



COURSE OVERVIEW AND RULES

1. Course Description

Using lectures, simulations and role-plays, this course will help you understand the global conflicts that confront us. The lectures survey modern warfare, regional balances of power, and military alliances, like NATO. Simulations, like the Cuban missile crisis simulation and the crisis in North Korea war game, focus on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. A Model UN exercise considers resolutions regarding intervention and peacekeeping operations. In addition, class discussions help understand the roots of terrorism, the causes of environmentally induced warfare over resources, and the foreseeable impact of population growth and migration.

2. Course Evaluation:

Participation Marks	Lectures: 1-10% for participating in class discussions	Simulations: 3-9% for participating in 1-3 simulations (CMC, UN and Korean wargame)	Total participation: 10%
Exams (2 X 45%)	Mid-term is entirely Multiple Choice, 2 hours long, and takes place in-class on Wed Feb. 11. It tests Classes 1-5 and it is worth 45% of your final mark.	Official Exam is entirely Multiple Choice, two hours long and takes place during Exam period (TBA) but you can write it on April 14 th 12:30-2:30 It tests Classes 6-12 and it is worth 45% of your final mark.	Total exams: 90%

For more information on how you will be evaluated, see the relevant sections below.

3. Lectures

Social Science 2028, Wednesdays: 12:30 pm –2:30 pm followed by office hour until 3:30 pm.

4. Information about your Professor: Associate Professor Erika Simpson

I have been a Western professor since 1995 (tenured since 2001). I completed post-doctoral studies at Carleton University and before that, I obtained my PhD and MA in International Relations (IR) at the University of Toronto. My BA Honours was also in IR at the University of Saskatchewan which is in Saskatoon, SK. I have travelled widely around the world by bicycle, train and plane. I am long-divorced with two children, ages 12 and 14. I write books, articles and regular op eds for Quebecor/Sun Media and I frequently comment on CTV National and local TV. I am the busiest person you may ever meet.

Office: SSC 4157, 4th floor, Social Science Building

UWO Tel: 519-661-2111 ext. 85156 for voice mail messages.

Cell/text: 519-520-3630 for emergency use; all my telephones accept voice mail but block texts

6. The best way to contact Professor Simpson:

Email: Simpson@uwo.ca

Or see me during office hours: Tuesdays, 1:45-3:30 pm and Wednesdays, 2:45-3:30

WEBCT/Sakkai/OWL:

You and your official UWO email address are added automatically to the Politics 2141B 001 COURSE WEBSITE. I will email you through your UWO account, not your other accounts. Course materials will be posted on 'OWL' including grades, course outlines, assignment deadlines, office hours, etc. This is a closed web-site, and only students registered in the course have access to it.

I try to respond to emails within 2 business working days so if you do not hear back from me, please resend your message and attachment with a subject heading that identifies you as a student in my class. For example (e.g.) a subject heading that works would be: 'urgent message from Joe Smith in 2141B'. A message that might not be caught in my spam trap or not read could be something like, 'Happy new year!' I suggest you write your subject heading first; attach your attachments; then write the main body of your email to me; then repaste our relevant correspondence below your email; and finally send a copy of your email to yourself as proof of date and time you wrote me.

7. Important Notices Concerning Pre-Requisites and Anti-Requisites

- Antirequisites: see the official course outline and course calendar, as these change year-to-year
- Prerequisites: see the official course outline and course calendar, as these change year-to-year
- "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 an 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 prerequisites, 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 protect 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
- "Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded, that all course prerequisites have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any antirequisite course(s) that they have taken. If the student does not have the requisites for a course, and does not have written special permission from his or her Dean to enroll in the course, the University reserves the right to cancel the student's registration in the course. [The University may also choose not to adjust your fees, such as not providing you a refund for the course.] This decision may not be appealed." – University of Western Ontario Academic Calendar

8. Overview of Course Content and Required Readings

Important: The dates and topics of the following chart may change depending on schedules, illnesses, and other unforeseen events like snow days. The chart below is included for illustrative purposes only and may be updated on the class website as the term unfolds.

