

Political Science 2231E, Section 001
Introduction to Political Science:

Term 1 Course Outline

Professor Nigmendra Narain

(Term 2: Professor Radoslav Dimitrov)

- Lectures: Wednesday 10:30am – 12:30pm
- Location: Room 146, University Community College (UCC 146)
- Tutorials: See OWL site; all tutorials are on Wednesday or Thursday
- Contact Info: Prof. Nigmendra Narain, SSC 4149, nnarain@uwo.ca
Prof. Radoslav Dimitrov, SSC 4219, rdimitro@uwo.ca
- Office hours: See OWL site, including office hours for TAs; if our office hours' times conflict with your other classes, etc., please also email us for an appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course offers an introduction to major issues in world politics, and concepts and theories in the academic study of international relations. Topics include: states and non-state actors; international organizations, negotiations and global governance; terrorism, armed conflict and international security; theoretical perspectives on global politics; international political economy and globalization; human rights; and global environmental politics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course promotes student progress toward Ontario Degree Level Expectations: breadth and depth of knowledge; application of knowledge; awareness of limits of knowledge; and autonomy and professional capacity. Students will pursue the following objectives:

- 1) Develop knowledge of contemporary international affairs;
- 2) Improve understanding of the forces that shape world politics;
- 3) Refine your ability to engage in political analysis of current events; and
- 4) Grow awareness of the impacts of world politics on your life.

REQUISITES AND ANTI-REQUISITES

Anti-requisites: Political Science 231E, International Relations 210E

Pre-requisites: Political Science 1020E
or permission of the Department of Political Science

READINGS

Textbook: Jon Pevehouse & Joshua Goldstein, *International Relations*, Pearson 2017, 11th edition, 464pp. (P&G)

There two ways to purchase the book from the UWO Bookstore (and online through the UWO bookstore website):

- 1) Electronic copy with Revel Access
- 2) Electronic copy with Revel Access & Loose Leaf copy (if you want a hard copy)



In both cases, you will need access to the Revel system for practice quizzes and other materials for the course. (We will show you how to use it.)

Readings also include academic journal articles accessible through the Weldon library and Weldon library online catalogue, and readings posted to our online course area on OWL (login at <http://owl.uwo.ca>).

STUDENT EVALUATION

Term 1

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|---------------------------|------------|-----|
| Tutorial | 5% | |
| Mid-term Exam | 15% | |
| Essay Research Assignment | 5% | |
| Essay | 10% | |
| December Exam | <u>15%</u> | |
| | | 50% |

Term 2 (tentative)

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|----------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Tutorial | 5% | |
| Mid-Term Exam | 15% | |
| Foreign News Journal | 15% | |
| Final Exam | <u>15%</u> | |
| | | <u>50%</u> |
| | | 100% (of the Course Grade) |

CLASS OWL SITE: MORE INFO & CHECK REGULARLY

Our class OWL site “POLISCI 2231E 001 FW16”, and can be accessed by logging into the OWL portal: <https://owl.uwo.ca> . We will be posting more details, policies, and information, as well as assignments details and dates, to the OWL site. Print copies of documents are generally not provided, but are posted to the OWL site. You are responsible for checking OWL regularly to ensure you are informed of course matters.

LECTURES

Please be courteous, act responsibly, refrain from loud talking, and avoid activities that disrupt or distract fellow students. Opportunities for lecture participation will be provided, so *your participation in lectures is encouraged!* Please conduct yourself according to the University of Western Ontario Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed as a PDF from: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>

TUTORIALS & TAS

You must be registered in a tutorial for this course. Tutorials are led by Teaching Assistants, who assess your participation in tutorials, and also may mark your essays and exams. Regular tutorial attendance and consistent quality participation in tutorials is required to do well in tutorials. As well, you should talk your TA over the year to improve your performance in the class. TA office hours and other information will be made available on the OWL site.

CONSULTATION DURING OFFICE HOURS

Office hours provide you with an excellent opportunity to discuss issues and deepen your understanding of world politics. We encourage you to talk to instructors and teaching assistants throughout the year about weekly readings, world events, course content and grading criteria.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University of Western Ontario seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in this class, please give prior notice to the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

