



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLI 381 L02
Introduction to International Relations
Fall 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Gavin Cameron
OFFICE: Social Science 718
EMAIL: gcameron@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: W 1100-1200 or by appointment
COURSE DAY/TIME: T/R 1530-1645
DELIVERY METHOD: In-person¹
COURSE LOCATION: ST145
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None
TEACHING ASSISTANTS: Samuel Ho (samuel.ho@ucalgary.ca)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The structures and processes of international relations and foreign policy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course introduces theories and concepts important in understanding the dynamics of international relations. As well as examining the main theoretical explanations of international relations, the course will consider some of the key structures of the international system and assess a number of critical issues, using these theories and structures as a framework. The objectives of the course are to provide a basis for students to think critically about international relations, to introduce a range of contemporary problems in the subject, and to develop students' skills in analysis, research and writing.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)

Stephanie Lawson, *Global Politics*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021)

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Participation	30 %	Throughout the semester
Midterm 1	20%	October 7
Midterm 2	20%	November 4
Take Home Final Exam	30%	December 9
Total	100%	

¹ *The Faculty of Arts, the Department of Political Science and the instructor reserve the right to change the delivery of this course [or seminar] from in person to online if it is determined that the situation warrants such a change.*

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

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
September 7 & 9	Course Introduction & Thinking About Global Politics	Lawson, Chapters 1 and 2
September 14 and 16	Liberalisms, Realisms and International Society	Lawson, Chapter 3
September 21 and 23	Critical Theories in Global Politics	Lawson, Chapter 4
September 28	New Theories of Global Politics 1	Lawson, Chapter 5
September 30	No Class – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	
October 5	New Theories of Global Politics 2	Lawson, Chapter 5
October 7	Midterm 1	
October 12 and 14	Security	Lawson, Chapter 6
October 19 and 21	International Organizations	Lawson, Chapter 7
October 26 and 28	International Law	Lawson, Chapter 8
November 2	Diplomacy and Foreign Policy	Lawson, Chapter 9
November 4	Midterm 2	
November 7-13	Reading Week – No Classes	
November 16 and 18	Global Political Economy	Lawson, Chapter 10
November 23 and 25	Environmental Politics	Lawson, Chapter 11
November 30 and December 2	Justice	Lawson, Chapter 12
December 7 and 9	Conclusion and Discussion of Final Exam	

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

PARTICIPATION

The participation mark will be based on contributions via the Discussion feature of D2L. Each week there will be a question provided on the topic under discussion that week. The Discussion feature of D2L will be open for each weekly topic from Monday to Sunday. You need to provide

a substantive comment on at least two weekly questions (each worth up to 10 marks) and responses (each worth up to 5 marks) to someone else's substantive comment during two other weeks.

Participation Rubric:

Overview

Posted messages should be significant – helping the discussion move forward. There are a variety of ways to do this, including (generally in some combination over the course of the week or within a posting):

- Providing concrete examples, perhaps from your own experience
- Describing possible consequences or implications
- Challenging something that has been posted in the discussion – perhaps by playing “devil’s advocate”
- Posing a clarifying question
- Suggesting a different perspective or interpretation
- Pulling in related information from other sources – books, articles, websites, other courses, etc.

Participation will be evaluated in terms of quality as well as quantity, based on the following scale:

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Fair
Timeliness of discussion responses (because earlier posts make it easier for people to respond to you)	Monday-Tuesday	Wednesday-Friday	Saturday-Sunday
Responsiveness to discussion topics and demonstration of knowledge and understanding from textbook.	Readings were understood and incorporated into discussion as it relates to topic.	Little use made of readings.	Postings have questionable relationships to discussion questions and/or readings; they are non-substantive.
Ability of postings to move discussion forward.	Posting adds significantly to the discussions (e.g. identifying important relationships, offering a fresh perspective or critique of a point; offers supporting evidence).	Posting supplements or adds moderately to the discussion.	Postings do little to move discussion forward.
Marks	10 (substantive comment)/5 (response)	6 / 3	4 / 2

*adapted from a rubric developed by Don Stepich; modified by Jennifer Richardson

Protocol for posting threads and contributing to an online discussion are as follows:

- Postings should be a minimum of one short paragraph and a maximum of two paragraphs.
- Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc. If you agree (or disagree) with a posting, then say why you agree by supporting your statement with concepts from the textbook or by bringing in a related example or experience.
- Address the questions as much as possible (don't let the discussion stray).
- Try to use quotes from the textbook that support your postings. Include page numbers when you Do that.
- Use proper netiquette (proper language, typing, etc.)