Long Version of Course Content

Date	Session	Lecture Topics	Reading	Sample Questions
January 7	Class 1	Course overview and “Power” (balances, middle/great powers)	Class 1 Slides	<p>-overview course, meet and greet</p> <p>-why is power important for understanding global conflict?</p> <p>Email the Professor at simpson@uwo.ca for your first, second or third choice of a country to represent. You can choose any country you want to represent. There are no criteria or suggestions for making a choice but if you choose a country like the US or China, you may not get your first choice. I assign them based on the time I receive your three email requests so 1. China, 2. Russia and 3. the US will be taken before this class’s coffeebreak (which is always at 1:20-1:30)</p>
January 14	Class 2	Game theory, ‘rationality’, the Cuban missile crisis (CMC) and Crisis Decision-making	Class 2 Slides and your individual roleplay info on Course website. The exam does not test you on your individualized material for the CMC roleplay	<p>-What is prisoner’s dilemma in game theory?</p> <p>-What were the main events leading up to the CMC?</p> <p>-What is nuclear deterrence and did it work during the Cold War?</p> <p>Next week, Group A (50) meets at 12:30 and Group B (50) meets at 1:30. I assign you a role so you do not have a choice of roles for the CMC.</p> <p>After midnight today, I will also assign you a country if you have not already requested one. If you have not emailed me yet, you may get the DPRK, Iran, Pakistan or or Palestine (observer status only) so email me your first-, second- and third choice.</p> <p>You do not have a choice as to the role you play for the North Korea crisis...I will decide those roles as well by today.</p>
January 21	Class 3	Cuban missile crisis (CMC) roleplay Attendance is taken at 12:30 (Group A) and	Class 3 Slides	<p>-Group A meets at 12:30 with students Addison to Mann (last names)</p> <p>Group B meets at 1:30 with</p>

		1:30 (Group B) in order to earn participation points.		students Masciantanto to Zaifman
January 28	Class 4	- Terrorism , Third-Generation Terrorism and Suicide Bombers -The role of the UN and NATO in Fomenting and Preventing Global Violence	Class 4 Slides	-How can terrorism be understood and possibly prevented? -What roles do the UN and NATO play in preventing (and fomenting) violence? -What UN resolutions might your country propose?
February 4	Class 5	Exam Study Guide will be posted at 12:30 pm and discussed in this class before the UN Simulation. The UN SIMULATION goes for 100 minutes from 12:40-2:20 p.m. including coffee break time. 100 students over 100 minutes means you must share speaking time 'fairly'.	Class 5 Slides including the UN Resolutions that passed.	-What UN resolutions did your country sponsor, co-sponsor, vote in favour/against or abstain from voting on? -If you did not speak up during the debates, why not?
February 11		MID-TERM IN-CLASS EXAM	Study slides from classes 1-5 for mid-term exam including the UN Resolutions that passed.	
February 18	Reading Week	No Class	No readings	No office hours
February 25	Class 7	Nuclear Weapons Proliferation, Arms Control (e.g. NPT and NWFZs) - North Korea Background Information for next week's Crisis Simulation	Class 7 Slides	What is nuclear proliferation and can arms control agreements like the upcoming 2015 NPT Review Conference stop proliferation to North Korea, Iran, etc.? What are NWFZs and could we have an Arctic NWFZ? What is the nuclear risk from North Korea?
March 4	Class 8	North Korea Crisis Simulation so Group A meets at 12:30 and Group B meets at 1:30	Class 8 Slides and your Roleplay Information is on net	-What might happen if North Korea threatened to resort to nuclear weapons (simulation).
March 1	Class 9	Bio Threats -The threat from Biological Weapons -The threat from the Ebola Virus	Class 9 Slides	

March 11	Class 10	Newer Types of Conventional Warfare Newer types of Cyberwarfare	Class 10 Slides	-What are conventional weapons (e.g. landmines)? -What cyberwarfare threats are we encountering from North Korea?
March 25	Class 11	Environmental Threats (e.g. nuclear waste, oil spills, water wars, resource conflict, climate change) and the Coming Anarchy Course Evaluation? Or Global Jeopardy Game	Class 11 Slides	-Is there a connection between the 'coming anarchy' and conflict? - What can be done to solve environmental problems and prevent environmentally-induced conflict? Course Evaluation or Global Jeopardy Game
April 1	Class 12	The threat from Population Explosions , Growth Pressures and issues concerning, Migration and Refugee policies	Class 12 Slides	-Will 95% of population growth continue to be in the Global South? -How do population pressures contribute to cross-boundary violence?
April Exam Time		The Official Exam Date/Time will be announced as the course progresses. If you want to leave London early or avoid studying for too many exams during one short time period, you can write an early exam on Wed April 15th between 12:30-2:30 in Room 4255 SSC . You do not need official documentation from your academic counselor to write the exam early but seating is limited to the first 70 students.	Exam only includes Slides from Classes 7-12 Do not study slides from Classes 1-5	You may write the Early Exam on April 15 th and then write the Official Exam on the official date—and ask me to score the higher score. They are different exams but if you do better on one rather than the other, I don't see why I couldn't record your higher score.

