



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 283 L01
Issues and Trends in World Politics
SPRING 2020

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Nketti Johnston-Taylor
EMAIL: ntaylor@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Thursday 12:00 – 13:00 or by appointment (Via Zoom)
COURSE DAY/TIME: TR: 09:00 – 11:45
DELIVERY METHOD: Web (Zoom)
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: NA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This lecture-based course seeks to understand the nature and trends found in contemporary world politics and their impact(s) on society. The field of world politics can span the continuum from open warfare to peaceful cooperation. Some countries fight wars against one another or spend significant resources preparing to fight, while other countries have managed to live in peace by engaging in economic cooperation. On the one hand, globalization seems to have reduced the relevance of the nation-state and creating opportunities of international cooperation through institutions (multilateral organizations such as the UN, IMF, and WTO as well as NGOs such as Amnesty International) for the well-being of human society. On the other hand, globalization is fueling the rise of nationalism and other challenges including poverty, global terrorism, environmental degradation, nuclear and other WMD proliferation, population growth, massive refugee flows, pandemic disease, and cyber vulnerabilities. Understanding this varied landscape of conflict and cooperation is central to the goal of this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Have a comprehensive understanding of the most salient issues and trends in contemporary world politics.
- Have not only a firmer grasp of important core concepts (e.g., anarchy, sovereignty, development, sustainability, security etc.) but also greater awareness of alternative perspectives to interpreting and resolving global dilemmas (e.g., population growth, environmental degradation, transnational crime flows and poverty).
- Develop critical reading, thinking and analytical skills to apply towards the complexities of contemporary global politics.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S):

Steven L Spiegel, Elizabeth G. Matthews, Jennifer M. Taw, Kristen P. Williams, *World Politics in a New Era*, 6th edition.

**Additional readings can be found in the course schedule below and on D2L*

Hard copies of the textbook can be purchased through the University of Calgary Bookstore at this link: https://www.calgarybookstore.ca/buy_textbooks.asp?

*They're offering FREE shipping to students in Canada. Could you please pass this information along to your students as well?

*Alternatively, you purchase the e-book from Redshelf at this link:

<https://redshelf.com/book/1560507/world-politics-in-a-new-era-1560507-9780197544198-steven-l-spiegel-elizabeth-g-matthews-jennifer-m-taw-kristen-p-williams>

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Mid Term	40%	May 29th 23:59
Class Participation	20%	Real time - in class
Final Exam	40%	June 20th by 23:59
Total	100%	

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

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
WK 1 (May 7)	Introduction to the course Zoom and Top Hat basics and rules World Politics: Complexity and Competing Processes	Chapter 1
WK 2 (May 12, 14)	Theory and World Politics World Politics and Economics: 1648- 1945	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
WK3: (May 19, 21)	World Politics and Economics: The Cold War	Chapter 4

(June 9, 11)	Resources Issues: Resource Curse	Chapter 12 Larson (2006). Escaping the Resource Curse and the Dutch Disease? When and Why Norway Caught up with and Forged Ahead of Its Neighbors, The American Journal of Economics and Sociology, Vol. 65, No. 3, pp. 605 – 640. Ross (1999). The Political Economy of the Resource Curse, World Politics, Vol. 51, No. 2 pp. 297-322.
WK 7 (June 16)	Final Exam Review	

***Please note that this schedule is subject to change**

***Copyright approved links will be posted on D2L**

ASSIGNMENTS

Midterm Examination (40%)

Students are required to complete 25 multiple choice questions and 5 short answers. This will be available on D2L between 12:00 and 18:00 on May 29th. Students are required to complete this exam within 120 minutes (2hours) and submit via D2L. A mid-term exam review will be held on Thursday 21st of May in class.

Final Examination (40%)

Students are required to complete 35 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer/mini essay type questions. This will be available on D2L. It will be a timed examination between 12:00 and 18:00 on June 20th. Students are required to complete this exam within 180 minutes (3 hours) and submit via D2L. An exam review will be held on Tuesday 16th of June in class.

PARTICIPATION (20%)

Students are expected to attend and be prepared for all classes. The reading assignments from the textbook, cited in the reading list, are to be completed for each class. It is expected that students will follow the coverage of news stories that are related to the various topic areas.

Furthermore, students can score up to 20% (**with 4% dedicated to each week excluding weeks 3 and 7**) for participating in class exercises (open ended and or multiple choice questions) and class discussions in real time using [Top Hat](#). Questions and discussions will be based on the content being taught or discussed in the class and will be submitted via the Top Hat application in class.

Using Top Hat in this way will help the instructor gauge students' mastery of content as well facilitate and enhance student participation and engagement and ultimately enhance mastery of the content. The instructor will send an invitation to all students to access Top Hat and will provide a guide to using Top Hat on D2L – see Resources folder. This will also be discussed in the first class.

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>. There will also be a course-specific “Written Work Hints & Checklist” posted on D2L.

INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH

Most class sessions will be lecture-based. Lectures will complement the readings, not provide a substitute for doing them. This course will also make use of Top Hat engagement application to gauge student mastery of the content and enhance student participation and engagement.

GRADE 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

Late submissions, those without an extension granted by the instructor, will be docked 5% per day (including weekends). Papers, which are more than 7 days late, will not be marked and shall receive a zero mark.

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. All meetings will be held virtually.

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, to be held virtually.

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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, please consult with the Arts Students' Centre by calling 403-220-3580 or by email at 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].

Important Contact Information:

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 following resources:

Student Wellness Services:

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

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