The University of Western Ontario
Department of Political Science

Political Science 2231E, Section 001
Introduction to Political Science:
Term 2 Course Outline
Professor Nigmendra Narain

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Office: Social Sciences Centre, Room 4149
Office Hours: Tues, Wed & Thurs 2pm-3:30pm
Class Days: Wednesday
Time: 10:30am – 12:30 pm
Location: UCC 146

TERM 2 DESCRIPTION
Term 2 of this Course focuses on IR Theories & Global Political Economy. While surveying broad areas, themes and global actors, current events and issues, we will also be used provide opportunities for discussions, debates and dialogue, which students are encouraged to engage in regularly, often and respectfully.

EVALUATION
Tutorial 5%
Mid-term Exam 15%
Policy Brief Research Assignment 5%
Policy Brie
December Exam 15%
50%

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

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
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| Participation       | • Recognize the importance of listening  
                      • Communicate verbally in an analytic and clear fashion  
                      • An awareness of the extent and limits of one's own knowledge, informed by exposure to information, concepts, theories and experience |
| Written Assignments | • Organizational skills that contribute to scholarly and personal independence  
                      • Well-developed research skills, such as those articulated by the Political Science Research Competency Guidelines adopted by the Association of College and Research Libraries  
                      • Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion  
                      • Situate knowledge historically and contextually  
                      • Assess evidence critically  
                      • Ethical dimensions of problem identification and methodology |
| Exams               | • Knowledge of diverse theories and approaches  
                      • Understanding of methods; knowledge of epistemological approaches and ontological diversity  
                      • Exposure to qualitative and quantitative methods  
                      • Communicate in written format in an analytic and clear fashion  
                      • Situate knowledge historically and contextually  
                      • Assess evidence critically  
                      • How power, culture and history condition knowledge formation  
                      • Understand the ambiguity, uncertainty, ubiquitous and controversial nature of politics |

**TUTORIALS**

Tutorials will proceed as last term. Discussion questions, and readings will be provided on the OWL site. 5% of your Term grade is for your Tutorial attendance and participation.
COURSE RULES

- **Pace yourself** BUT devote time regularly (scheduled?) to work on the materials and assignments for this class
- **Check the OWL site and your UWO email regularly**
  - More information, details and clarifications for class assignments, deadlines, etc., will be posted on the OWL site
  - Grades will be posted on the OWL site
  - Emails from non-UWO accounts may not be answered
- Conduct yourself appropriately & be respectful of your classmates
  - Note conduct should accord with the University of Western Ontario Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed as a PDF from: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf).
- Any Assignment assessed by the Lecturer to be in **flagrant, repeated and/or egregious violation** of the rules, guidelines, etc., may have a **special penalty assessed or assigned a grade of Zero/0**
  - Assignments may be marked by a marker under my supervision
- **Assignment Late Penalty**: check OWL site
- Extensions:
  - When you have genuine and unavoidable reasons for requesting an extension of the original or late essay deadlines, please see me **immediately and provide all relevant documentation**
  - You MUST provide documentation to support your request for an extension to your Dean’s Office or Academic Counseling office so that they can verify/vet your documentation and let me know what accommodation should be considered
  - If you use the SRA system, please also follow the advisory on the OWL site
- **Re-Evaluation**: you are **not** allowed to re-write assignments once they have been handed-in for marking under normal circumstances
- **Non-Medical and Medical Absences**
  - Please see the Student Service website ([http://www.studentservices.uwo.ca](http://www.studentservices.uwo.ca)) for the **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness** and **Student Medical Certificate**
  - Any medical absence **should be** documented using the **Student Medical Certificate** or as instructed by Student Services, Dean’s Office or your Academic Counselor
  - If you have medical or other documentation, you **must** take it to the Dean’s Office or Academic Counselor, who will then confirm granting you accommodation
  - Although Academic Counseling will **advise** me about accommodation, I will make the final decision about due dates, re-weighting, transfer weighting, etc., in consultation with your Academic Counselor and you
  - For work worth less than 10% (as per **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness**): non-documentable absences will not be given accommodation because allowances have been already included for incidental absences
- For tutorials, note that only 9 out of 11 tutorials are considered for the grade, so 2 tutorial absences are provided, and **NO further** accommodation without medical documentation will be provided.
• If I am unable to grant you fair and reasonable accommodation in my assessment, the *whole percentage weight* for that assignment *may* be added to the value of the final exam.

