

Political Science 3412F: International Conflict Management (Summer 2023)

An examination of theories and strategies of international conflict and conflict management, including the causes of war, arms control, and various methods of reducing or eliminating conflict. This year, the main sections of the course focus on: (i) the cycle of violence, (ii) political and economic sanctions, (iii) international courts, (iv) peacekeeping, (v) the use of force (e.g., peace enforcement operations and humanitarian interventions).

Prerequisites: Political Science 2231E or Political Science 2531F/G, or Political Science 2245E or Political Science 2545F/G, or International Relations 2704F/G, or the former International Relations 2701E AND enrolment in 3rd or 4th year Political Science or International Relations or permission from the Department.

Antirequisites and Exclusions: Political Science 3366E

Instructor / Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Mark Yaniszewski

E-Mail: myanisze@uwo.ca

Contact

Since this is a Distance Education course, there are no formal office hours. Instead, e-mail will be the primary method of contact except for more complex consultations (e.g., discussing the writing assignment) when phone or video conferencing are an option. In any event, e-mails will be answered within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours over the weekend — although in practice most e-mails will be answered much, much faster than this.

- Please use your UWO e-mail account when communicating with the instructor as the University's anti-spam software may treat e-mails from other accounts as spam.

- Students should check their UWO e-mail regularly for messages, updates, and other important information from the instructor.

Distribution of Marks

Students will be graded on the basis of the following components:

- Midterm Examination = 30%
- Writing Assignment = 35%
- Final Exam = 35%

Midterms and Exams

Midterms and exams for this course may be held remotely using the University's **Proctortrack** software. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide personal information (including some biometric data) and the session will be recorded.

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at: <https://remoteproctoring.uwo.ca>.

Lecture Format

Lectures will be delivered as asynchronous video files. The instructor will, however, endeavour, as much as possible, to maintain the structure and format of a conventional course.

Additional materials (e.g., maps, charts, and diagrams associated with individual lectures) will also be posted to the course website on a regular basis. In most cases, lectures will be posted at a rate faster than would normally be the case with a live, in-person class. Although there is some guidance as to pacing, students can best judge for themselves how fast to access this material.

Writing Assignment

A detailed list of topics and requirements will be posted separately to the course website.

The writing assignment is due by **Friday June 2nd at 11:59 pm (EST)**. Completed assignments must be uploaded to the course dropbox by this deadline. Late assignments will be accepted until **Friday June 9th at 11:59 pm (EST)**. Late assignments must be uploaded to a (second) course dropbox by this deadline. **Late assignments are automatically penalized by a reduction of 15% and assignments not submitted by this time will automatically receive a grade of 0%.**

Note that the -15% late penalty is a flat rate penalty. Papers five minutes late, one day late, five days late, or any variation therein receive the same penalty. These penalties will only be waived in the case of illness (or similar serious circumstances) and will require proper documentation (e.g., a doctor's note). Otherwise, extensions will not normally be granted (e.g., forgetting to back-up your files before your hard drive crashes or having the dog eat your homework and so on does not constitute a legitimate excuse for not completing the assignment on time).

Copyright

The copyright for the intellectual property created for this Western University course, including, but not limited to, audio, video, and/or written lectures, handouts, exams and tests, assignments, and all other materials created for this course, is held by the instructor. These materials are designed for the personal use of students registered in this course only and may not be recorded or used or reproduced or otherwise be re-transmitted in any other form or for any other purpose without the express written consent of the instructor. Providing these materials to a third party, including, but not limited to, a third party website, constitutes a violation of the instructor's intellectual property rights and/or a violation of the Canadian Copyright Act. Individuals in violation of these intellectual property and/or copyright restrictions will be prosecuted and may be subject to academic and/or civil penalties. By participating in this course, all parties agree to be bound by these conditions as well as by any or all relevant Western University regulations and any or all provisions of the Canadian Copyright Act.

Lectures and Course Readings

Below is the list of topics that will be covered this term. It is recommended that students read the associated course readings before they download the associated lecture.

Note that there is no textbook for this course. Instead, most readings are available direct from the publisher or through the library's e-journal/e-book collection. (If you are having trouble accessing these readings, consult the instructor or any reference librarian.) In addition, some readings are posted to the course website under the "Fair Use" heading.

Note, also, that the *Economist* is oddly indexed by the UWO library. To find items from this journal, do the following:

- Go to the UWO library homepage
- Scroll down and click on **Advanced Search**
- At the top of the page, click **Journal Search**
- Enter "**The Economist**" — *without the " " marks* — in the **Journal Search** box at the top of the page and hit **Search**
- Scroll down to the **3rd result**. It will say *The Economist, Available Online*, and have the date **1843**. Click on either the journal's title or the part that says "available online."
- Click on the **Canadian Business & Current Affairs Database**
- Browse to the issue and page that you want

Section 1

Course Introduction

Section 1: Unit 1 — Course Introduction

(No readings)

Section 2

Breaking the Cycle of Violence

Section 2: Unit 1 — Pacifism, Nonviolent Resistance, and Their Critics

Bertrand Russell, "War and Non-Resistance," *Atlantic Monthly*, Vol. 116, No. 2 (August

1915), pp. 266-274.

