

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
Department of Political Science

Political Science 2231E, 650, Online 2016:
Introduction to International Relations
Professor Nigmendra Narain

1. Contact Information

- Professor: **Nigmendra Narain**
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2. Course Description

This course in International Relations (IR) examines contemporary global politics through a variety of approaches, events and issues. It considers academic approaches to IR and then bridges to understanding select issues in global politics, such as war, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, financial globalization, cultural imperialism, human rights, drug trade, and American hegemony. While states are considered as key actors, other global actors, such as the UN, non-governmental organizations or transnational organized criminals, will also be analyzed for their role and impact. The course proceeds through 3 main survey areas: Theories, Global Security and Global Political Economy. As well, while surveying these broad areas, themes and global actors, current events and issues will be used to provide opportunities for discussions, debates and dialogue, which students are encouraged to engage in regularly, often and respectfully.

3. Evaluation

Participation	15%
Essay Research Assignment	5%
Essay	15%
Policy Brief Research Assignment	5%
Policy Brief	15%
On-line Quizzes	20%
Final Exam	25%

Assignment details and instructions will be posted and updated on the OWL site

Note:

- Maximum grade on any particular assignment or particular assessment or for the whole course is 100%
- Minimum grade on any particular assignment or particular assessment or for the whole course is 0%
- If you are an International Student, note that all grades are assessed using Canadian University standards

4. Learning Outcomes

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Learning Outcomes</i>
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize the importance of listening • Communicate verbally in an analytic and clear fashion • An awareness of the extent and limits of one's own knowledge, informed by exposure to information, concepts, theories and experience
Written Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational skills that contribute to scholarly and personal independence • Well-developed research skills, such as those articulated by the Political Science Research Competency Guidelines adopted by the Association of College and Research Libraries • Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion • Situate knowledge historically and contextually • Assess evidence critically • Ethical dimensions of problem identification and methodology
Quizzes and Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of diverse theories and approaches • Understanding of methods; knowledge of epistemological approaches and ontological diversity • Exposure to qualitative and quantitative methods • Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion • Situate knowledge historically and contextually • Assess evidence critically • How power, culture and history condition knowledge formation • Understand the ambiguity, uncertainty, ubiquitous and controversial nature of politics

5. General Rules

- Check the OWL site and your UWO email regularly
 - Details and clarifications for class assignments, etc., will be posted on the OWL site
 - Grades will be posted on the OWL site
 - Emails from non-UWO accounts may not be answered
- Conduct yourself appropriately & be respectful of your classmates
 - Note conduct should accord with 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>.
- Any Assignment assessed by the Lecturer to be in **flagrant, repeated and/or egregious violation** of the rules, guidelines, etc., may have a **special penalty assessed or assigned a grade of Zero/0**
 - Assignments may be marked by a marker under my supervision
- **Assignment Late Penalty:** 3% per day for Essay Research Assignment, Essay, Policy Brief Research Assignment, and Policy Brief
- Extensions:
 - When you have genuine and unavoidable reasons for requesting an extension of the original or late essay deadlines, please see me **immediately** and *provide all relevant documentation*
 - You **MUST** provide documentation to support your request for an extension to your Dean's Office or Academic Counseling office so that they can verify/vet your documentation and let me know what accommodation should be considered
 - An **Authorization Email** will be *sent by me* to you to confirm your extension and the date for your assignment to be submitted
- Re-Evaluation: you are **not** allowed to re-write assignments once they have been handed-in for marking under normal circumstances
- Non-Medical and Medical Absences
 - Please see the Student Service website (<http://www.studentservices.uwo.ca>) for the *Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and Student Medical Certificate*

- Any medical absence **should be** documented using the *Student Medical Certificate* or as instructed by Student Services, Dean’s Office or your Academic Counselor
- If you have medical or other documentation, you **must** take it to the Dean’s Office or Academic Counselor, who will then confirm granting you accommodation
- Although Academic Counseling will *advise* me about accommodation, I will make the final decision about due dates, re-weighting, transfer weighting, etc., in consultation with your Academic Counselor and you
- For work *worth less than 10%* (as per *Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness*): non-documentable absences will not be given accommodation because allowances have been already included for incidental absences
- If I am unable to grant you fair and reasonable accommodation in my assessment, the *whole percentage weight* for that assignment may be added to the value of the exam for that term

6. Course Schedule & Readings

Note:

