



INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INSTRUCTOR:	Hillarie Zimmermann, B.A. University of Cape Town, M.Sc. University of Guelph
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment.
OFFICE LOCATION:	T1032, Trades and Technology wing
TELEPHONE/E-MAIL:	668-8869
EMAIL:	hzimmermann@yukoncollege.yk.ca

COURSE OFFERING

DAYS & TIMES:	Classes: Monday and Wednesday
	Time: 1:00 – 2:30 pm
	Room: A2603

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to serve as an introduction to international relations in the 21st Century. The course will investigate the history of the international political system; how the international community is dealing with terrorism; how international organizations and institutions, (e.g. United Nations and World Bank) are adapting to the "New World Order" of the new millennium; the rise of Asia's next superpowers; and how economic globalization impacts the world's richest and poorest.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the major issues and actors that dominate international relations today, specifically 4 main topics: terrorism and the War on Terror, the continued reform of the United Nations and its (in)effectiveness, the rise of China and India, the next superpowers and economic globalization.
2. Identify the primary theories of international relations (particularly idealism vs. realism).
3. Identify themes (globalization, terrorism, the role of non-state actors) and terminology.
4. Comprehend statistical measures such as GDP, HDI, literacy and population growth rates that define contemporary international politics today.
5. Demonstrate a foundational knowledge in international relations to pursue further study in more specialized areas of international political science.
6. Demonstrate written communication and analytical and research skills.

DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT:

Materials will be delivered through lectures and by assigned readings. Students will be expected to have read the material assigned prior to the beginning of class. The first half of each class will involve a lecture centering on the topics raised in International Relations, Third Canadian Edition by Goldstein,

Pevehouse, and Whitworth while the second half of each class will involve a more flexible, seminar-style discussion of readings related to current events. Students are encouraged to ask questions and are expected to participate in discussions.

COURSE PREREQUISITE(S):

Second year standing in the Arts and Science Division or permission of the instructor

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:

Discussion papers - (20%)

Twice over the course of the semester you will be required to write a three-page (double-spaced) discussion paper based on a topic/issue that we are studying in class. A list of topics will be provided by the instructor. Each summary will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Student-led Seminar – 10%

Students will sign up to do a short presentation on a country and the key issues currently being faced by that country. Students are expected to incorporate key concepts/theories learned in the course and explain how they are relevant to the country/issues. Students will also be expected to lead a short discussion on the topic during their presentation.

Mid-Term Exam - 10%

The midterm will be 1 hour and 15 minutes long and will cover material encountered in the first half of the course.

Term Paper and presentation – 30%

Each student will submit a 10-12 double-spaced term paper using APA referencing and formal Academic Style. The paper should cohesively and comprehensively examine a particular issue that has been raised in class from a list of topics submitted by the instructor. Students will be given adequate time to research and write the essay and may contact the instructor for further advice on his/her paper. The instructor will provide further detail once the course has ensued. The term paper is worth 20%. Students will also be expected to do an in-class presentation on their term paper. This is worth 10%.

Final exam - 20%

The exam will be 2 hours long and will require you to synthesize and think critically about the course materials and themes.

Participation – 10%

The purpose of the participation grade is to assess comprehension of readings and lectures and to reward constructive contributions. Participation includes attendance, constructive contributions to in-class discussion, and free discussion about course matters during class with the instructor and classmates.

Evaluation:

Discussion papers (2)	20%
Student-led Seminar	10%
Term Paper and presentation	30%
Mid-Term Examination	10%
Final Exam	20%
Participation	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	100%

Required readings

Required readings consist of assigned chapters from the text and current event articles assigned by the instructor. Students are also expected to keep abreast of current global events through independent reading. To participate in class activities it is essential that assigned readings be completed prior to each class.

Plagiarism:

It should be noted that plagiarism (academic dishonesty) is a serious academic offence and will result in your receiving a mark of zero on the assignment or the course. In certain cases, it can also result in dismissal from the College.

Plagiarism involves representing the words of someone else as your own, without citing the source from which the material is taken. If the words of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be cited according to standard procedures. The resubmission of a paper for which you have previously received credit and the submission of the same paper for two courses also constitutes academic dishonesty. **Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest and can have serious consequences.**

Written Assignment Requirements

You should note that the written requirements for this course must be word-processed and fulfil the basic requirements for academic papers including use of APA referencing style. You also should note that late assignments will be penalized by **ONE MARK PER DAY** unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments will not be accepted seven days after the due date.

Class Participation

Regular attendance at, and participation in class are required. Participation marks are assessed on the basis of active listening skills and orally demonstrated comprehension of the required readings in the lecture/seminar portions of the class. All students will be expected to participate in class discussions and carry out individual and group exercises assigned by the instructor. Students are encouraged to raise questions and current events that directly relate to course content.

Examinations:

The midterm and final exams will involve a combination of short answer and essay questions. Midterm and final examinations are based on the materials presented in class and the required readings.

Scheduled Examination Dates:

Except in extenuating circumstances, alternative arrangements will not be made for those students unable to write examinations on the scheduled examination dates.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

International Relation. Joshua Goldstein, Jon Pevehouse, Sandra Whitworth. 3rd Canadian Edition 2013.
Pearson Education Canada.

EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY:

SFU	Poli 241 (3) B-Soc
UBC	Poli 260 (3)
UNBC	Ints 205
UVIC	Poli 240 (1.5)
TRU-OL	Poli 2419 (3)
UR	Psci 240 (3)
UAF	Ps F2S

For more information about transferability please contact the Liberal Arts Office.

SYLLABUS

DATE	TOPICS/ACTIVITIES	READINGS
Sept 4	Review course outline and introductions	
Sept 9, 11	Introduction to the study of international relations History of international relations	Chapter 1 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Sept 16, 18	Realist Approaches Liberal Approaches Critical Approaches	Chapters 2, 3, 4 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Sept 23, 25	Foreign Policy	Chapter 5 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Sept 30, Oct 2	International Conflict	Chapter 6 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Oct 7, 9	Militaries and the Use of Force	Chapter 7 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Oct 14 (holiday), 16	International Organizations	Chapter 8 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Oct 21, 23	International Law	Chapter 9 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Oct 28, 30	Midterm Exam	
Nov 4, 6	Trade Money and Business	Chapter 10 & 11 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Nov 11 (holiday), 13	The North-South Gap	Chapter 12 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Nov 18, 20	International Development	Chapter 13 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Nov 25, 27	Environment and Health	Chapter 14 Current event reading assigned by instructor.
Dec 2	Review	
Dec 9	Final Exam (TBA)	

Note: This course outline is subject to change, particularly the date of the Final Exam.