Michael L. Gross, “Backfire: The Dark Side of Nonviolent Resistance,” *Ethics & International Affairs*, Vol. 32, No. 3 (Fall 2018), pp. 317-328.

Paul Wehr, “Nonviolent Resistance to Nazism: Norway, 1940-45,” *Peace & Change*, Vol. 10, Nos. 3-4 (October 1984), pp. 77-95.

Section 2: Unit 2 — Mediation and Related Diplomatic Initiatives

“Not Your Average Diplomats,” *Economist*, Vol. 434, No. 9178 (Jan. 25, 2020), pp. 53-54.

William B. Quandt, “Camp David and Peacemaking in the Middle East,” *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 101, No. 3 (1986), pp. 357-377.

[Pay particular attention to pp. 357-367 and skim the rest of this article.](#)

By May 12th, you should reach this point in the schedule.

Section 3

Political and Economic Sanctions and Conflict

Section 3: Unit 1 — Political and Economic Sanctions

Nicholas Mulder, *The Economic Weapon: The Rise of Sanctions as a Tool of Modern War* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2022), pp. 291-297.

[\[E-Book\]](#)

Daniel W. Drezner, “The United States of Sanctions,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 100, No. 5 (September-October 2021), pp. 142-154.

Section 3: Unit 2 — Sanctions Case Study: Iraq

David Rieff, “Were Sanctions Right?” *New York Times Magazine* (July 27, 2003), pp. 40-46.

[\[Available in the “Fair Dealings” folder of the course website\]](#)

By May 19th, you should reach this point in the schedule.

Section 4

Judicial Limits to War

Section 4: Unit 1 — The International Court of Justice

Thomas Buergenthal, “Lawmaking by the ICJ and Other International Courts,” *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting (American Society of International Law)*, Vol. 103, Special Issue on International Law As Law (March 25-29, 2009), pp. 403-406.

Section 4: Unit 2 — The International Criminal Court

Jessica Moody, “Does the ICC Obstruct Peace?” *ForeignPolicy.com* (October 22, 2021), pp. 1-4.

[\[Available in the “Fair Dealings” folder of the course website\]](#)

Genevieve Bates and Kelebogile Zvobgo, “The ICC Doesn’t Look So Interventionist After All,” *ForeignPolicy.com* (December 8, 2021), pp. 1-5.

[\[Available in the “Fair Dealings” folder of the course website\]](#)

Andrew Cesare Miller, “Can Plea Bargains Save the ICC?” *ForeignPolicy.com* (June 22, 2022), pp. 1-4.

[\[Available in the “Fair Dealings” folder of the course website\]](#)

Mark Lawrence Schrad, “It’s Easy But Wrong to Be Cynical About Putin’s Indictment,” *ForeignPolicy.com* (March 21, 2023), pp. 1-5.

[\[Available in the “Fair Dealings” folder of the course website\]](#)

By May 26th, you should reach this point in the schedule.

Midterm

Saturday May 27th

2:00 to 4:00 pm (London ON time)

A detailed template (covering the exact format of the midterm) will be posted to OWL approximately a week before the scheduled test date.

Section 5

Resolving Conflict with Peacekeeping

Section 5: Unit 1 — The History and Evolution of Modern Peacekeeping

Séverine Autesserre, “The Crisis of Peacekeeping: Why the UN Can’t End Wars,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 98, No. 1 (January-February 2019), pp. 101-118.

A. Walter Dorn and Robin Collins, “Peacekeeping Works: The UN can Help End Civil

Wars,” *International Journal: Canada’s Journal of Global Policy Analysis*, Vol. 75, No. 1 (March 2020), pp. 95-103.

Section 5: Unit 2 — The Cost of Peacekeeping

Luisa Blanchfield, “United Nations Issues: US Funding to the UN System,” *CRS In Focus*, No. IF10354, Version 37 (January 20, 2023), 3 pages.

<https://sgp.fas.org/crs/row/IF10354.pdf>

Section 5: Unit 3 — When Peacekeeping Goes Awry

Edward N. Luttwak, “Give War a Chance,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 78, No. 4 (July-August 1999), pp. 36-44.

Chester Crocker, “A Poor Case for Quitting,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 79, No. 1 (January-February 2000), pp. 183-183.

Edward N. Luttwak, “Stay Home,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 79, No. 2 (March-April 2000), pp. 186-189.

