



2019-2020 Academic Year
Winter 2020



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 381 L03
INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INSTRUCTOR: Chris W. J. Roberts

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OFFICE: SS 702

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 1030-1130 & Thursday Noon-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 2020s – including climate change, autonomous weapons, trade friction, 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:

Robert Jackson, Geog Sorensen, and Jorgen Moller, *Introduction to International Relations: theories and approaches* (7th ed.) (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019). 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 |
|---|------------------|---|
| Class Participation/TopHat | 10% | Periodically throughout the course |
| Research paper proposal | 5% | Due Saturday, Feb. 29th (11:59pm on D2L Dropbox) |
| Mid-term | 25% | Tuesday, March 3 rd (90 minutes at beginning of class) |
| Research paper (using two different theories to explain/analyze a contemporary IR/IPE issue) | 30% | Due Saturday, April 4 th (11:59pm on D2L Dropbox). |
| Final Exam (3 hours) | 30% | Scheduled by Registrar |
| 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 lap-top, 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 also generate points for correct answers.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION (25%)

A mid-term exam will be done in class on Tuesday, March 3rd. 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.

RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT (35%)

Each student will complete a two-part research essay assignment during the term. The first part is a 1-2 page research proposal following a structure and topic choice guideline that will be distributed in class. This is worth 5% and will be due on Saturday, Feb. 29th (11:59pm on D2L Dropbox).

The research paper will illustrate students' understanding of two specific IR analytical frameworks by delineating their historical foundations, appropriate theorists, and compare and contrast their fundamental assumptions. Then, those theories or approaches are applied to 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. 9-12 double-spaced pages, worth 30%).

FINAL EXAMINATION (30%)

A Registrar-scheduled Final Exam (3 hours) will include multiple-choice/matching, 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 the research paper, 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:

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| 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 your research paper proposal and research paper for each 24 hours past the respective deadline, including weekends.

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

| COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to change) "Chapter" refers to Jackson et al. (2019) textbook | | |
|---|--|--|
| DATE | TOPICS & THEMES | REQUIRED READINGS BEFORE CLASS |
| Class 1 January 14th | Course Introduction Syllabus & Assignments D2L & TopHat usage Class background survey IR: states, sovereignty, & systems | Chapter 1 Links on D2L: Peace of Westphalia (1648) General Act of the Berlin Conference on West Africa (1885) Wilson's Fourteen Points (1918) Montevideo Convention (1933) |
| Class 2 January 21st | IR as an academic subject: history, theory & method overview | Chapter 2 Links on D2L: 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 January 28th | Anarchy, Power, & Security: Realism | Chapter 3 Links on D2L: Melian Dialogue (Thucydides) |
| Class 4 February 4th | Anarchy, Cooperation, & Progress: Liberalism | Chapters 4 & 6 (pp. 178-186) Links on D2L: Carolina Kenny (2015), "Hugo Grotius: The Law of War and Peace," <i>Classics of Strategy and Diplomacy</i> [online]. Robert Jervis (1978), "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma," <i>World Politics</i> (30, 2): 167-214. |

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| Class 5 February 11 th | Anarchy, Order, & Justice: International Society (or English School) | Chapter 5 Link on D2L: Jean-François Thibault (2012), “R2P and the Debt of the International Community,” <i>Peace Review</i> (24:2): 210-218. |
| Week 6 February 17-21 | READING BREAK | No Classes |
| Class 6 February 25 th | “Anarchy is what states make of it”: Constructivism Saturday, February 29th, 11:59pm | Chapter 8 Link on D2L: Upload Research Paper Proposal to D2L Dropbox |
| Class 7 March 3 rd | Mid-Term Intro to Foreign Policy Analysis | 90 minutes for mid-term Break |
| Class 8 March 10 th | Foreign Policy Analysis (<i>con’t</i>) | Chapter 10 Link on D2L: Valerie Hudson (2005), “Foreign Policy Analysis: Actor-Specific Theory and the Ground of International Relations,” <i>Foreign Policy 1: 1-30</i> . |
| Class 9 March 17 th | Marxist, critical, post-positivist, & post-colonial/non-Western approaches | Chapter 6 (pp. 187-194) Chapter 9 (pp. 263-274, 278-282) Links on D2L: Alexander Dugin (nd), “A review of the basic theories of IR – Part 2 [post-positivist theories]” [online]. Niigaan Sinclair (2017), “Indigenous nationhood can save the world. Here’s how,” <i>The Globe & Mail</i> [online]. |
| Class 10 March 24 th | IR reframed through a gendered lens | Chapter 9 (pp. 274-280) Links on D2L: Helen M. Kinsella, Laura J. Shepherd (2019), “‘Well, what is the feminist perspective on international affairs?’: theory/practice,” <i>International Affairs</i> 95:6 (November): 1209–1213. Rahul Rao (2018), “The State of ‘Queer IR’ (Review),” <i>GLQ</i> (24:1): 139-149. |
| Class 11 March 31 st | Security & warfare into the 2020s | Michael Mann (2018), “Have wars and violence declined?” <i>Theory and Society</i> (41:1): 37-60. Michael C. Horowitz (2019), “When speed kills: Lethal autonomous weapon systems, deterrence and stability,” <i>Journal of Strategic Studies</i> (42:6), 764-788. |

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|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| | Research Paper due: Saturday, April 4th | Upload Research Paper Proposal to D2L Dropbox by 11:59pm |
| Class 12 April 7 th | International Political Economy: contemporary debates | Chapter 7 |
| Class 13 April 14 th | Looking back, looking ahead: contemporary challenges in global politics for theory and practice | Chapter 11 |
| FINAL EXAM | Three hour exam scheduled by Registrar | TBA: Between April 18-29 |

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. **Always include the course name (Poli 381) in the subject header of your email.** 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

Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a

medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioners for Oaths, visit ucalgary.ca/registrar).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.

Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons 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.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Copyright Legislation:

As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, “students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.”

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

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 Tower Room 116.

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: askgsa@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/>

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the:

Student Wellness Services (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre):
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

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