DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 283 L01
Issues and Trends in World Politics
Spring 2019

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OFFICE HOURS Monday 12:30-1:30 or by appointment
WEBSITE http://d2l.ucalgary.ca
COURSE LOCATION ST 127
COURSE DAY/TIME Monday/Wednesday 09:00-11:45
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
How do we start to make sense of the complexity of world politics?

On one hand, globalization seems to have reduced the relevance of the nation-state while improving the prospects for humanity: the proportion of extreme poor across the planet is lower than ever and, through transportation and communication technologies, nearly everyone can be in contact with everyone else. On the other hand, we face acute global challenges including economic uncertainty, climate change and environmental degradation, nuclear and other WMD proliferation, terrorism, massive refugee flows, pandemic disease, and cyber vulnerabilities. And, rather than coming together, it seems as if countries and societies are increasingly pulling apart, cloistering around revived nationalisms or more virulent xenophobia (i.e., fear of outsiders).

These global tensions between cooperation and fragmentation are hardly unique to our era, and yet our era faces some unique challenges. This course is designed to help you better understand the historical structures, continuities, and changes that have produced and continue to shape contemporary world politics, and then to delve more deeply into some of the key issues, actors, and trends that will influence our world in the coming months and years. Along the way, conceptual and analytical tools are introduced to help you make sense of this complexity, either as an end in itself or in preparation for more advanced courses in international relations and the social sciences.
COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
• To introduce students to the historical foundations and forces that produced our contemporary world of states, including the major tensions that drive world politics (power versus justice, empire versus self-determination, human rights versus national sovereignty, free trade versus mercantilism, etc.)
• To cultivate comprehensive understanding about the major issues and trends driving world politics in the 21st Century
• To develop analytical and critical skills geared towards the social scientific and humanistic study of world politics

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Students will develop the knowledge and/or skills to …
• differentiate and identify the broad contours of global political geography and its historical evolution
• differentiate and identify the main actors within contemporary global politics (from states and international organizations to transnational corporations, NGOs, and criminal networks)
• identify, understand, distinguish, apply, and critique different key concepts, theoretical perspectives, and dominant narratives that attempt to explain and analyze various aspects of world politics
• develop critical reading, thinking, and analytical skills to apply towards the complexities of contemporary global politics and its major substantive issues and trends

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S):
Steven Spiegel et al., World Politics in a New Era, 6th edition (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015) [Available new or likely used in the University Bookstore, SU’s Bound & Copied Bookstore, online booksellers, etc.]