By June 2nd, you should reach this point in the schedule.

Section 5: Unit 4 — Peacekeeping Case Study: Rwanda

Alan J. Kuperman, “Rwanda in Retrospect,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 79, No. 1 (January-February 2000), pp. 94-118.

Samantha Power, “Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen,” *Atlantic Monthly*, Vol. 288, No. 2 (September 2001), pp. 84-107.

Section 6

Using Force to Manage Conflict

Section 6: Unit 1 — *Jus ad Bellum* and the United Nations

(No readings)

By June 9th, you should reach this point in the schedule.

Section 6: Unit 2 — *Jus ad Bellum* Miscellany

(No readings)

Section 6: Unit 3 — R2P/Humanitarian Interventions: Evolution

Michael W. Doyle, “Law, Ethics, and the Responsibility to Protect,” in *The Ethics of Armed Humanitarian Intervention*, ed. Don E. Scheid (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2014), pp. 187-208.

[\[E-Book\]](#)

Section 6: Unit 4 — R2P/Humanitarian Interventions: Critiques

Adekeye Adebajo, “The Revolt against the West: Intervention and Sovereignty,” *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 37, No. 7 (2016), pp. 1187-1202.

Section 6: Unit 5 — Humanitarian Intervention Case Study: Libya

Paul D. Williams and Alex J. Bellamy, “Principles, Politics, and Prudence: Libya, the Responsibility to Protect, and the Use of Military Force,” *Global Governance*, Vol. 18, No. 3 (July-September 2012), pp. 273-297.

Section 7

Final Thoughts

Section 7: Unit 1 — Are We Winning the War on War?

Nils Peter Gleditsch *et al*, “The Forum: The Decline of War,” *International Studies Review*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (September 2013), pp. 396-419.

By June 16th, you should reach this point in the schedule.

Final Exam**Saturday June 17th****2:00 to 4:00 pm (London ON time)**

A detailed template (covering the exact format of the midterm) will be posted to OWL approximately a week before the scheduled test date.

Important Notices

Students must complete all course requirements. Failure to do so (e.g., missing an examination without cause) will subject the student to the relevant Departmental and University regulations (e.g., possibly failing the course.)

Final examinations will be held during the regular examination period as set by the Registrar's Office. Except in the case of serious medical (or similar) problems, substitute examinations will normally not be given.

Plagiarism

Students must also note that it is a serious academic offense to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses or to pass off another person's work as their own (i.e., plagiarism). The University of Western Ontario "Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy" defines plagiarism as follows:

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).

At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required: (i) to pass a brief oral examination on their assignment before a final grade is assigned and/or (ii) provide and electronic copy of their assignment so that their work can be checked using plagiarism-checking software (e.g., Turnitin.com). As stated in the University of Western Ontario "Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy:"

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 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>).

If students have any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism, there are various resources available to them including (but not limited to) the Student Development Centre and the instructor (e.g., during office hours). If in doubt — ASK!!!

As a general guide consider the following. When you make a direct quote — Yes, you need a footnote. When you closely paraphrase ideas (e.g., following a text that someone else wrote while changing a small number of words) — Yes, you need a footnote.

What about basic facts and dates? Do you still need a footnote? Say, for example, you are asked to write a paper on the Franco-Prussian War and you have never heard about that particular conflict. And then you write in your paper that the war started in 1870 and that France was led by Louis Napoleon. Would you need a footnote for that sort of information? No. Generally, basic facts and dates are covered by the “Common Knowledge Exception.” If you picked up any general history of that conflict, they would all relate how the war started in 1870 and that France that led by Louis Napoleon. (Another way to think of the “Common Knowledge Exception” is to call it the “Rule of Three” — if a basic fact is reported in three separate general academic sources, you need not provide a footnote.)

At the same time, if one general source was particularly influential in helping you write a section of your paper (even if you did not need to footnote specific passages from it directly), you can add a footnote like the following.¹

¹ The following paragraph is based on P. Jones, *History of the Franco-Prussian War* (Toronto: Penguin Press, 1999), pp. 20-25.

And what about material covered in class (e.g., basic facts and dates). Generally this material falls under the “Common Knowledge Exception” (i.e., no footnote needed), HOWEVER if students really want to use material from the lectures they should go back to *original* sources whenever possible — especially where specific facts or data are presented or if the words of individual theorists or other experts are presented. For example, imagine the instructor states in class that “some historians consider Louis Napoleon’s strategy during the war to be similar to that used by Alexander the Great.” If you wanted to use that idea in your lecture, you should ask the instructor “which historians said this” and “where did that idea come from” BEFORE you use it in your paper. In other words, you always want to go back to the original source rather than rely solely on the material covered in class. For one thing, as a conscientious academic, you want to make sure that your professor has not made a mistake!