

**1. Course Name and Number**

Department of Political Science POL SCI 3203F, Section 001: **International Crises**

**2. Day Offered**

Tuesdays, Fall Term, Sept-December, 2018

**3. Hours**

3:30-5:30

**4. Location of Lecture**

Social Science Building (SSC) 2032

**5. Prerequisite(s):**

*Open to International Relations Students*

*Open to Majors*

“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.”

**6. Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** Associate Professor [Erika Simpson](#)

**E-mail:** [simpson@uwo.ca](mailto:simpson@uwo.ca)

**Office Hours:** Thursdays, 2:30-3:30 pm in my office in Room 4157 SSC or by appointment.

**Phone:** 519-661-2111 ext. 85156

**7. Course Syllabus**

This interdisciplinary International Security course unpacks the history, theory, and practice of global security with emphasis on Cold War and post-Cold War crises. Students will be introduced to the main historical actors and problems that have shaped international security as well as participate in different interactive simulations. Students will develop diplomatic skills based on the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, a current UN crisis, and a possible future military crisis in the South China Sea.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

|   |   |   |                          |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| Participation in Simulations & Lectures | 3 In-Class Simulations and/or Guest Lectures worth 1-3% each = 9% | Class participation in regular In-Class dialogues = 11%           | Total participation: 20% |
| Essay:                                  | Marked by a TA, not the professor                                 | <b>1 final copy due Tuesday December 11</b>                       | Total essays: 30%        |
| Exams:                                  | Mid-term multiple choice exam (80 questions in 2 hours): 25%      | Non-cumulative final December exam (80 questions in 2 hours): 25% | Total exams: 50%         |

## Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe some key figures, events and trends in international security
- Identify and engage with different types of political theories in international security;
- Analyze and evaluate international issues and place them in their historical context
- Connect present-day problems to historical events and place them in a broader context

## 8. Course Materials

- No materials are required for the course except for one text book:

Nye, Joseph S., and David A. Welch. *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History*. 10th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J: Pearson, 2016 [approx. \$130 and available at the university bookstore beginning September 10 – used copies are available].

- All the instructor's Powerpoint Slides and the *Relevant Readings* are posted on OWL.
- All the instructor's slides are copyrighted by the instructor and remain the property of the instructor, not the University of Western Ontario.
- All the *Relevant Readings* are drawn from free online sources such as Google Scholar, Scholarship@Western and Youtube.

## Relevant Readings

- All the relevant readings are available online as journal articles or scholarly reports. All the *Relevant Readings* are drawn from free online sources such as Google Scholar, Scholarship@Western and Youtube.
- Reading some relevant readings before class will help you to contribute to class discussions. However, you do not need to read the relevant readings before class in order to understand the lectures and pass the exams.
- All the relevant readings are available in a separate document. The relevant readings are not attached to this course outline because they are not 'required readings'. You will **not** be tested on the Relevant Readings – there are simply too many of them and there is too much information to study. You can use the Relevant Readings to get ready for Class Discussions, to stimulate your interest, to contribute more to the 3 Simulations and to help prepare for and write your Essay.

## Methods of Evaluation

**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 available on OWL as the term unfolds.

| Date    | Session | Readings | Lecture Topics  |
|---------|---------|----------|---|
| Sept 11 | Class 1 | 1-38     | What is International Politics? Case Study of Peace in the Middle East with 1 <sup>st</sup> In-Class Dialogues; Terrorism Revisited on September 11th |
| Sept 18 | Class 2 | 55-74    | Introduction to Levels of Analysis, Paradigms and Theories; In-class introductions and Shaking Hands Exercise   |
| Sept 25 | Class 3 | 81-115   | Balances of Power and World War I (WWI), Collective Security  |