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>WEIGHTING</th>
<th>DUE DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation/TopHat</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Throughout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test (1 hour and 30 minutes)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>June 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>June 14th (upload to D2L Dropbox)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative Final Exam (2 hours)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Scheduled by Registrar June 19-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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POLI 283 L01 (Spring 2019)
## COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS:
The schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class 1</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td>NOTE: SEL (Spiegel et al.) refers to the required textbook. Other recommended readings and thematic resources will be posted on D2L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Thematic question: Is the world coming together or falling apart?</td>
<td>SEL, Chapter 1 – World Politics: Complexity and Competing Processes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6th</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>SEL, Chapter 11 – Human Issues: Demographic Trends</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Syllabus &amp; Assignments D2L usage/TopHat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class knowledge inventory</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NOTE:</strong> SEL (Spiegel et al.) refers to the required textbook. Other recommended readings and thematic resources will be posted on D2L.</td>
<td><strong>You should start using the World Map learning tool at</strong>&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://lizardpoint.com/geography/world-countries-magnifier-quiz.php?qid=1806">http://lizardpoint.com/geography/world-countries-magnifier-quiz.php?qid=1806</a> to learn and test your knowledge of global political geography.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class 2</td>
<td>Thematic question: How did we get here (i.e., what are the historical foundations of contemporary international society)?</td>
<td>SEL, Chapter 3 – World Politics and Economics: 1648-1945</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Monday May 13th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13th</td>
<td>Thematic question: How did we survive the Cold War?</td>
<td>SEL, Chapter 4 – World Politics &amp; Economics: The Cold War (pp. 112 – 145)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class 5</td>
<td>Victoria Day – university is closed, no class</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Thematic question: Why does it matter where you start to look for explanations?</td>
<td>SEL, Chapter 2 – Theory and World Politics (pp. 19-56)</td>
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<td>May 20th</td>
<td>Monday May 20th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class 6</td>
<td>Wednesday May 22th</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Class 7  | Monday | May 27th | Thematic question: How do different fundamental assumptions about human nature, human organization, and knowledge translate into theoretical frameworks of analysis and action in global politics? | SEL, Chapter 2 – Theory and World Politics (pp. 19-56)  
SEL, Chapter 4 – World Politics & Economics: The Cold War (pp. 107–112) |
|---------|--------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Class 8 | Wednesday | May 29th | Thematic question: How did we go from the “end of history” to 9/11, Putin, Brexit, and Trump since the end of the Cold War? | SEL, Chapter 6 – Globalization and Fragmentation in a New World Order: 1991 to ... Trump?  
SEL, Chapter 14 – World Politics in Context |
| Class 9 | Monday | June 3rd | Thematic question: What does security mean, for whom, and how do you get it? | SEL, Chapter 7 – Security Theory and Practice |
| Class 10 | Wednesday | June 5th | Trends in Security  
Break  
Trends in the Global Environment | SEL, Chapter 8 – Contemporary Security Issues  
SEL, Chapter 12 – Resource Issues |
| Class 11 | Monday | June 10th | Midterm Review  
Break  
Trends in Global Political Economy I | SEL, Chapter 9 – World Politics: Trade and Investment |
| Class 12 | Wednesday | June 12th | Trends in Global Political Economy II | SEL, Chapter 10 – World Politics: Development |
ESSAYS/RESEARCH PAPER(S)
Students will be required to write one major research essay on a subject of their own choosing (suggestions will be provided) and is due on June 14\textsuperscript{th}, 2019. This paper (12-15 pages, double-spaced) is to provide an analytical study of an aspect of international relations. The paper will be evaluated in terms of both its academic and writing content. It is to be submitted at the beginning of class in a paper format. Students must retain an electronic copy for their own records.

PARTICIPATION
TopHat (an online, interactive response application) will be used in class to assist in attaining learning objectives. Class discussions will also be counted towards your class participation grade, so proper preparation includes tackling the assigned readings prior to each class.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION
This test is 1.5 hours and closed-book. It will cover the beginning of the course (readings and lectures up to May 29). The exam will be in multiple-choice format including some map identification.

\textit{Note: This will be a closed book mid-term exam. No notes, laptops, cell phones etc. will be allowed.}

FINAL EXAMINATION
This final exam will be scheduled by the registrar during the exam period (June 19-21) and will last two hours. The exam will include multiple-choice, short answers, and one essay (with options). The essay should be well structured with a clear introduction, substantive paragraphs, and a conclusion.

\textit{Note: This will be a closed book final exam. No notes, laptops, cell phones, etc., will be allowed.}
GRADE SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>91-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49</td>
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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.

LATE PENALTIES
Late penalties for written work: five percent (5%) per every day late, including weekends.

CLASS PREPARATION & DESIRE2LEARN (D2L)
Lectures focus on the material presented in the textbook and readings as well as general discussion relating to the topic(s) outlined in the lecture schedule. Students are expected to read the assigned text chapters and readings before class, and be prepared for class discussion. Important information and additional readings are posted on Desire2Learn (D2L). Students should regularly check the Announcements or News section of Desire2Learn (D2L) for ongoing notices, as well as the Contents page for additional course materials and assignments. It is the responsibility of the student to understand all concepts presented in the textbook and lectures. If you need clarification, please take the initiative to ask the instructor during class or during office hours.

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.

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-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/