Short Version of Course Content:

Date	Session	Lecture Topics	Reading	Important Stuff to Remember
January 7	Class 1	Power	Class 1 Slides	Email first-, second- and third-choice of country
January 14	Class 2	Game theory,	Class 2 Slides	Email first-, second- and third-choice of country
January 21	Class 3	CMC roleplay	Class 3 Slides	-Group A meets at 12:30 with students Addison to Mann (last names) Group B meets at 1:30 with students Masciantanto to Zaifman Don't miss today's simulation as it is worth up to 3% of your final mark
January 28	Class 4	Terrorism	Class 4 Slides	What UN resolutions might your country propose? Start working on them this week to be ready for next week
February 4	Class 5	UN SIMULATION 12:40-2:20 p.m.	Class 5 Slides including the UN Resolutions that passed.	Don't miss this class as it worth up to 3 pts.
February 11		MID-TERM IN-CLASS EXAM	Study slides from classes 1-5 for mid-term exam including the UN Resolutions that passed.	Don't miss the exam today. Make-up info is on OWL
February 18	Reading Week	No Class	No readings	No office hours
February 25	Class 7	Nuclear Weapons	Class 7 Slides	
March 4	Class 8	North Korea Crisis Simulation so Group A meets at 12:30 and Group B meets at 1:30	Class 8 Slides and your Roleplay Information is on net	Don't miss today's simulation. Worth up to 3 pts.
March 1	Class 9	Bio Threats	Class 9 Slides	
March 11	Class 10	Conventional Warfare Cyberwarfare	Class 10 Slides	
March 25	Class 11	Environmental	Class 11 Slides	
April 1	Class 12	Population	Class 12 Slides	
April Exam Time		Official Exam	Exam only includes Slides from Classes 7-12	

9. Exams: What to Study and Advice on Taking Notes

The 2 Multiple Choice Exams are worth 45% each:

NB: Students who miss nearly all the classes and most of the term, read this first: You may not miss writing either exam as each exam is worth 45% of your final mark. The April exam is not a cumulative exam and I will not make it into a cumulative exam for you. This means if you miss any exam, you must write a make-up and I will not weigh the April exam higher to make up for missing the mid-term exam. In short, you may not write a cumulative exam in April with 180 questions that is about 3 hours long...instead in April, you would end up writing 2 2-hour exams. For example, if you miss all of the classes, miss all of the simulations and move to the Amazon in Peru for the winter, I don't want to know...but you cannot write one 4-hour exam in April; you must write two 2 hour exams in April with documentation from your academic counsellor that allows you to write make-up #4.

There will be 90 questions on each multiple choice exam. Each question is worth ½% of your final grade. The exam's questions range between very easy to moderately challenging to very difficult. Students who are in 4th year in Political Science have a stronger background in some areas so they could score higher as they have more background knowledge in Politics. But students who aren't PolSci majors can easily score as highly as 4th year PolSci majors. In my experience, the students who score 90-100% averages in this course do so because they are smart and attentive, not because they are in Politics. Last year's top three ('best') students were in Medicine, Physics and Nursing. The year before that they were in Aviation, Nuclear Physics and second-year 'Pre-Law' (now Politics ☺)

If you are a visiting exchange student, who is reading in your second- or third-language, you will be accorded the same amount of time to write the exam as English-speaking students but there is plenty of time to read the exam and most students will read it in about 1 hour—others will take longer. If you are really having trouble reading the sample multiple choice questions quickly see me as you may need to take another class or arrange to write an accommodated exam in another room—I cannot award you the 'gentleman's B' merely for attending the course, attending the simulations—but failing the exams.

