

1. Course Name and Number

Department of Political Science **POL SCI 2141A 650 FW22: Global Violence and Injustice**

2. Day Offered

Online Course, Summer Distance Studies (spring term), May 8-June 30, 2023

3. Hours

The Lessons are available on OWL and can be viewed any time before the Mid-term and Final Exams. Attendance is **not** taken and there are **no** participation marks. There are **no written answers** to questions and **no** Forum questions and answers.

4. Location of Lecture and Exams

This is an online course that is asynchronous, except for two Quizzes and/or two Exams that are written synchronously online from your home office *not* the university campus. Asynchronous online learning allows you to view instructional materials at any time you choose, therefore each Lesson includes pre-recorded Powerpoint lectures with the Professor's AUDIO as mp4 and pptx files. On the other hand, synchronous online exams require that you log in and take the two one-hour Quizzes and/or two two-hour Exams at specific times each term in an 8.5 hours window (Exams) to a 5-day window (Quizzes). This means you can schedule the Quizzes and Exams into your busy schedule.

Prerequisite(s) and Antirequisite(s):

There are **no** pre-requisites or anti-requisites for this course. This elective is open to all students across all campuses. This course is generally full during the winter term with 1,000+ students and a 100-person waiting list. **If you cannot get into this course, please consider taking this course in January 2024. Or take my other courses offered this fall and winter, namely: POL SCI 2191B 650 FW22: *Global Diplomacy and Injustice* and/or POL SCI 2135A 650 FW23: *Canada Abroad*.** All three 2100-level cross-campus courses are structured similarly, but with different content, and different guest lectures.

Due to the large number of students in this asynchronous course, there are *no* Simulations or Roleplaying Exercises. To participate in synchronous Simulations and Roleplaying Exercises, you must register as a Political Science student for my course: **POL SCI 3203F FW23: *International Crises*.**

If you are an English Second Language (ESL) student, you are highly encouraged to take this course, even if you have no background in politics or in Canadian history. However, keep in mind that the course expectations are standardized expectations for an online class hosted by a Canadian University.

There are no English writing requirements or expectations that you can write in good English, therefore this class is highly-suitable to international students living around the world. The main issue is that you must take the 2-hour Mid-term and Final Exams sometime between from 12:30 PM to 9:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). This means you need to find a solid Wi-Fi connection for at least 2 hours, during a window of 8.5 hours, in a different time zone. Apart from that inconvenience, you can take this class while you travel and/or work fulltime and/or parttime.

The Professor's AUDIO lecture and Powerpoint Slides are in English and accompanied by prominent expert Guest Speakers. The Guest Speakers are tested on the exam. There are **no live captions** on the Professor and the Guest Speakers therefore, you are responsible for taking your own notes on the AUDIO.

The Youtube channel is being developed –when it is completed, you may be able to convert the videos into French or Chinese so you can practice learning in another language. However, your exams must be taken in English as Western University is an English-speaking university. If you choose to convert the English language from the Youtube channel that is being developed, into another language, then you are responsible for Youtube conversion errors, not the University or the Professor.

6. Instructor Information

Instructor: [Associate Professor Erika Simpson](#)

E-mail: simpson@uwo.ca

Office Hours: **Mondays during fall and winter and spring terms [except statutory holidays]:** 9:00 AM EST-11:00 AM EST using Zoom and break-out rooms. Due to the Professor's busy schedule, no Zoom office hours can be scheduled outside of this two-hour time slot on Monday mornings, under any circumstances. Zoom is recorded and by taking this course you consent to being recorded by the instructor and/or TA at this link:

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/93051198441>

Meeting ID: 930 5119 8441

Passcode: 431498

Emergency Phone: None. **You must use email and/or Zoom, not telephone messages or voice mail in all my classes.** Do not under any circumstances leave any voice mail message(s) or texts on my cell or landlines. All our communications must be through Western's email and/or by Zoom (recorded).

7. Course Syllabus

Using lectures including experts and diplomats, this course helps you understand violence and injustice in International Relations (IR). The lectures survey modern instruments of warfare including atomic, biological, and chemical weapons, as well as cyberwarfare and drones. We focus on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear modernization, and nuclear waste. Experts propose options for armed intervention and peacekeeping operations, and explore the roots of media violence, climate injustice, gender violence, human rights violations, and refugee movements.