"Non-substantive" messages may indicate agreement or disagreement with a prior message, but they are too general to help move the discussion forward.

"Moderate" messages add to the discussion by clarifying information or showing how it can be applied in a particular situation, but they don't break down individual thoughts and ideas to create something new or criticize an idea based on new thoughts.

"Significant" messages add to the discussion by identifying important relationships, putting ideas together in some unique way, or offering a critique as a point of discussion.

A final guideline for postings, make sure your posted comments are CRISP:

Considerate

You may have strong views and will want to express those views. That's great. But remember that others may have equally strong views that are the polar opposite of your views. Feel free to question, challenge, or disagree with anything in the discussion, but do so in a respectful, considerate way.

Reflective

An asynchronous discussion may lack the spontaneity of a live discussion. But this can be an advantage. There is more time to think before responding. Take the time to think about the ideas that have been expressed (in the readings and the discussion) from the perspective of your own experience. Then add your own comments and insights.

Interactive

Remember that you're a participant in a discussion and talk with one another. Cut and paste parts of previous messages into your message. The idea is to be interactive, not just active.

Succinct

Get to the point. Short, focused messages are usually more effective than long comments.

Pertinent

Comments and questions should be related to the discussion topic. There will be times when you want to talk with someone about something unrelated to the topic. That's fine, but this is not the place to do that. When you enter into a weekly discussion, please remember that you're in a classroom, not a chat room.

This rubric is adapted from "Participation in Class Discussions – Scoring and Examples". This can be found at:

https://www.purdue.edu/innovativelearning/supportinginstruction/portal/files/8.2_Sample_Discussion_Board_Rubric_LDT.pdf

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MID-TERM EXAMINATION

The first assessment (20%) will be an in-class test of short answer questions on the theories of international relations. The second assessment (20%) will be an in-class test requiring students to write an essay that ties the theories of international relations to the structures and processes discussed within the course.

FINAL EXAMINATION

This will be an open book exam. It will consist of a single essay question, issued via D2L on December 3 and submitted (in DropBox) to me no later than 5pm on December 9. The object of the exam is, first, to test students' broader knowledge of the class' contents and ability to tie that understanding to a real-world situation, and, second, to develop students' ability to present coherent and concise arguments on a complex topic. Consequently, the maximum length for the exam answer is 5 pages (excluding endnotes and bibliography, 12-point font, double-spacing). Papers exceeding this length will be penalised by half a letter grade per page (or part page) over the maximum, eg an 6-page essay worth an "A" would drop to an "A-" because it is one page too long and a 8-page essay worth an "A" would be awarded a "B" because it is three pages too long.

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

Overdue work will receive a penalty of 10% for every day that it is overdue. The penalty will not be applied for extensions that are granted before the due date for an assessment.

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>

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>.

Reappraisals

The University Calendar states that for reappraisals of graded term work:

“A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work reappraised as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor **within ten business days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall take the matter to the head of the department offering the course **within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor**, who will arrange for a reappraisal of the work **within the next ten business days**. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

The University Calendar states that for reappraisal of academic assessments (final grades):

“A student may request a reappraisal of a final grade. The only element that will be considered is the final assessment(s) that makes up the final mark (e.g., final examination, final project, and final paper). The exception is when a grade for a piece of graded term work is made available to students after the last day of classes for the term in which the course is scheduled; that grade may also be considered in a reappraisal of the final grade.”

“A student seeking a reappraisal of a final grade should first attempt to review the final assessment with the department or faculty offering the course. After which the student shall obtain a Reappraisal of Final Grade form from ucalgary.ca/registrar (under Student Forms). The student must indicate exactly what error was made in marking the final assessment and/or in computing the final grade. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” More information is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

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.

Required Access to Technology

Please see the University's resource page at

https://ucalgary.service-ow.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031

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>

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 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)

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, MT 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

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/>.