Keep in mind that the final exam will probably raise your overall average. Last year's average for the class was very high and at least 5 of 60 people scored 100% on the final exam plus no students failed. That said, it is highly recommended when preparing for the exams that you consider joining a small study group, so that you and some friends can share notes, and discuss the lecture material. 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.

What to Study?

How should I study for the exams? The exams will test you on the lecture material, including the slides, simulations and roleplays. Most of the exam will test you on the information covered in the slides, including my spoken lecture material. The exams will not test you on information that was relayed by other students in the class during the simulations and discussions. You do not need to take notes on what other students say during the simulations and discussions but you should try to remember what I say and what the pictures, charts and tables on the slides imply.

Many pictures on the slides are designed to make you think and to provoke discussion but they are also important to study. If you merely study the written text (by cutting and pasting it into one long document), you will likely do well on the exam but the students that score 90-100% know how to think, critically. Indeed, I will insert into the exam a few riveting pictures or tables taken directly from the slides--and ask multiple choice questions based on the pictures...

The exams will not test you on any of the UN resolutions that failed to pass by a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly. But I will test you on basic information that we learned during all the simulations, like the UN Simulation. The exams will not test you on the individualized roleplaying material for the Cuban missile crisis and the North Korean crisis because every roleplayer has different information sheets. Instead, you will earn participation marks for participating in the simulations. I cannot test you on your individualized material as everybody is meant to learn powerfully-different lessons (e.g. Kennedy learns different lessons from Castro and Khrushchev).

To summarize, the final exam tests you on everything you learned from the lecture slides and from the simulations. You should always try to come to class—even if you have not had a chance to download or print the slides. During the lectures, tutorials and simulations, your task is to think about and question the materials, not to be a ‘medieval scribe’. While I appreciate many students want to reinforce the lecture material by making handwritten or typewritten notes, you do not need to take handwritten or typed notes during class unless this is your preferred learning style. Personally, I would prefer to see you thinking about the slides’ content and participating in class discussions and simulations than see your head bent down, hurriedly scribbling for two hours! Why get writer’s cramp? All the slides we overview are posted before class but if we do not get to the end of the slides that were posted before the class began, then I delete the slides we didn’t cover or were missed so you do not need to study them.

13. How Can You Earn Participation Marks?

Participation marks are designed to reward participation, enhance the class’s activities, and increase high-quality attendance. I will post your participation mark before the course evaluation and before the final exam. Participation marks are earned through participation in lectures and tutorials so you earn participation points all term, specifically:

- 1) **the Cuban Missile Crisis simulation = you are guaranteed 1 participation point for speaking in your ‘role’ during this simulation.** You could earn more than one simulation point for contributing more to this simulation and you can earn up to a maximum of 3 points. No matter how long your spoken contribution lasts, I will award you one point for somehow contributing on your role’s behalf. Speaking publicly may require some advance preparation for your particular role, especially if you are assigned a prominent role, like Kennedy, Diefenbaker or Khrushchev. But in most cases, you should be able to earn this point simply by reading the ‘individualized’ materials for your role and speaking up at least once. If you speak up more than once, you could earn another participation point in this simulation. You could earn more than one simulation point for contributing more to this simulation but you can earn only up to a maximum of 3 points.
- 2) **the United Nations simulation = you are guaranteed at least 1 participation point for showing up to play your assigned/requested country.** Although you may not get an opportunity to speak even once as there will be 100 countries pressing for a vote on their particular resolutions, you will earn one participation point for showing up and voting on UN Resolutions. Although just like at the UN, there will be absences due to illnesses and extenuating circumstances, you cannot ‘make up’ for losing this or any other participation points. You might end up earning more than 1 participation point by putting together a UN Resolution or speaking up more in favour of co-sponsored resolutions. You can earn up to a maximum of 3 points for this particular simulation.
- 3) **North Korea Nuclear Crisis simulation, so just as in the CMC simulation, you will earn 1 participation point for speaking.** No matter how long your spoken contribution lasts, a TA/PhD student (from my other class) or I will award you one participation point for contributing, which may

require some advance preparation for your particular role, especially if you are assigned a prominent role, like the leader of North Korea or a less prominent role, like a Brigadier-General who is threatening to lob a nuclear missile over Japan. You could earn more than one simulation point for contributing more to this simulation and you can earn up to a maximum of 3 points.