8. Methods of Evaluation:

Quizzes (10% EACH): Quiz #1 covers Lessons 1-6 and Quiz #2 covers Lessons 7-12

2 multiple-choice quizzes can be retaken up to three times, with the highest mark recorded. Quiz #1 opens for taking *approximately* 5 days before the Mid-Term Exam. Quiz #2 opens up for taking *approximately* 5 days before the Final Exam. Quiz #1 records your highest mark, and Quiz #2 records your highest mark, so you can learn to improve your marks quickly.

Total Quizzes: 10% each = 20%

You can repeat Quiz #1 three times until 10 minutes before the Mid-Term Exam begins. You can retake Quiz #2 three times until 10 minutes before the Final Exam begins. Many students score 80-100% on both quizzes.

Exams (40% EACH): Mid-term Exam#1 covers Lessons 1-6 and Final Exam #2 covers Lessons 7-12

The Mid-term Exam poses 80 multiple-choice questions in 2 hours: the Mid-Term Exam is worth 40% of your Final Grade. The Mid-Term Exam covers Lessons 1-6 only.

The non-cumulative Final April exam also poses 80 multiple-choice questions in 2 hours: this exam is also worth 40%. The Final Exam covers Lessons 7-12 only.

Total Exams: 40% each = 80%

The Quizzes and/or Exams are *not* “Open Book” or “Open Computer”

During the Exams, you are *not* allowed or expected to search through saved Powerpoint Slides or your notes. You are expected to know the material well enough to answer the **randomized questions**. It is an academic offence – and there is not enough time during the online tests -- to search for answers to randomized questions by using Control-F or Google. Moreover, the Professor uses Google and Chat GBT to help write the incorrect answers therefore cheating students score much lower.

The questions pose randomized multiple choice and fill-in-the-blanks as well as True/False questions. The questions are linear therefore you cannot go back and check your answers. There is no feedback and the correct answers are *not* given out. The incorrect *and* correct answers are not shared with students, otherwise they could post them publicly, and the enormous Exam Bank would be destroyed every year. The Professor does not meet with students collectively and/or individually to discuss what they got wrong on the quizzes and/or exams.

The Professor’s Exam Bank contains 1000 or more possible questions that are randomly distributed to students. You cannot meet with the professor to review the questions you got wrong. Students that seek to review the questions they got wrong, must formally appeal the class grade by contacting the Head TA Coordinator; the Chair of the Department Dr. Matt Lebo; and/or the Undergraduate Chair Dr. Nandita Mellamphy who decide whether to write you in a general sense about your wrong answers.

Proctortrack is not used; however, Google and Chat GBT are used by the Professor:

Due to widespread student concerns about maintaining privacy, the Quizzes and/or two Exams do *not* use Western’s Proctortrack technology. The Dean’s office will deal with all allegations of cheating offenses. For example, if students share correct answers and take screenshots, they could be referred to the Dean’s Office; they could rewrite in-person exams with proctors; and/or they could be expelled. The Course Instructor Professor Simpson does not make these decisions but refers them to the Dean’s Office.

Due to the Professor’s focus on retaining the integrity of learning for the course, please note that many incorrect posted answers are based on Google searches and ChatGBT hallucinations therefore while they seem to make sense--to students that did not observe and listen to the lectures--they are wrong because those answers were *not* covered in the lecture material.

Objective (not Subjective) Questions are Tested:

Both the two Quizzes and the two Exams ask ‘objective’ questions that must be answered within 5 days (Quizzes) or 8.5 hours (Exams) using fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice (A, B, C, D, E) and true or false (T/F) answers. Each Quiz asks 40 objective questions and each Exam ask 80 questions.