|         |          |  |   |
|---------|----------|--|---|
|         |          | 116-145  | and WWII; Hiroshima Discussion  |
| Oct. 2  | Class 4  | 146-171  | Deterrence and Containment: Explaining the Cold War   |
| Oct. 9  |          | No readings & no office hours                                  | Fall Study Break  |
| Oct. 16 | Class 5  | 71-199   | <b>Guest lecture on Post-Cold War Armed Conflict (e.g. Peacekeeping) And/Or UN Simulation #1</b> (The UN Simulation may be cancelled in favour of your participation in the Guest Lecture). (simulation or attendance & participation in guest lecture marks recorded today)  |
| Oct. 23 | Class 6  | 215-230 and your individualized reading material for your role | The Cold War and Post-Cold War Armed Conflict (e.g. Peacekeeping). <b>This week's lecture may be moved one week earlier to Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> Participation in guest lecture marks may be recorded today instead.</b>   |
| Oct. 30 | Class 7  | Shared & individualized reading material                       | <b>1962 Cuban Missile Crisis Simulation #2</b> (simulation marks recorded today)<br><b>Group A (hour #1) Last names A-</b><br><b>Group B (hour #2) Last names -Z</b>  |
| Nov.6   | Class 8  | Review 1-230   | <b>Mid-term in-class multiple choice exam (2 hours). Marks will be posted asap.</b>   |
| Nov. 13 | Class 9  | 231-274  | Current Flashpoints: Eastern Europe, Ukraine, Syria and the Middle East   |
| Nov. 20 | Class 10 | 274-297  | Current Flashpoints: India, Pakistan, China and North Korea with <b>South China Crisis Simulation #3</b> (simulation marks recorded today)  |
| Nov. 27 | Class 11 | 346-381  | Transnational Threats: biological weapons, cyberware, drones, pandemics and new threats from climate change.  |
| Dec. 4  | Class 12 | Review 231-381   | What Can We Expect in the Future? The Clash of Civilizations? <b>Global Jeopardy (sample multiple choice questions from classes 7-12).</b> If you not able to attend the final class, please play the game by yourself (which is not as much fun!) and make sure to find some study partners to study with.<br><b>Final copy of the essay due next Tuesday Dec. 11 at midnight!</b> |

## 10. \*EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE

### The Mid-term and Final Exams (25% each): Regulations, what to study, and advice on taking notes

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

- A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given\*\*). **This condition must be outlined clearly in the course**

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

- On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

You may not miss the mid-term (25%) or final exam (25%) and/or the make-up exams or you will automatically fail the course.

**The mid-term and final exams are constructed exactly similarly:**

There will be 80 questions on each multiple-choice exam. The exam questions will range between ‘very easy’ to very difficult to ‘very challenging’. There are no written parts of the exam—it is entirely based on multiple-choice questions. The professor uses Scanitron to mark the exams.

Exam questions are composed by the Professor; multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system (‘Scanitron’)

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. If you miss the mid-term or final exams, for any reason, you may have to write a multiple choice combined with an essay-type of exam and your answers may be essay-style, not multiple choice. For example, if you miss the second make-up for the mid-term exam, the third-make-up exam will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is because the professor’s large exam bank will never be large enough to pose enough multiple choice questions for so many different make-up exams.

Notably, it will take some fast readers much less than 2 hours to finish writing the exams but other students will remain in the exam room, rechecking their answers, for the entire two-hour time period.

As soon as the professor knows when the final exam is scheduled, the final exam date schedule will be posted on OWL. The university does not accommodate if you make plans to travel out of the country before or after the final exam schedule is revealed. Moreover, you must have documented reasons for writing the make-up exam,

**How should I study for the exams?**

It is highly recommended when preparing for the exams that you consider forming small study groups so that you can share notes and discuss the lecture material. 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.

The two-hour, multiple-choice exams in October and December will test you on the lecture material, including all the posted slides [**not** the Relevant Readings]. The October exam tests you on classes 1-6 including the guest lectures and/or Simulations, and the December exam tests you on classes 7-12 including the guest lectures and/or Simulations and the sample questions posed during class 12 in the ‘Global Jeopardy game’.