4) Participating in class discussions: You can make up for missing a simulation or speaking less in a simulation (for example, if you get a smaller role) by contributing more to discussions in the regular lectures. Contributing to regular discussions during the lectures earns participation points 1-10% of a possible total 10% of participation points awarded for participating in the simulations and/or class discussions. I occasionally will give you a stamped participation card. You can collect them all at one time (up to a maximum of 10 participation points) or you can register them with me after each class. I will ask you for your last name and mark you down for participation after class. Many students will easily earn all 10 points through participation in lectures at which point I may plead with you to speak less and somehow help me to give others a chance to speak up. You cannot earn more than 10% of your final mark through participation. Many students will earn 9% by speaking up a lot during the smaller simulations. I will give you a certificate of 100% participation once you earn full marks for participation—you can post this on your fridge at home. If you don't have the certificate of 100% participation, you will probably get it during the exam.

If you have to miss any simulation, for any reason, you can 'make up' the missed participation mark by earning more participation marks during lectures. For example, there isn't time to everyone a chance to speak more than one time during the UN Simulation, but you will earn 1 mark for voting with your placard. If you entirely miss the UN Simulation, you could make up for 3 potentially-missed simulation points by participating more in the smaller Simulations or by participating more in large-class discussions.

By the way, you cannot earn more than 10% of your mark with participation points—we don't add bonus points to the final mark in the class--but most students will earn 100% in terms of their participation mark over the entire term.

To summarize the participation marks, you can easily raise your Final Mark by earning 100% on participation. I will post your participation mark one week before the official course evaluation (also to make you feel extra good about taking the class) and then again right after the final lecture just before the early exam.

Very shy students?

If you are very shy to speak up in such a large classroom or you have documented/undocumented reasons for being terrified of public speaking or you have missed many simulations due to illness and it is late in March, then you can email me to inform me of the particulars of your situation. Since this mark is less than 10% of your total mark, I have discretionary power. When do you email me? During class discussion, email me at simpson@uwo.ca some of your ideas and explain that shyness or lack of time prevented you from contributing them. Or Group B could have coffee during Group A's time and decide to send me the minutes of their discussion, written by shy student. Or you could actually physically visit me during my office hours (a very rare event for me nowadays) and before doing so, you could email me your ideas about a slide we discussed. Once I know we are keeping track of your participation OUTSIDE the regular classroom, we will figure out other ways for you to earn participation points more easily.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Does Professor Simpson post sample multiple-choice exam questions?

I post sample multiple-choice exams in the form of Jeopardy Games, in the form of Trivial Pursuit Games and I post them in as many creative ways as I can think of, as the term progresses. If you have suggestions for possible multiple-choice exam questions, I would be very happy to receive them by email, edit them if need be, and post them or actually pose them during the exam. My Exam Bank needs your suggestions. You should quiz yourself and if you easily score nearly-always right answers, you can rest assured you will do well on the exam without much studying. But if you do poorly on the questions posted during the term, then you know which topics probably need more study and reinforcement. My multiple choice questions range between ‘very easy’ to ‘very difficult’ but most students do very well on most of the questions. Last year’s average was 85% and I am seen as an ‘easy’ writer of multiple choice questions. That said, it is highly recommended when preparing for the mid-term and final exams that you consider forming small study groups, so that you and some friends can share notes, and discuss the lecture material—there is nothing wrong with a collective effort! After all, that is what the classroom is about—all of us working together for fun and learning. More importantly, university is the best time to make life-long friends.

Why not ask your neighbor in the class to get together with you to compare notes? Taking notes and rereading the lecture slides are an important and integral part of this course and your university experience. **You should schedule time with others to review the slides in time for the final exam.**

A common question is: ‘Am I expected to memorize all the information in the Powerpoint slides, study all the URLs, view all the Youtube videos and look at the embedded websites plus memorize everything that you say in lectures?’ **No! My lectures assume that you are totally unfamiliar with the topic and have not downloaded or looked at that day’s powerpoint slides.** Of course, reviewing the slides beforehand (and with others ☺) will help you contribute to the discussions--and reviewing them within 18 hours afterward will help you prepare for the exams. Studying the slides before and/or after the lectures will also save you time during the busy mid-term and final exam time periods.