The Quizzes close for taking 10 minutes before the Exams begin:

The online Quiz #1 and the online Mid-term Exam test you on Lessons 1-6. The non-cumulative Quiz #2 and Final Exam test you on Lessons 7-12. Quiz #1 and the Mid-term Exam are generally scheduled to take place approximately one week before or after the Reading Break, and Quiz #2 and the Final Exam are scheduled during the Official Exam Period. Both Quizzes close for all students 10 minutes before the Mid-term and/or Final Exam begin. **There is no Make-up Quiz #2 unless you can provide your Counselor with documentation that covers the entire time period from when Quiz #2 was posted until 10 minutes before the Final Exam begins.**

Since the Final Exam is scheduled by the University with the location, date, and time To Be Confirmed [TBC], students with Official Exam Conflicts (see your Counsellor for the Form) must write a Make-up Exam. The 8 Make-up Exams are generally scheduled 24 hours later but may happen up to four weeks later. Students must have documented reasons and permission from their Academic Counsellor [**not** from the Professor] in order to miss and write a Makeup for any Exam. After obtaining permission from your Academic Counsellor, you will be responsible for contacting the Professor and/or the Head TA Coordinator to arrange your Makeup Exam time as soon as possible (asap).

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe some key figures, events and trends in the recent history of international relations.
- Identify and engage with different types of political theories in international relations.
- Analyze and evaluate international issues and place them in their historical context.
- Connect present-day problems to historical events and place them in a global context.

9. Course Materials

- No materials are required for the course. There are *no* textbooks, course readers, manuals, laboratory or safety materials, nor any specific electronic devices.
- All the instructor's Powerpoint Slides, and the *Engage More Readings* are posted on OWL.
- All the instructor's slides and lectures including the Guest Speaker's lectures are **copyrighted by the instructor and remain the property of the instructor, not the University of Western Ontario**. Students and faculty may not reuse any lecture material for any other purposes even if they have written permission from the instructor Professor Erika Simpson and/or Accessible Education.
- **All the required, supplementary, and optional Powerpoint Slides and readings are the property of instructor**. All the *Engage More Readings* are drawn from free online sources such as Google Scholar, Scholarship@Western, videos, etc.

Lesson Plan (for the final version, see Owl under the Syllabus tool)

2141 Global Violence & Injustice

Lesson 1: Course Overview & How to Meet & Greet @ Receptions

Lesson 1: Power in International Security & Peace

Lesson 1: How to Rethink Your Power Resources with guest #1 Moisey

Lesson 1: Theoretical Lenses: Realism, Liberalism, Neo-realism, Liberal Int'lism

Lesson 2: A Violent Legacy of Warfare: Nuclear Weapons

Lesson 2: Hiroshima/Nagasaki 1945: Tactical Nuke Use

Lesson 2: Nuclear Weapon Proliferation

Lesson 2: Nuclear Proliferation in this Century

Lesson 3: U.S. Nuclear Force Modernization & BMD

Lesson 3: US Space Force, Nuclear Posture Review and Nuclear Fusion

Lesson 3: Deterrence & NPR with guest #2 Roberts

Lesson 3: TPNW with guest #3 Meyer

Lesson 4: UN Peacekeeping: Legacy & Tradition

Lesson 4: The UN & Peacekeeping Today

Lesson 4: A UN Emergency Peace Service (UNEPS)

Lesson 4: Towards UNEPS with guest #4 Langille

Lesson 5: Introduction to the UN, Canada & Global Governance

Lesson 5: The United Nations Today: A Primer

Lesson 5: Your Preparation to work as a UN Ambassador

Lesson 5: How to Learn from UN Resolutions

Lesson 6: Conventional Wars in Kosovo, Iraq & Afghanistan

Lesson 6: Afghanistan: Lest We Forget

Lesson 6: Landmines & the Ottawa Process

Lesson 6: Landmines & Cluster Bombs with guest #5 Turcotte

Quiz and EXAM

Lesson 7: Terrorism & Violence in North America

Lesson 7: Terrorism & Violence Abroad

Lesson 7: Suicide Terrorism in Afghanistan

Lesson 7: Terrorism & Suicide in Afghanistan with guest #6 Naimpoor

Lesson 8: NATO: Past Issues (1949-1999)

Lesson 8: NATO: Current Issues (2000-2022)

