



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2020

PO 2610 (A2) INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS I: SECURITY, WAR AND PEACE - 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS FOR 15 WEEKS

INSTRUCTOR: Dawn Moffat McMaster **PHONE:** 780-539-2763
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment **E-MAIL:** dmcmaster@gprc.ab.ca
CLASS TIME: Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

FALL 2020 DELIVERY: Remote Delivery. This course is delivered remotely. There are no face-to-face or onsite requirements. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. Technical support is available through helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This is an introduction to the study of international relations with a focus on armed conflict, the pursuit of peace and related military matters. Topics may include the causes of war, the Cold War, arms control, post-Cold War military challenges, terrorism, international organizations, international law, international responses to domestic armed conflicts and the direction of Canadian defense policy.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: PO 1010 or 1020. Students interested in taking PO 2610 without the course prerequisite should speak with the instructor before registering. The Department may cancel your registration if you do not have the required course prerequisites.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens. The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations, 8th ed. Toronto. Oxford University Press, 2020.
- Internet & database readings as listed in the syllabus appendix.
- Readings assigned by instructor in class.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Discussion

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course is designed to introduce you to the study of international relations and global politics. It is intended to:

- introduce you to key concepts, theories and tools of the field;
- provide you with the ability to identify specific aspects the modern global political environment, including conflict, war, trade, culture, poverty and development, environmental change, etc.;
- encourage you compare the rights and obligations of states to those of other security actors and institutions;
- demonstrate the value of thinking clearly and systematically about complex nature of governance in the international political environment;
- prepare you for further studies in international relations at the postsecondary level.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of political concepts and theories of International Relations and their real-life applications;
- apply these to the specific challenges of international governance;
- evaluate the arguments which attempt to explain the behavior of international security actors;
- engage in formal and informal politics through discussion of international current events;
- assess original and secondary sources of argumentation and evidence, both scholarly and popular, and apply findings to new situations;
- demonstrate effective essay writing skills, through the evaluation of evidence and coherent synthesis of arguments;
- apply these specific skills to further academic study of politics.

TRANSFERABILITY: AU, UA, UC, UL, BU, KU, UR

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at <http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Reading Summaries (3 x 10%)	30%	Exam Preparation Assignment.....	10%
Participation.....	10%	Final Exam.....	30%
International Crisis Simulation.....	20%		

Reading Summary: You will choose three (3) topics from the theoretical approaches topics (Realism, Liberalism, Marxism, Social Constructivism, Post-structuralism & Feminism/Post-colonialism, and provide a 2-3 pages summary of assigned readings in class. You will provide a copy of this summary to the instructor and your classmates, and should be prepared for in-class discussion.

Participation: Your participation grade will be awarded for completion of at least 80% of peer evaluations for Readings summaries. For example, if there are 15 Reading Summaries submitted, you will need to submit at 12 evaluations to receive the participation grade. This is an example only; the number of actual summaries submitted will depend on the number of students in the class.

International Crisis Simulation: You will participate in a simulation of an international crisis where you will take on the role of either an international diplomat or an advisor to a head of government. You will be graded on both submitted written material and on your participation in the simulation.

Exam: The final exam will be a take-home written assignment of 10 – 12 pages, which will require a demonstration of knowledge of specific concepts and theories presented in the course, as well as application of that knowledge into a long form, written response. You will be given the exam question in advance, and will submit the **Exam Prep** assignment to make sure you are on the right track and get some preliminary feedback. The exam will be due on a date set by the Registrar.

More detailed information on all assignments will be distributed in class.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	93 - 100		C+	2.3	67 - 69
A	4.0	87 - 92		C	2.0	63 - 66
A-	3.7	80 - 86		C-	1.7	60 - 62
B+	3.3	77 - 79		D+	1.3	55 - 59
B	3.0	73 - 76		D	1.0	50 - 54
B-	2.7	70 - 72		F	0.0	00 - 49

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic at (available at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/). Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on all written assignments.