Do I need to come to class if the Slides are posted beforehand on-line anyway?

To summarize, you should always try to come to class—even if you have not had a chance to download or print the slides. During lectures, your task is to think about and question the materials, not be a ‘medieval scribe’. Nevertheless, I appreciate many students want to reinforce the lecture material by taking many handwritten or typewritten notes. Keep in mind, however, that just by coming to class and asking good questions and contributing to class discussions, roleplays and simulations, you could earn 100% on 10% of your final grade in terms of attendance and participation.

Does Professor Simpson bell curve the exam scores so my final mark is lower than I earned?

No I do bell curve the marks, ever. Often students who are in Sciences or Health Science score as high as the Politics students because they study. There are no written parts of the exam—it is entirely based on multiple choice questions. I use Scantron therefore it will take many fast readers much less than 1 hour to write it while other students will remain in the exam room, rechecking their answers for the entire two hour time period.

Will we use Clickers? No. Clickers will not be used or tabulated in 2192B because:

- it is a waste of precious time to wait for results to stream in during lectures;
- it is unfair if students forget to bring them or if the professor forgets to use them consistently during each and every class;
- there can be a possible misuse of clickers regarding attendance so it is easier to use a human being (me) to record

attendance, especially given problems regarding full attendance, lateness, leaving early, etc. But I can make mistakes so email me if I miss recording your attendance and participation properly.

What if Professor Simpson seems not to be able to remember your name...?

Please do not be at all concerned if I repeatedly forget your first or last name or the different role or country you played as I have taught over 13,500 undergrads at U of T (1987-1991), Carleton University (1991-1995) and Western (1995-2012) over the last nearly quarter-century. You must simply trust that I will remember your face and come up to you during the coffee break or after class in order to give you a stamped participation card.

What if Professor Simpson is hit by a truck?

The Professor who grades you and writes the final exam may change in exceptional circumstances. For example, I may be replaced due to disability, exceptional circumstances, illness, etc. in which case your mark may need to be reweighted. My interim marks will be posted on OWL one week before the course evaluation takes place--and a central administrator will consult them or reweigh the marks. A central administrator could also use my Exam Bank to write the exams...

What if some students take up most or too much of our classtime?

During our classtime, please be considerate of our time constraints and of others by encouraging shyer students in the class to speak-up and by making certain **everyone shares equal time**. Remember that learning to express yourself articulately and clearly in front of your peers can be one of the most important skills learned at university. But I cannot appeal to a student to stop talking so much and I also have to cover all the slides for each class, so I tend to schedule time at the beginning and end of each hour for a Q & A, once I have covered the slides.

What if I am terrified of speaking in public even if I am playing a role?

If you need to, I will work hard with you this term to make certain that you speak up during roleplays, simulations and lectures on a more frequent basis so as to help get you ready for smaller seminars in 3rd and 4th year—**and more importantly, to help you prepare for a real job outside the ivory tower**. Many students learn to overcome their fear of public speaking by taking my classes (yes, I used to be very shy too). Not knowing much about Politics means very little—you can comment on the slides you have viewed easily without a degree in Politics!

What if I have to miss a lecture?

Please don't email or phone me if you must miss a lecture or simulation (unless you are playing a very important role which would only be Kennedy or Diefenbaker or Kim Jong Un—and even then, I can find somebody to replace you). If you miss attending your regular scheduled lecture or face a conflict (such as a doctor's appointment or sports event) or if you miss a roleplay or simulation, you cannot 'make up' missed attendance. There is plenty of opportunity over the term to earn these marks so I expect that missing a simulation or roleplay can happen—obviously there is no chance to do it on another day and writing me about it will make no difference to your mark or anything at all except possibly it will reassure me that you are OK.

- You are responsible for printing up that day's slides and/or notes and supplementing those lecture notes with notes from another student. I will not meet with you to discuss the information you have missed (even if you have legitimate reasons for missing class) as this would be unfair to other students who attended the lecture, and this would take up way too much of my time.

- I post all the slides but I will not post notes of the class discussions during the lectures and tutorials so you should take notes during the discussions. If we end up not finishing the slides, perhaps due to excessive discussion time, I will make sure the multiple choice questions do not cover the slides that were missed.