Lesson 8: NATO's Arc of Crisis: Georgia, Syria, Ukraine

Lesson 8: Tactical Nukes in Ukraine? with guests #7 Manza #8 Pearson #9 Saperstein

Lesson 9: Game Theory: Introduction

Lesson 9: Lessons of Game Theory: Chicken & Prisoner's Dilemma

Lesson 9: The DPRK vs. United States: 2 Players with guest #10 Grinius
Lesson 9: Lessons of Game Theory for Cooperation in Korean Peninsula

Lesson 10: Biological & Chemical Weapons Today
Lesson 10: CBRNe & Radioactive Dirty Bombs
Lesson 10: Emerging Technologies: Drones
Lesson 10: Cyberwarfare with guest #11 Atkinson

Lesson 11: Violence on the Internet: Gameplaying & Videos
Lesson 11: Roots of Media Violence with guest #12 Dyson
11: Domestic Violence Against Women & Children
Lesson 11: Child Exploitation & Pornography with guest #13 Doake-Lebauer

Lesson 12: Bad News: Arctic Melting & Nuclear Waste
Lesson 12: More Bad News: Polluted Water Aquifers & Food Scarcity
Lesson 12: Borders, Walls, and the Coming Anarchy
Lesson 12: Information on Quiz #2 & Final Exam on Classes 7-12

Quiz #2 and Final Exam

Academic Policies for online courses

This section of the Course Outline and the Official Syllabus must be attached to your Course Outline and you are responsible for reading the Academic Policies on your own time. You should read these policies if you have any questions and before consulting with the Course Instructor (and/or Teaching Assistants).

Regulations on What to Study and Advice on Notetaking:

If you need to miss a lecture, you do *not* need to report your absence through any online absence declaration system available, nor should you inform the instructor and/or teaching assistant. No additional documentation is necessary. However, you will be examined on *all* the material that you missed (e.g. Powerpoint Slides, Audio, Guest Speakers, etc.). The Quizzes and Exams will test you on all the material including the information you missed. Nobody can reweight any Gradebook Items to accommodate absences and/or illnesses. If you are ill and you miss more than three weeks of lectures, you definitely should speak to your Academic Counsellor about whether you can catch up – but as a firm policy, **the instructor will not change the Quizzes or Exams to suit any individual student's prolonged or short absences**, no matter how long they are absent from classes.

You may not miss the Mid-term or Final Exams and/or the Make-up Exams or you will automatically fail the course. For example, if you entirely miss the Mid-term Exam on Lessons 1-6, but you perform well on the Final Exam on Lessons 7-12, you still automatically fail the course.

“A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 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**). **This condition must be outlined clearly in the course syllabus. ***the***

interpretation of “due warning” would be a personal email prior to reaching the specified threshold of absences

- 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.”

When are the Quizzes and/or Mid-Term and/or Final Exam?

See your **Calendar Tool on OWL for the exact date of the Quizzes, Mid-term exam, and Make-up exams.**

The Mid-term Exam is a 2-hour multiple choice exam with 80 compulsory questions. There are no bonus questions nor bonus marks. It tests you on the information covered on the Slides and Audio Lectures delivered in Classes 1-6. It does *not* test you on the *Engage More Readings*.

The Final Exam is constructed exactly similarly to the Mid-Term Exam so it is a 2-hour multiple choice exam with 80 compulsory exam questions ranging from ‘very easy’ to ‘very challenging’ and ‘very difficult’. Like the mid-term exam, the final exam is non-cumulative so it tests you on the information covered in Classes 7-12.

You must have documented reasons with Academic Counselling to write any Make-up Quizzes and/or Exams. **Do not send the Professor your documentation as it is personal, confidential, and none of the Professor’s concern.** Your Academic Counsellor decides whether you can write a Make-up Exam, and when, depending on your personal situation. **There is no Make-up Quiz #2 unless you can provide your Counselor with documentation that covers the entire time period from when Quiz #2 was posted until 10 minutes before the Final Exam begins.**

The Mid-term and Final Exams are constructed exactly similarly:

Exam questions are composed by the Professor with assistance from Teaching Assistants. Objective questions including fill-in-the blank, T/F and/or multiple choice questions are marked by University-approved computer-marking systems. The questions are posed in linear order (no returning to check your work).

