

POLI 381 L01 Introduction to International Relations

Pre/Co-Requisites	None
Instructor: Dr. Saira Bano	Lecture Location: ST 126
Phone: (403) 220-3869	Lecture Days/Time: MW 12:00-2:45pm
Email: sban@ucalgary.ca	
Office: SS721	
Instructor Email Policy: The best way to communicate is through email. Please note that an explanation of concepts covered in the course cannot be answered on email. Therefore, restrict the use of email to make appointments with the instructor.	

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course gives students an introduction to the theoretical background to international relations and examines a range of contemporary topics through which it is possible to explore the behaviour of states and international organizations. The goal of this course is to give students an awareness of the theory and practice of international relations and to provide them with a structure within which to understand international events. Students will learn major theories of international relations and apply them to understand international situations and issues in the modern world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate:

- Comprehension of theories of international relations;
- Understanding of the causes and processes of modern international issues;
- Critical thinking skills in both oral and written forms;
- A knowledge and understanding of theories and concepts in international relations and be able to apply these to particular situations;
- A deeper understanding of global issues and the ability to analyze new developments in international politics as they arise.

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)

Geog Sørensen, Jørgen Møller, and Robert Jackson, *Introduction to International Relations: theories and approaches* (8th ed.) (New York: Oxford University Press, 2022).

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Research Paper	20%	May 30th
Midterm Exam	40%	May 23rd
Final Exam	40%	Scheduled by Registrar (June 20-22)
Total	100%	

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

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Week 1 (May 4)	Introduction	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 1
Week 2 (May 9 & 11)	IR as an Academic Subject and Realism	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 2 & 3
Week 3 (May 16 & 18)	Liberalism and International Society	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 4 & 5
Week 4 (May 23 & 25)	International Political Economy (Midterm Exam May 23)	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 6
Week 5 (May 30 & June 1)	Social Constructivism and Post-positivist (Research Paper due: May 30)	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 7 & 8
Week 6 (June 6 & 8)	Foreign Policy and International Political Economy	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 9 & 10
Week 7 (June 13 & 15)	Major Issues in IR and World Order	Sorensen et. al. – Chapter 11 & 12

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

RESEARCH PAPER (20%)

Students are expected to write a research paper (6-7 pages long, 1.5-spaced, 12-point font) that applies a theoretical perspective covered in the course to a current international issue of the student's choice. It is strongly recommended that students consult with the instructor regarding their choice of international issue prior to writing their research paper.

The research paper must utilize at least ten sources, 3 of which must be books. No Wikipedia, no blogs or non-credible internet sources. If you have doubts about a source, ask the instructor. Students can choose any citation style, as long as it is recognized and used consistently. All papers must utilize citation rules. Papers with no citation will get an F. This is what we call plagiarism. Papers will be submitted electronically via D2L Dropbox. Papers may be submitted in Word or PDF format. Papers must be submitted by 11:59pm on May 30th. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

The paper will be graded according to the student's demonstrated understanding of the chosen theoretical perspective, clear understanding of the chosen international issue, clarity of theoretical application, logical and coherent argumentation supported by empirical evidence, consistent organization with structured paragraphs and proper citation.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION (20%)

The mid-term exam will be done in class on Monday, May 23rd. It will comprise mostly multiple-choice questions and short answers.

FINAL EXAMINATION (40%)

A Registrar-scheduled Final Exam (2 hours) will include multiple-choice & short answers, and will be cumulative for the whole course.

Both the Mid-Term Exam and the Final Exam will be closed book exams with no external aids available (e.g., no notes, textbook etc.). A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

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

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](https://www.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](https://www.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.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>). 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.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities.

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

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

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) 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/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

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/>.