

POLI 283 (L01) Issues & Trends in World Politics

Pre/Co-Requisites: None	
Instructor: Mark Machacek	Lecture Location: ENC 70
Phone:	Lecture Days/Time: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 – 12:15
Email: mark.machacek@ucalgary.ca	Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30 – 13:30 or by appointment
Office: SS 721	Website: http://d2l.ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy: 09:00 – 17:00 Monday - Friday	

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this lecture-based course is to introduce students to the core concepts, theories, issues and trends in world - or '*global*' - politics. The course provides a general overview of the inter-state system, including the role of state and non-state actors, the importance of international institutions and the global economy. It also highlights critical transnational issues – such as conflict, human rights violations and the global pandemic - and the unilateral and multilateral responses taken by state and non-state actors.

The course will begin with an introduction to fundamental concepts and theories used to make sense of the complex world of world politics. The second part of the course outlines the inter-state system, detailing the roles of states, non-state actors and international organizations, the institutions of international law and the global economy. The remainder of the course will critically engage in prominent issues and trends in the study and practice of World Politics, including violent conflict and insecurities, human rights, climate change and the global Covid-19 pandemic.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

The objectives of this course are to:

- Introduce students to the core concepts, theories, issues and trends in the study of World Politics;
- Develop a general knowledgebase of the primary actors, institutions and processes involved in global politics and governance;
- Facilitate theoretically-informed discussions and analysis of pressing issues in today's globalized world;
- Strengthen skills in analysis, research and academic writing

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Engage in informed discussions on real-world issues occurring at the international level;
- Understand the complexity of global politics and critically analyse current events;
- Apply various theoretical perspectives to global issues;

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- Demonstrate improvement in academic research and writing

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)

Boyer, Mark, Butler, Michael & Hudson, Natalie (2019) *Global Politics: Applying Theory to a Complex World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Hard copies of the textbook are available at the University of Calgary Bookstore. E-text versions can be purchased using this link: <https://redshelf.com/app/ecom/book/1317198/global-politics-1317198-9780190655587-mark-a-boyer-natalie-f-hudson-michael-j-butler>

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Mid-Term I	25%	October 11 th
Research Paper Assignment	25%	October 25 th
Mid-Term II	25%	November 3 rd
Final Exam	25%	Scheduled by the Registrar (Dec. 10 – 21)
Total	100%	

If a student misses a required course component, please get in touch with the instructor as soon as possible.

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
INTRODUCING WORLD POLITICS: CONCEPTS & THEORIES		
Week 1 Sept. 6 & 8	Introducing World Politics -Introduction to the course, overview of the syllabus and an introduction to the basic concepts used for understanding world politics	Required -Textbook Chapters 1 & 3
Week 2 Sept. 13 & 15	Theories of World Politics I -Introducing and discussing the main theories used to make sense of world politics: realism, liberalism and constructivism	Required -Textbook Chapter 2, pages 22-36, 40-44
Week 3 Sept. 20	Theories of World Politics II -Introducing and discussing critical theories of world politics	Required -Textbook Chapter 2, pages 36-40, 44-48
Sept. 22	Paper Assignment Prep	

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<p>Week 4 Sept. 27 & 29</p>	<p>Globalization & the State in World Politics -Considering the past, present and future of the state and inter-state system</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapters 4 & 5</p>
<p>Week 5 Oct. 4 & 6</p>	<p>Intergovernmental Organizations -Discussing the role of intergovernmental organizations in world politics, including the United Nations</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapter 6</p>
<p>Week 6 Oct. 11 Oct. 13</p>	<p>Mid-Term Exam I International Law -Overviewing the content and limitations of international law</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapter 9</p>
<p>Week 7 Oct. 18 & 20</p>	<p>The Global Political Economy -Interrogating the relationship between the economics and political power</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapters 10 & 11</p>
<p>Week 8 Oct. 25 Oct. 25 & 27</p>	<p>Paper Assignment Due Conflict -Discussing the changing nature of armed conflict</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapters 7</p>
<p>Week 9 Nov. 1 Nov. 3</p>	<p>(In)Security -Identifying state responses to international security threats Mid-Term Exam II</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapter 8</p>
<p>Week 10 Nov. 6 - 12</p>	<p>READING WEEK No class</p>	
<p>Week 11 Nov. 15 & 17</p>	<p>Human Rights -Introducing the international human rights system</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapter 12</p>
<p>Week 12 Nov. 22 & 24</p>	<p>Climate Change & Environmental Protection -Identifying state responses to climate change and environmental sustainability</p>	<p>Required -Textbook Chapter 13</p>
<p>Week 13 Nov. 19 &</p>	<p>Global Health Governance -Considering the present and</p>	<p>Required -Gostin et al (2020) Reimagining Global Health</p>

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Dec. 1	future of global health governance in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic	Governance in the Age of COVID-19. <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> , 110(11): 1615-1619 [online TFDL]
Week 14 Dec. 6	Course Overview & Final Exam Prep	No required readings

Please note that the above schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION I (25%)

There will be two in-person mid-term exams worth 25% each. Both exams will consist of **multiple-choice questions**. For the first exam, students will have the 50 mins of class to complete the exam on **Tuesday October 11th**. The exam will be closed book, with no study aids or notes permitted during the exam. The exam will cover all the material in the required readings and the lectures. Further information for the mid-term will be provided in class on **Thursday October 6th**.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION II (25%)

The second **multiple-choice exam** will be cumulative, consisting of all the reading and lecture material covered up to the exam period. Students will have 50 mins of class to complete the exam on **Thursday November 3rd**. The exam will be closed book, with no study aids or notes permitted during the exam. Further information for the mid-term will be provided in class on **Thursday October 27th**.

RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT (25%)

Students are expected to conduct research and write a **5-6 page paper** (double-spaced, 12-point font) on an issue in world politics (i.e. terrorism, the Covid-19 pandemic, weapons of mass destruction) that identifies both unilateral and multilateral state responses to the issue. The paper must also include a consideration of the issue from one of the theoretical perspective discussed in class. Students should consult with the instructor regarding their issue of choice by October 13th (not mandatory, but strongly recommended for the student's benefit).

Students are expected to collect relevant information for their paper through research of at least 10 sources (i.e. academic journals, books, reports, news articles). At least 5 of these sources must be academic journals or books/chapters. Papers are to be submitted in the D2L Dropbox (Word document) no later than **11:59 on Tuesday October 25th**.

The paper will be graded according to the student's demonstrated research, understanding of the chosen issue and proper application of a theoretical perspective. The paper will also be graded according to the student's writing proficiency, the paper's organization and proper citation.

Further information for the paper will be provided in class on **Thursday September 22nd**.

FINAL EXAMINATION (25%)

The cumulative final examination will be **2 hours long** and will be **scheduled by the Registrar**. It will be **closed book** with no additional study aids and will consist of **3-4 short answer questions**. All the material covered in the required readings and lectures throughout the course is eligible to be on the exam. Further information for the final exam will be provided in class on Tuesday December 6th.

WRITING STATEMENT

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, 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 by contacting them at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

GRADING SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

LATE PENALTIES

For the written assignment, late submissions will receive a grade penalty of 5% for each day they are late. The 5% per day penalty will also be applied to weekend days.

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or 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.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

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.

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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>

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.

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

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>.

Reappraisal of Grades:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

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.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Academic 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. 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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of

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extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

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

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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

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 following resources:

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

Student Wellness Services:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

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