**COURSE SCHEDULE FOR TERM 2**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Readings/Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon Jan 6</td>
<td>No tutorials</td>
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| Wed Jan 8  | Lecture 1: *What are we studying in Term 2? Why are we studying Theories?*  
No readings |                                                                               |
| Mon Jan 13 | Tutorial #1: Should IR be ‘policy-relevant’ to solve problems or should it seek ‘critical thinking’ for change?  
Zambenardi, Lorenzo. "Politics is Too Important to be Left to Political Scientists: A Critique of the theory–policy Nexus in International Relations." *European Journal of International Relations*, vol. 22, no. 1, 2016, pp. 3-23. |                                                                               |
| Wed Jan 15 | Lecture 2: *Realism & Neo-Realism*  
6: Tim Dunne and Brian C. Schmidt, “Realism” |                                                                               |
| Mon Jan 20 | Tutorial #2: *Is a Space Force necessary for security and military deterrence (or power projection)?*  
| Wed Jan 23 | Lecture 3: *Liberalism*  
7: Tim Dunne, “Liberalism” |                                                                               |
| Mon Jan 27 | Tutorial #3: *Are America’s Alliances furthering America’s national security and interests?*  
| Wed Jan 29 | Lecture 4: *English School & Constructivism*  
<p>| Sat Feb 1 11:55pm | Policy Brief Research Assignment Due via Class OWL site |                                                                               |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Reading References</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Feb 5</td>
<td>Lecture 5: <em>Marxism</em>&lt;br&gt;  - 8: Stephen Hobden and Richard Wyn Jones, “Marxist theories of international relations”</td>
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<td>Wed Feb 12</td>
<td>Lecture 6: <em>Feminism</em>&lt;br&gt;  - 12: Helen M. Kinsella, “Feminism”</td>
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<td>Feb 17-21</td>
<td><em>Reading Week</em></td>
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<td>Wed Feb 26</td>
<td>Lecture 7: <em>Post-modernism &amp; Post-colonialism</em>&lt;br&gt;  - 10: Lene Hansen, “Post-structuralism”&lt;br&gt;  - 11: Christine Sylvester, “Post-colonialism”</td>
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<td>Sat Feb 29 5-7pm</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam&lt;br&gt;  See OWL site for rooms</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 2</td>
<td>Tutorial #7: <em>Policy Brief</em></td>
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<td>Wed Mar 4</td>
<td>Lecture 8: <em>Globalization</em>&lt;br&gt;  - 16: Nicola Phillips, “Global political economy”</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 9</td>
<td>Tutorial #8: TA’s Choice</td>
<td>See OWL site</td>
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<td>Sat Mar 14</td>
<td>Term 2 Policy Brief Due via OWL site</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 16</td>
<td>Tutorial #9: TA’s Choice</td>
<td>See OWL site</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 23</td>
<td>Tutorial #10: TA’s Choice</td>
<td>TA’s choice – see OWL site</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 30</td>
<td>Tutorial #11: TA’s Choice</td>
<td>TA’s choice – see OWL site</td>
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<td>** THANK YOU and the TAs for all your efforts over the year! **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Apr 1</td>
<td>Lecture 12: <em>Transnational Organized Crime</em></td>
<td>Payne, Chapter 12, “Global Crime” (see OWL site)</td>
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**GENERAL RULES**

1. **USE your UWO/Western email account:** Send and receive emails by the UWO email system so that your information is confidential and secure. Also, your non-UWO email may get caught in spam, etc., and may not get a response or review.

2. **Using Self-Reported Absence:** Check out the OWL site Announcement’s pa

3. **Non-medical and medical accommodation:** Students should check out the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness ([https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm)).
   
   For assignments worth 10% or more, documentation must be submitted by the student directly to their appropriate Faculty Dean’s office and not to the Instructor or TA, and the Dean’s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.
   
   Any non-medical absences or absences for assignments worth less than 10%, will be dealt with by the Instructor on a case-by-case basis, and may include consultation with the Department of Political Science, Academic Counsellor and/or the Deans’ offices.
4. **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**: NO electronics devices are allowed during tests and examinations.

5. **Statement on 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: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

6. **Concerning Turnitin**: “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).”

   Also check: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID

7. **Multiple-Choice Exam format checking software**: “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.”

   Also check: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID

8. **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.”

9. **Respectful conduct and engagement**: Note conduct should accord with the University of Western Ontario Student Code of Conduct, which can be accessed as a PDF from: http://studentexperience.uwo.ca/student_experience/studentconduct.html.

   In general, please be respectful of and courteous to yourself, me, our TAs, your class colleagues, and others during discussions and other course engagements.

   **Approach us with your questions or concerns:**

   your TA and I want to help you learn, improve & do your best.

   **Enjoy the Course!**