Errors? Prof. Simpson programs the computer in the class’s favour if she makes errors. If you see an error, take *hand-written notes* and/or email the professor later at simpson@uwo.ca **but do not take a screenshot of the error.** It is a serious academic offense to take screenshots, and you will be warned by the Professor and/or referred to the Dean’s office, even if you took a screenshot in error.

11. EMERGENCIES AND EMERGENCIES RELATED TO THE EXAMS AND QUIZZES:

- In the event that OWL collapses or the instructor is unavailable for an *entire week*, we will cancel the Lesson and the relevant slides for that day will be removed from OWL so you do not need to study them.
- If OWL collapses or is unavailable during the Quizzes and/or Exams, you will write a **different** exam more than 24 hours later, that was originally scheduled to be a Make-up Exam.
- If OWL collapses over a 5-day period during a Quiz, the Quiz will be reopened for a short time once OWL recovers from being ‘shaky’.

- If OWL collapses on you, the WTS personnel need a '[WTS Jira Ticket](#)' from you: https://wts.uwo.ca/service_desk.html but you can also phone them: 519 661-3800 or Ext. 83800 They are available until 10 pm every day.

You must use email and/or Zoom, not telephone messages or voice mail in this class. Do not under any circumstances leave any voice mail message(s) or texts for the instructor on her cell or landline(s). All communications must be by Zoom or through Western's email. **No phonecalls will be answered.**

We do not read emails from non-Western accounts. The subject heading must say the Class Number and the nature of your question, like this: POL SCI 2141B OWL COLLAPSED AND WON'T SAVE MY ANSWERS. If the answer is *not* brief, then we will ask you to meet with other students during Zoom office hours in a separate break-out room.

- **We cannot individually see your correct and/or incorrect answers. We cannot figure out where you went wrong or why.** We never review the correct answers with students because if we review the correct answers with students, we cannot use variations of these multiple questions in future years and deplete the large Exam Bank. We check all the exams for consistency and due to the number of students in the course, it is easy for us to detect a question that was poorly worded or confusing so we can program OWL to raise the mark.
- **Cheating?** Professor Simpson will not give you or email you your own copy of the Mid-term question sheet. Why? You could distribute the randomized questions to next year's cohort of students to help them study. Some students will write one of the make-up exams or another exam on different lectures in future years. In short, you may not receive copies of the mid-term or final exam question sheets by email or online. If you request to view exams in an off-campus location or you have moved away from London, you may not receive your question sheet by email. You may *not* view any question sheet accompanied by an off-campus proctor unless you have received written permission from the Dean of your faculty to do so. If you live in another city, you may *not* receive a copy of the exam through a registered university-endorsed proctor.

How should I study for the exams?

- You are *not* permitted to write the Exams with help from others. It is an academic offence to take the exam surrounded by a small study group. It is highly recommended when preparing for the exams that you consider forming small study groups so that you can share notes and discuss the lecture material; however, since this is an online course, the professor assumes you will *not* meet with other students to form small study groups.
- Keep in mind, the professor cannot help you form study groups or share student's email addresses without their permission. There is nothing wrong with a collective effort in terms of studying for all your classes. After all, that is what the classroom is about—all of us working together for fun and learning. You could study online with help from other students; but the professor assumes you are writing the exam alone. And if you persuade or hire someone to write the quiz or exam for you, **this is an academic offence and if caught, you will be referred to the Dean's Office.**

How should I take notes for the quizzes and exams?

- While professors appreciate many students want to reinforce the lecture material by writing handwritten or typewritten notes, you do not need to take extra handwritten or typed notes unless this is your preferred learning style. Why get writer's cramp? All the slides are posted, and the professor deletes those slides we did not cover so you do not need to study them. Why waste precious time rewriting the information on the Slides?

