



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 283 L01 (Winter 2020)
Issues and Trends in World Politics

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Saira Bano

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OFFICE: SS 721

EMAIL: sban@ucalgary.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Friday: 11:00-13:00 or by appointment (I will be available on my email and if needed we can set up a meeting on Zoom)

COURSE DAY/TIME: M W F: 13:00-13:50

COURSE LOCATION: KNB 132

COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None

TEACHING ASSISTANTS: Robert Clifton. robert.clifton1@ucalgary.ca

Saaka Sulemana. saaka.sulemana@ucalgary.ca

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 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 task 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).

- Develop critical reading, thinking, research, and analytical skills to apply towards the complexities of contemporary global politics.

Note: 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. Most class sessions will be lecture-based. Lectures will complement the readings, not provide a substitute for doing them.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S):

Steven L Spiegel, Elizabeth G. Matthews, Jennifer M. Taw, Kristen P. Williams, *World Politics in a New Era*, 6th edition, (Oxford: OUP, 2015).

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Review Paper Assignment	20%	March 2
Mid-Term 1	20%	February 7
Mid-Term II	20%	March 23rd
Take Home Final Exam	40%	Issued on Wednesday April 15th and Due Tuesday, April 28th.
Total	100%	

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

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Week 1 Jan 13, 15 & 17	Introduction to the Course, Basic Concepts and Theory	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 1 & 2
Week 2 Jan 20, 22 & 24	Westphalia to WWII	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 3
Week 3 Jan 27, 29 & 31	The Cold War	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 4
Week 4 Feb 3, 5 & 7	Imperialism Mid-Term I (Feb 7)	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 5
Week 5	New World Order	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 6

Feb 10, 12 & 14		
Week 6 Feb 17, 19 & 21	Reading Break	
Week 7 Feb 24, 26 & 28	Security Theory and Practice	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 7
Week 8 Mar 2, 4 & 6	Contemporary Security Issues Review Paper Assignment Due (March 2)	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 8
Week 9 Mar 9, 11 & 13	Globalization and World Issues <i>(I have uploaded the slides and a written explanation of the topic on D2L)</i>	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 8
Week 10 Mar 16, 18 & 20	Trade and Investment <i>(I have uploaded the slides and a written explanation of the topic on D2L)</i> <i>(Lecture through Zoom)</i>	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 9
Week 11 Mar 23, 25 & 27	International Development <i>(I have uploaded the slides and a written explanation of the topic on D2L)</i> <i>(Lecture on Zoom)</i> Mid-Term II (March 23rd)	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 10
Week 12 Mar 30, Apr 1 & 3	Demographic Trends & Resource Issues <i>(I have uploaded the slides and a written explanation of the topic on D2L)</i> <i>(Lecture on Zoom)</i>	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 11 & 12
Week 13 Apr 6 & 8	International Law and Organizations <i>(I have uploaded the slides and a written explanation of the topic on D2L)</i> <i>(Lecture on Zoom)</i>	World Politics in a New Era, Chapter 13
Week 14 Apr 15	Review Class <i>on Zoom</i>	

REVIEW PAPER ASSIGNMENT

Each student will write a review paper (3-4 pages, typed in 12 font size and spaced 1.5 between the lines) chosen from the list of articles provided by the instructor. The review papers are due on March 2nd. Papers will be submitted via D2L Dropbox. **Late penalties** of five percent (5%) will be applied for each 24 hours past the specified deadline, including weekends.

Steps for the paper:

- 1- Summarize the article:** Focus on the important points, claims, and information. Identify the author's arguments and main points. Pay careful attention to the meaning of the article. Make sure you fully understand the article. The only way to write a good review article is to understand the article. What does the article set out to do? What are the central points? Are the central concepts clearly defined?
- 2- Discuss the positive aspects of the article:** Think about what the author does well, good points s/he makes, and insightful observations. What parts of the article were clear, thorough and useful explanations of the subject?
- 3- Identify contradictions, gaps, and inconsistencies in the text:** Determine if there is enough data or research included to support the author's claims. Find any unanswered questions left in the article. What are the contradictions, gaps and inconsistencies in the article? Support your critique with evidence from the article or other texts.

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.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION (20%)

The mid-term exam will be done in class on Friday, February 7th. It will comprise mostly multiple-choice questions and short answers.

MID-TERM II EXAMINATION (20%)

The Mid-Term II Exam with 40 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) will be available (1pm-7pm) on D2L on March 23rd and students need to complete this exam online in 75 minutes.

FINAL EXAMINATION (40%)

This will be an open book exam. The exam will consist of four set of questions (each set will be comprised 2 questions, worth 20% each question) and students will answer one set of questions. It will be issued on D2L and via email on April 15th after the review class and answers should be uploaded to D2L no later than 9pm on April 28th. The answers must take the form of an argumentative essay, and: 1) be approximately 3 pages (maximum) for each question in length (excluding endnotes and bibliography); 2) be written in 12 point Times New Roman font with

1.5 space; and 3) be fully referenced (any citation style is acceptable). Papers exceeding this length will be penalised by half a letter grade per page (or part page) over the maximum, eg a 4-page answer worth an “A” would drop to an “A-”.

Please note that this is an individual, not a collective, exercise and you are responsible for ensuring that the exam you turn in is your own work.

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 papers, 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 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.

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