- ❖ For background & history, look through/skim chapters:
 - 2: David Armstrong: The evolution of international society
 - 3: Len Scott: International history, 1900-99
 - 4: Michael Cox: From the end of the cold war to the new global era?
 - 5: Andrew Hurrell: Rising powers and the emerging global order
- ❖ Discussion
 - All sources relating to Discussions will be posted on the OWL site
 - In the Schedule below, after week 4, though weekly Discussion topics are not listed, the weekly Discussion topics will be listed and posted on the OWL site; this will allow us to cover topics of interest as indicated by you, the students, and allow us to current resources (grey literature, videos, blogs, etc.) which I will evaluate, gather and post in advance

1.	May 9	<p><i>Introduction to Course</i></p> <p><i>Why are we studying International Relations theories?</i></p> <p><i>Theories: Realism & Neo-Realism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 6: Tim Dunne and Brian C. Schmidt: Realism ➤ 8: Steven L. Lamy: Contemporary mainstream approaches: neo-realism and neo-liberalism, 128-131 <p><i>Discussion: How should we deal with Russia?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wiclawski, 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
2.	May 16	<p><i>Theories: Neo-Liberalism & Constructivism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 7: Tim Dunne: Liberalism ➤ 8: Steven L. Lamy: Contemporary mainstream approaches: neo-realism and neo-liberalism, 132-133 <p><i>Discussion: Why does India get Nuclear Weapons and Iran does not?</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
3.	May 23	<p><i>Theories: Marxism & Feminism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 9: Stephen Hobden and Richard Wyn Jones: Marxist theories of international relations ➤ 17: J. Ann Tickner: Gender in world politics <p><i>Discussion: Is China challenging America and colonizing Africa?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Padraig Carmody and Francis Owusu, "Competing hegemony? Chinese versus American geo-economic strategies in Africa" <i>Political Geography</i> 26.5 (2007): 504-24

	May 29	<i>Essay Research Assignment Due by Sunday May 29 11:55 pm</i>
4.	May 30	<p><i>Theories: Post-Modernism and Post-Colonialism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 11: Lene Hansen: Post-structuralism ➤ 12: Christine Sylvester: Post-colonialism <p><i>Discussion: Does the West fight "Good Wars" against the non-West?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Helen Dexter, "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
5.	Jun 6	<p><i>Global Security: War & International Security</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 14: Mike Sheehan: The changing character of war ➤ 15: John Baylis: International and global security
6.	Jun 13	<p><i>Global Security: Terrorism & Nuclear Proliferation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 23: James D. Kiras: Terrorism and globalization ➤ 24: Sheena Chestnut Greitens: Nuclear proliferation
	Jun 19	<i>Essay Due by Sunday Jun 19 11:55 pm</i>
7.	Jun 20	<p><i>Global Security: International Law, Organizations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 18: Christian Reus-Smit: International law ➤ 21: Peter Willetts: Transnational actors and international organizations in global politics
8.	Jun 27	<p><i>Global Security: International Regimes, the UN & Intervention</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 19: Richard Little: International regimes ➤ 20: Paul Taylor and Devon Curtis: The United Nations ➤ 31: Alex J. Bellamy and Nicholas J. Wheeler: Humanitarian intervention in world politics
9.	July 4	<p><i>Global Political Economy: Globalization and International Trade & Finance</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 16: Ngaire Woods: International political economy in an age of globalization ➤ 27: Matthew Watson: Global trade and global finance
	July 9	<i>Policy Brief Research Assignment Due by Sunday May 29 11:55 pm</i>
10.	July 11	<p><i>Global Political Economy: Development & Human Security</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 28: Tony Evans and Caroline Thomas: Poverty, development, and hunger ➤ 29: Amitav Acharya: Human security
11.	July 18	<p><i>Global Political Economy: Human Security & Human Rights</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 22: John Vogler: Environmental issues ➤ 30: Jack Donnelly: Human rights
12.	July 25	<p><i>Global Political Economy: Transnational Organized Crime & Cyber-threats</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sources to be posted on OWL
	July 30	<i>Policy Brief Due by <u>Saturday</u> July 30 11:55 pm</i>
		<i>Final Exam period: August 2-5, 2016</i>

7. Changes to Course Outline

- Due to certain circumstances and/or situations, *changes to this course outline and other course documents are necessary*
- In such cases, you will be informed through all available channels of communication as soon as possible

Enjoy the class and have a great summer!

**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.

*Reprinted by permission of the Department of History

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.