12. Non-medical and medical accommodation

A clear indication of how non-medical absences from midterms, tutorials, laboratory experiments, or late essays or assignments, will be dealt with must be provided. The course outline must direct the student to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness available here: Medical Illness

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

In addition, instructors must state how they will be dealing with accommodation for medical illness of work worth less than 10% of the total course grade, and whether or not medical documentation for such accommodation will be required. If documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

Even if you have non-medical or medical accommodation, the multiple-choice questions posed to you on the mid-term or final exams cannot be changed to suit you. If you miss studying the lecture materials and slides for any reason (documented or not) you are responsible. Therefore, you must meet with your Academic Counsellor to deal with accommodation for medical or non-medical absences worth more than 10% of the course grade. And because there is no quiz or exam worth less than 10% of the course grade so there is no need to share your confidential medical info with the professor. Please make an appointment to see your Academic Counsellor.

13. Will I know my mid-term exam marks before the drop-date and/or before I write the final exam?

- The professor will update your marks before the Final Exam so you know all your marks - except the Final Exam mark - when you begin the Final Exam.

14. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations. **You may *not* open up other Windows or Powerpoint slides/audio or any other handwritten notes during the quizzes and exams. Please keep in mind that the WTS personnel can check your OWL use after you submit an exam to see whether you left the window and used other windows. This makes OWL 'shaky' and can lead to possible charges of cheating that are dealt with by the Dean's office, not the Professor.**

15. Statement on Academic Offences

The statement: "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/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

16. When and How to Study for the Non-cumulative Exams

The quizzes and exams are non-cumulative so you will not be tested in the Final Exam on the information you learned before the Mid-term. You will only be tested on what the professor and the guest speakers say, not on what your colleagues or a search engine, like Google asserts. The exams will

not test you on what other websites or other professors or students write online nor on what you or other students say.

Should I Take Handwritten Notes on the Lecture Slides and the Spoken Audio Lectures?

While you view the Slides and listen to the AUDIO lectures, your primary task is to think about and question the materials, not be a medieval scribe. While the Professor appreciates many students may seek to reinforce the lecture material by taking many handwritten or typewritten notes, **you do not need to take many handwritten or typed notes because all the Slides and the AUDIO are posted on OWL as Powerpoint and MP4 files.** It is preferable that you think about the slides' content rather than take copious notes. Many students review by studying the Slides WITHOUT AUDIO.

Should I Study the Timelines and Dates and Numbers?

You are expected to memorize many dates and numbers. **Often students find it useful to maintain a separate list of dates and numbers to study a few days before the Mid-term or Final Exams.**

If a detailed timeline, video and/or map is included on the Slides and/or linked using an URL, you must assume it is testable material. The audio lecture will clearly indicate by the Professor's spoken emphasis, whether the information is testable material. In rare cases, the detailed picture, timeline or map is not testable material, and in that very rare case, it is clearly marked on the Slide that it is NOT ON THE EXAM.

Can I arrange to write an exam early?

As soon as the final exams are scheduled, the exam schedule will be posted on OWL. You cannot make plans to write any quizzes or exams early.

Will software be used to detect cheating?

Since computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be given, software will be used to check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating therefore:

"Computermarked 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."

Does the make-up exam pose different multiple-choice questions? For example, do you accept multiple choice questions written by students in the class and pose these questions in the make-up exam?

The Professor often changes the Powerpoint slides and writes new multiple-choice questions so if you would like to email possible questions for the Exam Bank, your suggestions are welcome but doing so will not increase your marks.

17. Required Readings and Engage More Readings

To summarize, the two exams test you on everything you learned from the slides and the spoken lectures, not on the *Engage More Readings*. There is no textbook and the *Engage More Readings* are *not* Required Readings. The *Engage More Readings* are used by you to stimulate your interest in learning more about particular issues.

18. Regulations concerning course re-evaluation, absences and the evaluation of international students

- You are **not** allowed to re-write any exams or assignments, once they have been handed-in for marking, unless due to exceptional circumstances as assessed by the Dean's office.
- If you submit the "wrong answer" to an exam or assignment (but you think it is the right answer for a variety of reasons), you are **not** normally entitled to submit the "right version" or get credit for being "right" somehow. You must speak to your Academic Counsellor - as your mark will be worth more than 10% - and they will decide, although they may consult with the Professor, who will together with your academic counsellor, decide upon the fairest option.
- In the event that you miss many classes or all of them, you may not have your mark 'reweighted' to cover your absences unless you have written permission from your Academic Counsellor in your Faculty. You must see your Academic Counsellor, not the Professor in order to make different arrangements regarding course re-evaluation and absences.
- If you are an international student, your exams and your contributions to the Lessons Tool will be graded according to Canadian University standards. Attending class is not sufficient to pass the course, and no attendance marks are taken or recorded.

