

Department of Political Science
POLITICS 3502G – 001 – Special topic: Theoretical Approaches to World Politics

Course Outline 2013 Winter

Instructor: Dr Salim Mansur
Office: SSC 4160
Phone: 661-2111 x85178

Office Hours: Wed 1:00-2:30
Thurs 12:30-2:30
Fri: 11.30-2:00

There are various approaches such as utopian idealism, or liberalism, and realism to understanding and explaining the workings or mechanics of international/world politics. In this half-course the approach we will consider is generally referred to as geopolitics, and the re-emergence of geopolitics in the age of globalization to understand and explain world politics.

Required texts

Klaus Dodds, Geopolitics: A Very Short Introduction.
Robert D. Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography.

Recommended texts

Robert D. Kaplan, The Coming Anarchy.
H.J. Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace.

Course requirements

Book review essay (1200 words) – due February 14	20%
Research essay (3500 words) – due March 14	40%
Take home over-night assignment – due April 12	30%
Class participation & attendance	10%

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE PREREQUISITES/ANTIREQUISITES

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have **not** taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be **ineligible** for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. **This decision cannot be appealed.** If you find that you do not have the course requisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Office of the Dean, Faculty of Social Science

Notes for essays:

I. Opinion/ review essay.

Before preparing to write this essay (approximately 1200 words or 6 pages double-spaced), read some opinion/review essays regularly published in major magazines and journals (e.g. *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *The Economist*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *National Interest*).

This *book review* essay **is not** a research paper. It is an essay where you reflect upon the book and the author you read, and discuss what impressed you most about the book and its subject. You may choose to describe and discuss the subject in terms of what the book does, and/or you may identify a particular topic or aspect of the book for your review purpose. You may also reflect upon how much you have learned and discovered about the subject in reading the book, and how you think about the author in communicating to you the subject s/he writes about.

This essay **does not** require any bibliography or endnotes. If you are providing a quote then you need to provide the source as an endnote as you do for your research essays.

II. Research Essay.

For Research Essay choose a subject (e.g. a theme, an event, a personality) and examine it analytically and historically, assessing the importance of the subject in the literature you research and/or why it is important in terms of influence or consequences in the politics and history of India.

The required length of this paper is approximately 3500 words or 12-14 pages, and in addition endnotes and bibliography (see examples below).

You need to discuss your subject/topic with the Instructor early in the course.

Examples of endnote and bibliographic citation:

C.R. Mohan, "India and the Balance of Power," in *Foreign Affairs* (July/August 2006), p. 17.

K. Waltz, *Man, the State and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959), p. 9.

[Note: Penalty for late paper is for each day late a deduction of 0.5 point from the total grade for the assignment due.]

January 10
Session 1

Introduction

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapter 1.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, chapter 2.

Geoffrey Barraclough, An Introduction to Contemporary History, chapter 1.
Isaiah Berlin, “Historical Inevitability,” in Four Essays on Liberty.

R.D. Kaplan, “The Return of Toxic Nationalism,” in *Wall Street Journal*,
December 23, 2012.
[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323297104578174932950587010.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop]

January 17 and 24
Sessions 2 & 3

Why/how geography matters

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapters 1 and 2.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, chapters IV, VI, and VII.

Robert D. Kaplan, The Coming Anarchy, chapter 1.
H.J. Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations, chapter 9.
Max Singer and Aaron Wildavsky, The Real World Order, chapter 1.
Martin Wight, Power Politics, chapters 3-6.

January 31 and Feb. 7
Sessions 4 & 5

International Politics as Geopolitics

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapters 2 and 5.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, Part II.

Geoffrey Barraclough, An Introduction to Contemporary History, chapter IV.
David Harvey, The New Imperialism, chapter 1.
H.J. Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations, chapters 4-6.
Nicholas J. Spykman, America's Strategy in World Politics: the United States and the Balance of Power.

February 14 and 28

Sessions 6 & 7

Nationalism and identity politics

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapter 4.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, Part II.

Benjamin R. Barber, Jihad vs. McWorld, Introduction.
Geoffrey Barraclough, An Introduction to Contemporary History, chapter VI.
Ernest Gellner, Nations and Nationalism, chapters 4 and 5.
Elie Kedourie, Nationalism.
Amin Maalouf, In the Name of Identity.
Salim Mansur, Delectable Lie, chapter two.
Anthony D. Smith, National Identity, chapters 1 and 4.

March 7 and 14

Sessions 8 & 9

National Interest in Geopolitics

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapter 3.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, chapter VIII.

David A. Baldwin, Economic Statecraft, chapters 4 and 5.
Joseph Frankel, National Interest.
Ernest B. Haas, "The Balance of Power," in *World Politics*, vol. 5, no. 4, July 1953 (online).
Klaus Knorr, The Power of Nations, chapters II, III, IV.
Edward N. Luttwak, "From Geopolitics to Geo-Economics," in *The National Interest*, Summer 1990.
H.J. Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations, Parts Three and Four.
Michael J. Sheehan, The balance of power: history and theory.

March 21 and 28

Sessions 10 & 11

Geopolitics and clash of civilization

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapters 4 and 6.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, chapters XIII and XIV.

Benjamin R. Barber, Jihad vs. McWorld, chapters 14 and 15.
Samuel P. Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" in *Foreign Affairs*,
Summer 1993 (Online).
Samuel P. Huntington, The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of
World Order.
Bernard Lewis, "The Roots of Muslim Rage," in *The Atlantic Monthly*,
September 1990 (online).
Amin Maalouf, In the Name of Identity.
Roger Scruton, The West and the rest: globalization and the terrorist threat.

April 4 and 11

Sessions 12 & 13

Geopolitics, past and future

Dodds, Geopolitics, chapter 1.
Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography, chapter XV.

Isaiah Berlin, "Historical Inevitability," in Four Essays on Liberty.
Andrew Cohen, While Canada Slept, chapters 7 and 8.
Robert D. Kaplan, The Coming Anarchy,
Geoffrey Parker, Geopolitics: past, present and future.
Max Singer and Aaron Wildavsky, The Real World Order, chapters 2 - 4.

Take home assignment handed April 11 and to be turned in by noon April 12.

**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/handbook/appeals/scholoff.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.

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

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> 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.

Plagiarism

"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/handbook/>

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.

Mental Health at Western: If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.