The In-Class Dialogues explore and reinforce ideas and concepts covered by the professor in the lectures, slides and/or raised during the Simulations. The ideas and concepts raised in individual students' comments are not examined. The non-cumulative exams will **not** test you on what you and other students say in class because comments differ from week-to-week and year-to-year depending on students' various interests.

The exams do not test you on the "individualized" (information for a specific person or role) roleplaying material for any of the simulations. Instead you will earn plenty of participation marks from in-class discussions as well as participation marks for participating in the simulations.

The exams do not test you on the detailed information conveyed by the guest lecturer if s/he does not use slides and/or the exact wording of any UN resolutions - unless the guest speaker provides slides and/or a UN Resolution passed the UN General Assembly and was not vetoed. In that case, the resolution will be posted on Slides, reexamined during classtime, and it will be tested.

To summarize, the non-cumulative exams test you on everything you learned from the lecture slides, from the spoken lectures including guest lectures and the assigned readings. You should always try to come to class—even if you have not had a chance to review the slides beforehand. During the lectures and simulations, your task is to think about and question the materials, and not be a 'medieval scribe'.

While I appreciate many students want to reinforce the lecture material by writing handwritten or typewritten notes, you do not need to take handwritten or typed notes during class unless this is your preferred learning style. The professor's preference is to see you thinking about the slides' content and participating in class discussions and simulations rather than seeing heads bent down, hurriedly scribbling for two hours! Why get writer's cramp? All the slides are posted so if we do not get to the end of the slides that were posted before the class began, then the professor deletes those we did not cover so you do not need to study them.

In the event that OWL collapses or is unavailable, we will cancel the class and the relevant slides for that day will be removed from OWL so you do not need to study them.

## **11. How Can You Earn Participation Marks (20%)?**

Participation marks are designed to reward participation, enhance the class's activities, and increase high-quality attendance. Participation marks are earned through participation in lectures, specifically:

**1) The Cuban Missile Crisis simulation = 1-3 participation points for speaking in your 'role' during this simulation.** No matter how long your spoken contribution lasts, I will award you 1 percentage 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 John Kennedy. But in most cases, you should be able to earn 1-3 points during this simulation simply by reading the 'individualized' materials for your role and speaking up.

**2) The current UN crisis simulation and/or the Guest Speaker** so just as in the Cuban missile crisis simulation, **you will earn 1 participation point for attending in your role and speaking up once.** You will be randomly assigned a country to represent, like China and even if you are Vanuatu, the UN's

smallest country you will have opportunities to speak up and so earn up to 3 participation points. If you sign a resolution, you will not necessarily earn a participation point – do not hurriedly sign resolutions you have not read to earn participation points. You must be prepared to speak up on behalf of the resolution you signed. If the UN crisis simulation is cancelled in favour of a guest speaker, you must attend and you will be randomly assigned a country to represent, like Afghanistan and you will be expected to speak up somehow as a representative of your country during the Q & A and discussion.

**3) The Ballistic Missile simulation so just as in the CMC and UN simulations, you will earn 1-3 participation points for speaking.** No matter how long your spoken contribution lasts, 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 Kim Jong Un or a less prominent role, like Tariq Rauf from the IAEA. Most students earn 2 participation points and some more avid participants earn 3 points.

**4) Regular discussions during the lectures and guest lectures sponsored by Professor Simpson** = you will earn no more than 11% of your final mark in participation points for speaking up with high-quality comments during regular lectures and/or guest lectures (outside of regular classtime) sponsored by Professor Simpson.

If you miss one or more simulations, you can make up missed simulation points by contributing more to regular class discussions and to the guest lectures.

Professor Simpson never takes the entire class's attendance during her lectures (unlike Rate My Professor mistakenly reports!). However, she awards students that ask questions during lectures and guest lectures [outside of classtime] with participation points that contribute to this class's participation marks.

