple-choice and short answers/exercises.

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

**TWO-PART ESSAY (15%+20%= 35%)**

Each student will submit two short, related essays. The first part (approx. 5-6 pages) will require the student to illustrate their understanding of two specific, IR analytical frameworks, delineate some of their historical theoretical foundations, and compare and contrast their fundamental assumptions. The second part of the essay assignment will take those two analytical frameworks and apply them towards explaining a contemporary event or phenomena in global politics in line with our substantive topics and themes after the mid-term (approx. 10-12 pages, including elements of the first essay).

Detailed instructions will be discussed in class with the assignment details and parameters posted on D2L. The first part will be submitted in hard paper copy in class (Thursday, March 8th) and returned with comments, the second will be uploaded via D2L Dropbox (Saturday, April 7th). 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 but weighed more heavily towards chapters 5-10 of the textbook.

*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 elements of the essay assignment, in order to pass.*

**Note:** 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:

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

**LATE PENALTIES FOR ESSAYS:**

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

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

<b>COURSE SCHEDULE</b> (Subject to minimal changes)		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>WEEKLY TOPICS &amp; THEMES</b> (Classes are Tuesday & Thursday)	<b>REQUIRED READINGS BEFORE CLASS</b> (Textbook and/or articles/links)
Week 1 Jan 8-12	<b>Course Introduction</b> Syllabus, Assignments, D2L/TopHat usage Basic intro to course themes	<b>Textbook: LMBSA</b> <b>Supplemental readings will be posted on D2L</b>  LMBSA, Chapter 1 “Introduction to Global Politics”
Week 2 Jan 15-19	<b>Review of the Historical Foundations of World (Dis)Order: The Paradox of Sovereignty in Structuring World Order</b>	LMBSA, Chapter 2 “The Evolution of Global Politics”
Week 3 Jan 22-26	<b>Evolution of the Study of IR – Part I:</b>  <b>Historical Antecedents:</b> Thinkers, Theory, International Systems & Practices to the end of the 19th Century	LMBSA, Chapter 3 “Realism, Liberalism, and Critical Theories”  <b>This chapter provides the foundation for Weeks 3-5 and should be regularly reviewed.</b> During these weeks we’ll sketch out a thematic framework for our examination of the historical and intellectual roots that shape thinking about IR in theory and practice over time and place.
Week 4 Jan 29 -Feb 2	<b>Evolution of the Study of IR – Part II: IR as Craft or Science?</b> 20th Century Theories, Paradigms, and Methods from Angell, Carr, and Morgenthau to Wight, Waltz, and Cox	Supplemental readings will be posted on D2L for each of classes 3-5 to flesh out the limited overview of theories and thinkers provided in LMBSA.
Week 5 Feb 5-9	<b>Evolution of the Study of IR – Part III: Constructivist, Feminist, &amp; Critical Turns, &amp; non-Western approaches</b>	Supplemental readings will be posted on D2L for each of classes 3-5 to flesh out the limited overview of theories and thinkers provided in LMBSA.
Week 6 Feb 13-16	<b>Foreign Policy Analysis</b>	LMBSA, Chapter 4 “Making Foreign Policy”  Valerie Hudson (2005), “Foreign Policy Analysis: Actor-Specific Theory and the Ground of International Relations,” <i>Foreign Policy</i> 1: 1-30 [PDF]
Week 7	<b>FAMILY DAY &amp; READING BREAK!</b> February 19-23	No classes

Week 8 Feb 26 -Mar 2	<b>Tuesday, February 27th – Mid-Term</b>  Globalization & Global Governance	LMBSA, Chapter 5 “Global and Regional Governance”
Week 9 Mar 5-9	Globalization & Global Governance (con’t)  <b>Thursday, March 8th – Essay Part 1 Due</b>	LMBSA, Chapter 5 “Global and Regional Governance” (con’t)  <i>In class in hard paper copy (outside of class will be considered late)</i>
Week 10 Mar 12-16	(In)Security & War	LMBSA, Chapter 6 “Global Security, Military Power, and Terrorism”
Week 11 Mar 19-23	Human Rights, Human Security, & the Paradox of Sovereignty	LMBSA, Chapter 7 “Human Rights and Human Security”
Week 12 Mar 26-30	Global Political Economy – Part I: Trade, Investment, and Monetary Issues	LMBSA, Chapter 8 “Global Trade and Finance”
Week 13 Apr 2-6	Global Political Economy – Part II: Development and the Paradox of Sovereignty  <b>Saturday, April 7th – Essay Part 2 Due</b>	LMBSA, Chapter 9 “Poverty, Development, and Hunger”  <i>Uploaded to D2L Dropbox by 11:59pm</i>
Week 14 Apr 9-13	Global Political Economy – Part III: Climate Change, the Global Commons, and the Paradox of Sovereignty •USRI Course evaluations •TopHat Tournament	LMBSA, Chapter 10 “Environmental Issues”
Apr 16-26	<b>FINAL EXAM (3 hours)</b>	<b>Scheduled by Registrar (Date &amp; Time TBA)</b>

### INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor or TA during class or their 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 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.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. 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 cellphones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing social media is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated. Your own performance will also suffer.

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term exam 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 can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head.

### University Regulations:

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://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/](http://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 will be destroyed after three months; 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](http://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](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: [ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca](mailto:ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca)

URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)