What are the regulations concerning non-medical and medical absences?

- Please see the student services for their updated Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and Student Medical Certificate. If you have medical illness or other documentation, you **must** take it to the Dean's Office or an Academic Counsellor in your Faculty, who will then confirm whether you can possibly be granted accommodation. Any medical absence must **be** documented as instructed by Student Services, Dean's Office or your Academic Counsellor. Academic Counseling will advise the Professor about accommodation and the final decisions about due dates, re-weighting and/or transfer weighting will be made in consultation with you and your Academic Counsellor, not with the Professor. Do not meet with the professor to discuss the reasons for accommodation for medical or non-medical grounds.

Can I use electronics like my cell phone during the exams?

No additional electronic devices are permitted to be used during any exam including cellphones, personal computers, and/or electronic dictionaries.

What is Scanitron? What is Proctorio? What is Proctortrack? Are they *not* used?

- Exam questions are composed by the Professors; objective questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system (e.g. 'OWL', 'Scanitron' 'Proctorio' and/or 'Turnitin' etc.). Professor Simpson does not use Proctortrack.
- "Special exams" may be different in content, structure and format than the regularly scheduled exam. Specific exam formats will be announced and explained by the Professor and/or Dean and/or Chair but the exams will be objective (e.g. multiple choice, blank answers, T/F) in most cases.
- If you miss too many of the mid-term or final exams, for any reason, you may have to write a multiple choice combined with an essay-type of exam and your answers may be essay-style, not

multiple choice. For example, if you miss the third make-up for the mid-term exam, the fourth make-up exam will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is because the professor's large exam bank will never be large enough to pose enough multiple choice questions for so many different makeup exams.

19. Questions about the course outline, class material and/or about Mid-Term or Final Exam Grades

- The professor and assistants (e.g. teaching assistants and/or graduate students) will read email messages *only* if they are from a Western email account and their subject lines include the course number and a clear statement of purpose. For example, POLSCI 2141B I have a question about the quiz. Where a question cannot be answered with a brief reply email, you will receive an email that indicates that you should attend the office hours on Zoom. The professor and assistants will take up generic questions on a drop-in basis. You will wait in a Zoom waiting room. The instructor and the assistants keep track of the generic questions of interest to all students, and they infrequently issue answers to **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** using the Announcements Function. The FAQs are also archived under the Lessons Tool so they are available to all students during the term.
- If you have a confidential concern that is *not* related to your medical and/or personal situation, you can make an appointment to see the professor or teaching assistants during Zoom office hours in a break-out room with nobody else present. This is more difficult and time-consuming for us to arrange, and the professor's policy is that we will not give you career or course advice. We will not counsel you on other courses you can take to compete in International Relations nor will we give you any advice on an individual-level.
- On the other hand, lecture slides, handouts, short videos, and other resources with such career and essay writing advice are regularly posted as Supplementary Lessons on the OWL website. **These materials belong to the instructor, not the university and they are protected by copyright.** Do not download, copy, or share any of the Supplementary materials without the explicit written permission of the instructor.
- Appeals to change an exam (or essay) grade must be received during that term of instruction (*i.e.* the Course Instructor does not handle appeals after the term ends).

What happens if there are other changes to the Official Course Outline?

- Due to certain circumstances and/or situations, changes to course outlines and other course documents may be necessary. For example, if the course instructor is taken ill or dies, in such cases, you will be informed through all available channels of communication as soon as possible and another course instructor will quickly take the Professor's place.
- The dates and topics of the lectures, simulations and exams may be changed depending on schedules, illnesses, and other unforeseen events. The dates in this course outline are included for illustrative purposes only and may be updated on the class website as the term unfolds.
- Mask Policy: University policy may require that instructors and students wear non-medical face masks in all common-use indoor spaces on campus, including in classroom. For the University's complete [Health & Safety](https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/healthsafety/index.html) mask policy, see <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/healthsafety/index.html>

- Vaccination Policy: Western has developed [protocols](#) regarding any member of the University community who comes onto campus which are explained here <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/health-safety/index.html#before> Students with questions can contact the Student Health Care clinic at 519-661-3030.