## **12. Non-medical and medical accommodation**

If you have a documented reason for not being able to contribute to class discussions, you can arrange through your academic counsellor for their permission to contribute your ideas to a Dropbox that will be read and marked by Professor Simpson (only). Unlike an online course (e.g. Professor Simpson's 2191B course), there is no common Forum for students to share their thoughts online. Therefore your ideas could be dropped into a Dropbox for the Professor to read and mark but only if you have documented reasons for not participating in Regular Class Discussions. Those reasons are shared with your Academic Counsellor, not with the Professor. Missing lectures for other reasons will not be a legitimate reason for contributing to the Dropbox, instead of attending class.

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

Medical Illness

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

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

determine if accommodation is warranted.

**Missing lectures for undocumented reasons are not legitimate grounds for contributing to the Dropbox instead of attending class.** Even if you have non-medical or medical accommodation, the multiple choice questions posed to you on the mid-term or final exams cannot be changed to suit you. If you miss lectures for any reason (documented or not) you are responsible for meeting other students to discuss the Slides and the missed lecture information. You may ask other students to audio-tape the lectures. You do not need the professor's permission to ask another student to record the lecture.

If you must miss any simulation, for any reason, you can 'make up' the missed participation mark by earning more participation marks during lectures. If you miss many or all the lectures, and you cannot 'make up' the missed participation marks, you must meet with your Academic Counsellor to discuss your situation. Most students will earn 100% in terms of their participation marks over the entire term. Many students will earn 100% by week 9. **Therefore you must meet with your Academic Counsellor to deal with accommodation for medical or non-medical absences worth more or less than 10% of the course grade.**

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

To summarize the participation marks, you can easily raise your Final Mark by earning 100% on participation points. I will update your participation marks before the final exam so you know all your marks - except the final exam mark - when you go into the exam.

**14. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

**15. Statement on Academic Offences**

The statement: "Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**16. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**Will I know my marks before I write the final exam?**

The Professor posts all your marks before the final exam so you know all your marks except the final exam mark when you enter the exam room.

**How should I study for the multiple choice exams? When do I write the exams?**

The Mid-term exam in Oct. and the Final Exam in Dec will test you on the lecture material including all the posted slides. The exams are **non-cumulative** so you will not be tested in the Final Exam on the information you learned before the mid-term. The exams will **not** test you on what you or other students write online. The exam does **not** test you on the exact wording of any UN resolution.

### **Should I study the timelines and other dates?**

The exams do **not** test you on the detailed time-lines that accompany the slides on the simulations [the timelines are clearly marked: DO NOT STUDY]. But the exams do test you on other dates and what happened where and when. You are expected to memorize some dates and numbers. Many students find it useful to maintain a separate list of dates and numbers to study a few days before the Mid-term and Final Exams.

### **Can I arrange to write an exam early?**

As soon as the final exams are scheduled, the exam schedule will be posted on OWL. You cannot make plans to travel out of the country until the exam schedule is officially posted and you may not write the exam early.

### **Will software be used to detect cheating?**

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

“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.”

### **Does the make-up exam pose different multiple choice questions? Do you accept multiple choice questions written by students in the class?**

Due to unforeseen events, some students may write the make-up exams a few weeks or months later in which case they will write exams based on different multiple choice questions drawn from the Professor's large 'Exam Bank' of possible multiple-choice questions.

The Professor often changes the Powerpoint slides and writes new multiple choice questions so if you would like to email possible questions for the Exam Bank, your suggestions are welcome **but doing so will not increase your Participation mark worth 20%.**

### **What do you mean by Relevant (not Required) Readings?**

To summarize, the two exams test you on everything you learned from the slides, not the *Relevant Readings*. There is no textbook and the *Relevant Readings* are **not** Required Readings. The *Relevant Readings* are used by you in order to contribute to class discussions. Please do not read the Relevant Readings unless you would like to know more and the Slides stimulate your interest in learning more about particular issues or roles.