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

- Due to certain circumstances and/or situations, changes to course outlines and other course documents are necessary. In such cases, you will be informed through all available channels of communication as soon as possible. The dates and topics of the lectures, simulations and exams may be changed depending on my schedule, illnesses, and other unforeseen events. The dates below are included for illustrative purposes only and may be updated on the class website as the term unfolds.

10. University regulations on re-evaluation and absences

- 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 Professor.
- 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 the Professor who will decide the fairest option.
- If you are an international student, your exams will be graded according to Canadian University standards.
- In the event that you miss many classes or all of them, you may not have the 20% of your mark ‘reweighted’ to cover your absences. The final exam cannot be made worth 100%.

11. 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 Counselor in your Faculty, who will then confirm whether you can possibly be granted accommodation. Any medical absence must **be** documented using the Student Medical Certificate or as instructed by Student Services, Dean’s Office or your Academic Counselor. Academic Counseling will advise the Professor about accommodation and the final decisions about due dates, re-weighting, transfer weighting, etc., will be made in consultation with you and your counselor.
- For **work worth less than 10%** (as per Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness): non-documentable absences will not be given accommodation because various forms of allowances (allowances like “attendance marks”, “participation marks”, “freebies”, “givens”, “cushions”) have already been included for incidental absences. See all the information above.
- If we are unable to grant you fair and reasonable accommodation in our assessment, the whole percentage weight for that assignment may be added to the value of the exam for that term but it is my preference not to weigh a one-term final exam = 100%.

22. More official regulations concerning exams

- The exam covers all lectures, lecture notes, and required readings.
- No electronic devices are permitted to be used in/for/during any exam, including PDAs, cellphones, personal computers, and/or electronic dictionaries (as per <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/crsout.pdf>)
- Note from <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/crsout.pdf>: “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.”
- Exam questions are composed by the Professors; multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system

- 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 but the exams will be multiple choice in most cases. However, if you must any mid-term and/or final exam, it is highly likely that your exam will NOT be multiple choice. If you miss the mid-term exam, for any reason, you may have to write an essay-type of exam and your answers may be essay-style, not multiple choice. For example, if you miss the make-up for the December exam, the second- and third-make-up exams will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is because my exam bank will probably never be large enough to pose enough multiple choice questions for so many different make-up exams.

23. Concerns about Grades?

a) Final Exam Grade and/or Participation Grade

- Wait two days, then see the professor during office hours, or set up an appointment via email.
- Appeals to change an exam (or essay) grade must be received during that Course Lecturer's term; a Course Lecturer does not handle appeals after the term ends.

24. Some Ground Rules and Recommendations covering the lectures:

a) **Please do not refrain from asking questions – your friends and colleagues may have the same questions and need answers, too. There are no stupid or foolish questions, ever!**

b) Conduct yourself appropriately in lectures

- Be courteous; act responsibly; refrain from talking; avoid activities that disrupt or distract fellow students; if you are multi-tasking on your computer, keep in mind who is sitting behind you....
- You may be asked kindly to leave if you are being disruptive to the proper functioning of the class
- **You are required to conduct yourself according 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>
- Please feel free to chat with each other and the professor but keep in mind that before the lecture begins, I am kept very busy setting up all the technology so it would be better to wait to consult with me until the coffee break, after the lecture and/or during my office hours.

25. More useful & necessary Info

Please be read and be familiar with rules and regulations in the Appendices that are posted on the Political Science Department's, the Dean's Office's, Social Science Academic Counselling, and Registrar's websites, among others. All this information is relevant to appeals, plagiarism, etc.

26. What about after graduation and in future years?

- If you need a reference, please email professors individually for more information. Professor Simpson's policy is not to write references for law school and/or graduate school based on your standing in a second-year class because such a reference, compared to a 3rd-year or 4th-year reference is not as useful, and could be doing you a disservice, not a service.
- Yes I would appreciate hearing from you once you have graduated and in future years. For more information about other classes I teach and the field of IR, see our faculty and personal websites available through the Department of Political Science's homepage.
- **Although I may not remember your exact name given the number of students I have taught, I will always remember your face. It's a small world and we're only on it together for just a short time!**

**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.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.