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Schedule of Lectures & Readings (subject to alteration, upon consent of instructor and students)	
Week 1 (Sept. 2 - 5)	Lecture 1: Introduction to International Relations
Week 2 (Sept. 6 – 12)	Lecture 2: Historical Context Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Chs. 3, 4 & 5
Week 3 (Sept. 13 – 19)	Lecture 3: Realism Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 8
Week 4 (Sept. 20 – 26)	Lecture 4: Liberal Internationalism Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 6
Week 5 (Sept. 27 – Oct. 3)	Lecture 5: Marxist theories of IR / Social constructivism Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 7 & 12
Week 6 (Oct. 4 – 10)	Lecture 6: Post-structuralism / Post-colonialism / Feminism in IR Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 9, 10, & 11
(Oct. 11 – 17)	<i>FALL BREAK – NO CLASS</i>
Week 7 (Oct. 18 – 24)	Lecture 6 (con't)
Week 8 (Oct. 25 – 31)	Lecture 7: International Organizations and the United Nations Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 20 & 21
Week 9 (Nov. 1 – 7)	Lecture 8: Global Security & Nuclear Proliferation Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 15 & 29
Week 10 (Nov. 8 – 14)	Lecture 9: Nationalism & Terrorism Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 28 & 30

Week 11 (Nov. 15 – 21)	<p>**Exam Prep Assignment Due – Fri., Nov. 20**</p> <p>Lecture 10: International Law, Migration & Refugees</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 19 & 25
Week 12 (Nov. 22 – 28)	<p>Lecture 11: Human Security & Humanitarian Intervention</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baylis, Smith & Owens text, Ch. 31 & 32
Week 13 (Nov. 29 - Dec. 5)	<p>International Crisis Simulation</p> <p>Readings TBA</p>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Punctual submission of assignments:

- An electronic copy is due by midnight on the due date. It should be submitted via Brightspace, and should be formatted as a PDF. If you do not know how to save a document as a PDF, please contact me.
- Please title your paper as follows: LASTNAMEFirstname-Assignment-PO1010F2020. (Ex. Jane Smith's paper should be saved as SMITHJane-TermPaper- PO1010F2020.)
- Late assignments will be docked 3% (i.e. an A becomes an A-) for each day they are late. If extenuating circumstances necessitate an extension on an assignment, you are required to speak with me **AHEAD OF TIME**, and appropriate paperwork (i.e. a medical note) may be required. Also, please note that the due date of the final paper will be determined by the College. You should take this into account when making plans around the end of the semester.

Classroom Conduct:

GPRC is committed to promoting an environment free of harassment or discrimination where respect will be given to ethnic, cultural, religious, and lifestyle diversity, and expects individuals will conduct themselves with respect for one another. This means your behaviour should exhibit respect for yourselves, each other, the instructor, and the course material. As such:

- Students are expected to log in to Zoom on time and prepared, with cameras on and microphones muted. A camera AND mic is mandatory - visibility is accountability! If you are concerned with privacy in your environment, please feel free to use a virtual background (instructions are available here: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/210707503-Virtual-Background#h_01ED77TMFJXBJGY9KKJBC916FK).
- Be prepared to communicate both through your mic and via chat. For example, if you need to step away for a moment, please advise me via chat BEFORE turning your camera off. Please note, the chat feature in zoom is to be limited to questions to the instructor or supportive comments to students ONLY; it is NOT a place to have a general text chat.
- Please use the emojis available in Zoom (Hand up, thumbs up, etc. ...). We will review how to use these in our first class.

- I encourage an atmosphere of positive and constructive debate, both for in-person communication and digital communication of any kind. Expressions of disagreement with ideas are acceptable; personal attacks are not. Engaging with a view expressed by another person, through written or verbal comments, audible noises, facial expressions or body language, is not acceptable unless you are prepared to debate your position openly & respectfully in class.
- Regular attendance. If you know you are going to be absent from class, I expect you to contact me PRIOR TO CLASS with a reason. Students who miss more than 1/3 of classes (9 or more) may be denied the opportunity to write the final exam, as stated in GPRC's Examination Policy (available at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/).

For information on key dates and other important matters, please refer to the GPRC Calendar, available www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/.