20. For more university and departmental regulations that apply to this course see the APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE in the folder in this section of the Syllabus. NB: You are responsible for reading and abiding by the APPENDIX, but we do not cover the information during classtime.

21. Statement on Reference Letters

- **Professor Simpson does *not* write reference letters for students who are seeking positions with businesses, companies and/or internships due to fact that this is an online asynchronous course.** You could ask a professor or TA in another class, but not this class.
- If you need a reference, please email your other professors individually for more information. Professor Simpson's firm policy is **not** to write references for law school and/or graduate school based on your standing in a second-year online class because such a reference – compared to a 3rd-year or 4th-year reference is *not* useful – and would do you a **diservice**, not a service.
- If you take more than three online courses from Professor Simpson, she may consider acting as your referee for jobs and for professional programs like internships – but keep in mind that obtaining a reference from a 3rd or 4th year instructor is preferable. The Professor will consider whether to write you a reference for graduate studies/law school if you have taken or are taking three online classes under Professor Simpson's direct supervision because this means you have fewer other possible referees; however, keep in mind that a reference letter from a professor who taught you many second-year and third-year courses is not as desirable as a reference letter from a professor who taught you in a small in-person fourth-year course.

22. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AS A CAREER CHOICE

What other classes can I take if I become more interested in the general topic?

For more information about the other classes Professor Simpson teaches and the field of IR, see the faculty and personal websites available through the [Department of Political Science](#).

At this time, Professor Simpson teaches four courses including **POLSCI 2135A 650; 2191B 650; 2141B 650 and 3203F 650**. Professor Simpson occasionally teaches specialized Reading Courses and supervises Undergraduate Theses. Professor Simpson often supervises Graduate Students (including MA and PhD students) in International Relations.

To learn more information about Professor Simpson:



- [Erika Simpson](#) (PhD and MA, University of Toronto) is an [Associate Professor of International Relations](#) at Western University, London, Canada and the [President](#) of the [Canadian Peace Research Association \(CPRA-ACRP\)](#).
- Her [research interests](#) are in [international security](#) and foreign and defence policy, particularly Afghanistan, arms control, disarmament, IR theory, NATO, nuclear proliferation, nuclear waste, peacekeeping and the UN.
- She is the author of [NATO and the Bomb](#) (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2001) and her articles have appeared in leading journals including the [Brown Journal of World Politics](#); [International Journal](#); [In Victus Pax](#); [Municipal World](#); [Peace Magazine](#); [Peace Research](#); [Peace Review](#); and [Policy Options](#).
- She is a national columnist for the [Postmedia Network](#), Canada's largest digital and newspaper chain, and a frequent commentator for [The Hill Times](#) as well as Canada's [CTV Television News](#), [Indus News](#), [Sputnik International News](#), [Aljazeera News](#), [Voice of Islam Radio](#), [Foreign Affairs](#), the [National Post](#).
- She serves as a Director on the Boards of the [Canadian Pugwash Group](#) and the [Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons](#); an [Associate Editor](#) for [Peace Review](#); a Senior Advisor for the [Rideau Institute](#); an invited Consultant for the [Nuclear Abolition Forum](#); and a Peer Reviewer for the [Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health](#).
- [Formerly](#) she was an Alton Jones Fellow; a Barton Fellow; a Liu Institute Visiting Fellow; a NATO Research Fellow; and the Vice-Chair and Treasurer of the [Canadian Pugwash Group](#).
- In 2015 the [Voice of Women–Canada](#) awarded her a [Lifetime Achievement Award](#) for her writing on peace-related issues. She is a Canadian citizen and a [long-time resident of London, Ontario](#) and an alumnus of the [University of Saskatchewan](#).
-