### **Should I take notes on the lecture slides?**

You should always download or print the slides and take notes on the slides. While you view the Slides, your task is to think about and question the materials, not to be a medieval scribe. While the Professor appreciates many students want to reinforce the lecture material by taking many handwritten or typewritten notes, you do not need to take many handwritten or typed notes because all the Slides are posted on OWL. It is preferable that you think about the slides' content and participate in the Dropbox rather than take copious notes. Why get writer's cramp? All the slides are posted so if Professor Simpson deletes or changes some slides that were already posted (under 'Resources'), the Professor will delete the slides we did not cover (under 'Lessons') so you do not need to study them.



### **Are there additional Class Notes or Lecture Notes?**

There are no additional notes of any kind that can be made available by the instructor for students that plan to miss a lecture or that missed lectures.

### **What are the regulations concerning course re-evaluation, absences and the evaluation of international students?**

- You are **not** allowed to re-write any exams or assignments, once they have been handed-in for marking, unless due to exceptional circumstances as assessed by the Dean's office.
- If you submit the "wrong answer" to an exam or assignment (but you think it is the right answer for a variety of reasons), you are **not** normally entitled to submit the "right version" or get credit for being 'right' somehow. You must speak to the Professor, who will decide the fairest option.
- In the event that you miss many classes or all of them, you may not have your mark 'reweighted' to cover your absences unless you have written permission from your Academic Counsellor in your Faculty. You must see your Academic Counsellor, not the Professor in order to make different arrangements regarding course re-evaluation and absences.
- If you are an international student, your exams and your contributions to in-class dialogues and Simulations [as well as to the Dropbox if you have permission to do so from your Academic Counsellor] will be graded according to Canadian University standards.

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

- Please see the student services for their updated Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and Student Medical Certificate. If you have medical illness or other documentation, you **must** take it to the Dean's Office or an Academic Counselor in your Faculty, who will then confirm whether you can possibly be granted accommodation. Any medical absence must **be** documented as instructed by Student Services, Dean's Office or your Academic Counselor. Academic Counseling will advise the Professor about accommodation and the final decisions about due dates, re-weighting and/or transfer weighting will be made in consultation with you and your Academic Counselor, not with the Professor. **Do not meet with the professor to discuss the reasons for accommodation for medical or non-medical grounds.**
- For course **work that is worth less than 10%** (as per Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness) non-documentable absences will not be given accommodation. Various forms of allowances (allowances like not having to submit a weekly Dropbox contribution, easy-to-earn participation marks for Dropbox contributions and "freebies" during the mid-term and final exams) have already been included for incidental absences. See all the information above.

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

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

### **What is Scanitron? Is it always used?**

Exam questions are composed by the Professors; multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system ('Scanitron')

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. If you miss the mid-term or final exams, for any reason, you may have to write a multiple choice combined with an essay-type of exam and your answers may be essay-style, not multiple choice. For example, if you miss the second make-up for the mid-term exam, the third-make-up exam will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is because the professor's large exam bank will never be large enough to pose enough multiple choice questions for so many different make-up exams.

### **What do I do if I have a concern about my Mid-Term or Final Exam Grade and/or Participation Grade?**

- 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 term of instruction (*i.e.* the Course Lecturer does not handle appeals after the term ends).

### **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 schedules, illnesses, and other unforeseen events. The dates in this course outline are included for illustrative purposes only and may be updated on the class website as the term unfolds.

### **What about a reference letter?**

- If you need a reference, please email professors individually for more information. Professor Simpson's firm policy is **not** to write references for law school and/or graduate school based on your standing in a second-year class because such a reference – compared to a 3<sup>rd</sup>-year or 4<sup>th</sup>-year reference is not useful – and would do you a **disservice**, not a service.
- If you take more than two courses from Professor Simpson she may consider acting as your referee for jobs and for professional programs like internships – but keep in mind that obtaining a reference from a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year instructor is preferable.

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

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

## **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://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&Key>

### **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:

A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). 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/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](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.

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