COURSE SCHEDULE FOR TERM 1

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| 1. | Sep 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Introduction to Course ➤ Why are we studying Theories? |
| | Tutorial 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Introductions: your TA & your classmates</i> ➤ <i>Administration: sign Attendance & how you're graded – and tips on how to do well in tutorial</i> ➤ <i>Discussion: What are the key IR issues of the day? What issues have been overlooked over the summer?</i> |
| 2. | Sep 21 | <p><i>Realism & Neo-Realism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ P&G, Chapter 2, "Realist Theories" |
| | Tutorial 2 | <p><i>Does Realism explain Russia's current actions and roles?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wieclawski, Jacek. "Contemporary Realism and the Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation." <i>International Journal of Business and Social Science</i> 2.1 (2011): 170-179 |
| 3. | Sep 28 | <p><i>Liberalism & Constructivism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ P&G, Chapter 3, "Liberal and Social Theories", 71-80 |
| | Tutorial 3 | <p><i>Are only democratic states responsible enough to have nuclear weapons?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hayes, Jarrod. "The Democratic Peace and the New Evolution of an Old Idea." <i>European Journal of International Relations</i> 18.4 (2012): 767-91 |
| 4. | Oct 5 | <p><i>Marxism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ P&G, Chapter 3, "Liberal and Social Theories", 87-89 |
| | Tutorial 4 | <p><i>Is China colonizing Africa?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pdraig Carmody and Francis Owusu, "Competing hegemony? Chinese versus American geo-economic strategies in Africa" <i>Political Geography</i> 26.5 (2007): 504-24 |

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| 5. | Oct 12 | <p><i>Feminism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ P&G, Chapter 3, “Liberal and Social Theories”, 92-102 |
| | Tutorial 5 | <p><i>Is sexual violence endemic to war and militaries?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maxwell, Caitlin. "Moving Beyond Rape as a "Weapon of War": An Exploration of Militarized Masculinity and its Consequences." <i>Canadian Woman Studies</i> 28.1 (2009): 108-120 |
| Sat Oct 15 11:55 pm: Essay Research Assignment (ERA) due via OWL site | | |
| 6. | Oct 19 | <p><i>Post-modernism & Post-colonialism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Henderson, Errol A. "Hidden in Plain Sight: Racism in International Relations Theory." <i>Cambridge Review of International Affairs</i> 26.1 (2013): 71-92 |
| | Tutorial 6 | <p><i>Does the West fight “Good Wars” against the non-West?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dexter, Helen. "New War, Good War and the War on Terror: Explaining, Excusing and Creating Western Neo-interventionism." <i>Development and Change</i> 38.6 (2007): 1055-71 |
| 7. | Oct 26 | <p><i>Foreign Policy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ P&G, Chapter 4, “Foreign Policy” |
| | | <i>No tutorials this week due to Thursday & Friday Study Week</i> |
| 8. | Nov 2 | <p><i>Globalization</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Payne, Chapter 1, “Global Issues: Challenges of Globalization” (see OWL site) |
| | Tutorial 7 | ➤ <i>TA’s choice – see OWL site</i> |
| Sat Nov 5: Mid-Term Test – See OWL site for details | | |
| 9. | Nov 9 | <p><i>US Election & US Hegemony</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please do watch election coverage on Tues Nov 8th ➤ Payne, Chapter 2, “The Struggle for Primacy in Global Society” (see OWL site) |
| | Tutorial 8 | <p><i>With a new US President, how will the US impact global politics & what will be its priorities, shortcomings & continuities?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ‘Choose your own analysis’: please read & watch the news (in print, radio, TV, Internet sites, etc.), and especially materials providing <i>analysis of the election on Tuesday</i> |

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| 10. | Nov 16 | <i>International Trade</i> ➤ P&G, Chapter 8, “International Trade” |
| | Tutorial 9 | <i>TA’s choice – see OWL site</i> |
| 11. | Nov 23 | <i>Global Finance & Business</i> ➤ P&G, Chapter 11, “Money and Business” |
| | Tutorial 10 | ➤ <i>TA’s choice – see OWL site</i> |
| Sat Nov 26 11:55 pm: Essay due via OWL site | | |
| 12. | Nov 30 | <i>International Development</i> ➤ P&G, Chapter 13, “International Development” ➤ P&G, Chapter 12, “The North-South Gap” |
| | Tutorial 11 | ➤ <i>TA’s choice – see OWL site</i> ➤ <i>Last tutorial for Term 1</i> |
| 13. | Dec 7 | <i>MNCs and Transnational Organized Crime</i> ➤ Payne, Chapter 12, “Global Crime” (see OWL site) |
| | | <i>No tutorials</i> |

The Term 2 Course Outline will be posted to our class OWL site in December

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE (Sen. Min. Feb.4/49, May 23/58, S.94, S.3538, S.3632, S.04-097) A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations: 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year. 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Medical Policy, Late Assignments, etc.

Students registered in Social Science should refer to

http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having_problems/index.html for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here) can be reached at:
<http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western
<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.