

1. Course Name and Number

Department of Political Science POL SCI 2141B 650 FW23: **Global Violence and Injustice**

2. Day Offered

Online Course, Winter Term, January-April 2023

3. Hours

New lecture material is posted on OWL every Wednesday.

4. Location of Lecture and Exams

This is an online course that is asynchronous. Weekly online lecture materials are hidden on OWL until Wednesday, and after that, they can be viewed any time before the Mid-term Exam and Final Exam. Both exams are scheduled to be written from your home office (*not* on the university campus). The two Quizzes and/or Exams are proctored using Western technology (*e.g.* Proctortrack) and the Final Exam is scheduled by the University (location, date and time To Be Confirmed [TBC]). The Mid-term Exam is generally scheduled to take place approximately one week before or after the Reading Break. The make-up exams are generally scheduled two weeks after the regular exams. Students must have documented reasons and permission from their Academic Counsellor [not the Professor] in order to miss the Quizzes and/or regularly-scheduled Exams.

5. Prerequisite(s) and Antirequisite(s):

There are no pre-requisites for this course. This elective is open to all students across all campuses. This course is generally full with over 1000+ students and a waiting list. There are no English writing requirements or expectations that you can write in good English, therefore this class is highly-suited to international students from around the world. If you are an English Second Language (ESL) student, you are highly encouraged to take this course, even if you have no background in politics or in Canadian history.

6. Instructor Information

Instructor: [Associate Professor Erika Simpson](#)

E-mail: simpson@uwo.ca

Office Hours: **Mondays during fall and winter term [except statutory holidays]: 9:00 am EST-11:00 am EST** using Zoom and break-out rooms. Due to the Professor's busy schedule, **no Zoom office hours can be scheduled outside of this two-hour time slot on Monday mornings, under any circumstances.**

Zoom is recorded and by taking this course you consent to being recorded by the instructor and/or TA at this link:

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/93051198441>

Meeting ID: 930 5119 8441

Passcode: **431498**

Emergency Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 85156 and then follow voice-mail instructions. You must use email and/or Zoom, not telephone messages or voice mail in this class. Do not under any circumstances leave any voice mail message(s) or texts for any instructors on their cell or landline(s). All communications must be by Zoom or through Western's email.

7. Course Syllabus

Using lectures including experts and diplomats, this course helps you understand violence and injustice in International Relations (IR). The lectures survey modern instruments of warfare including atomic, biological and chemical weapons as well as cyberwarfare and drones. We focus on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear modernization, and nuclear waste. Experts propose options for NATO intervention and UN peacekeeping operations and explore the roots of media violence, climate injustice, gender violence, human rights violations and refugee movements.

8. Methods of Evaluation:

Quizzes (10% EACH): Quiz #1 covers Lessons 1-6 and Quiz #2 covers Lessons 7-12

2 multiple-choice quizzes can be retaken up to three times with the highest mark recorded. Quiz #1 opens for taking 1 week before the Mid-Term Exam. Quiz #2 opens up for taking on the Final Day of class approximately one week before the Final Exam. Quiz #1 records your highest mark and Quiz #2 records your highest mark (not your latest mark) so you can learn to improve your marks quickly.

Total quizzes: 10% each = 20%

You can repeat Quiz #1 three times until 10 minutes before the Mid-Term Exam begins. You can retake Quiz #2 three times until 10 minutes before the Final Exam begins. Most students score 100% on both quizzes. The Quizzes help you to prepare for the two Exams. Cheating software is used to detect all forms of cheating including whether your computer visits other websites and/or whether you take breaks and/or how many times individual users visit the lectures and view them. The Dean's office deals with all allegations of cheating offenses.

Exams (40% EACH): Mid-term Exam#1 covers Lessons 1-6 and Final Exam #2 covers Lessons 7-12

The Mid-term Exam poses 80 multiple-choice questions in 2 hours: the Mid-Term Exam is worth 40% of your Final Grade. The Mid-Term Exam covers Lessons 1-6 only.

The non-cumulative Final April exam also poses 80 multiple-choice questions in 2 hours: this exam is also worth 40%. The Final Exam covers Lessons 7-12 only.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

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

9. Course Materials

- No materials are required for the course (there are *no* text books, course readers, manuals, laboratory or safety materials, nor any specific electronic devices).
- All the instructor's Powerpoint Slides and the *Engage More Readings* are posted on OWL.
- All the instructor's slides and Zoom lectures including the Guest lectures on a shared Google Drive are copyrighted by the instructor and remain the property of the instructor, not the University of Western Ontario. Students and faculty may not reuse any lectures for any other purposes without written permission from the instructor Professor Erika Simpson.
- All the *Engage More Readings* are drawn from free online sources such as Google Scholar, Scholarship@Western, videos, etc.

9. Overview of Course Content

Jan 11 Lesson 1

1. Violence and injustice in Afghanistan
2. How to help Afghan refugees flee from Taliban violence?
3. Diplomatic handshaking exercise
4. Whirlwind tour of IR theory

Jan 18 Lesson 2

1. A violent legacy of warfare: nuclear weapons
2. Nukemap: impact of nuclear weapons today
3. The atomic bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki: Implications for today
4. Nuclear proliferation this century and next

Jan 25 Lesson 3

1. Biological weapons today
2. Chemical warfare and radioactive explosives including dirty bombs
3. ABC Weapons: Next generation CBRNe
4. Drones in warfare: The spread of a new technology

Feb 1 Lesson 4

1. Cyberwarfare
2. Cyberwarriors in the U.S., Korea, Russia and in a university near you
3. NATO's approach to combatting cyberwarriors
4. Conversation with a NATO cyberwarfare specialist

Feb 8 Lesson 5

1. The costs of conventional warfare: Iraq & Afghanistan
2. Landmines and the Ottawa Process
3. Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD): Possible impact and costs
4. Conversation with a Canadian diplomat about mines and cluster bombs

Feb 15 Lesson 6

1. UN peacekeeping: Canada's legacy and tradition
2. UN Emergency Peace Force and peacekeeping training
3. How to Write Exams
4. Canada's Peace Support Operations: 14 years in Afghanistan

Feb 22 Reading Week – no lectures, readings or exams

Feb 28 5-7 pm EST (TBC)

1. **MID-TERM EXAM (40%) tests Lessons 1-6 [not including Lesson 7]**
2. The mid-term exam and make-up mid-term exams are generally likely to take place on-line sometime during the Official Mid-Term Exam Period (locations/times to be confirmed). **You will receive your mark worth 45% of your final grade at least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a course without academic penalty. Drop date in Winter term is March 7, 2023**

Mar 1 Lesson 7

1. NATO: Past, Current and Future Issues

2. NATO's Arc of Crisis and the Refugee Crisis (e.g. Georgia, Ukraine, Syria)
3. How to aid refugees (e.g. Afghanistan, Syria, etc.)
4. Conversation with a diplomat at NATO and/or Kabul, Afghanistan

Reminder: MID-TERM EXAM (40%) tests Lessons 1-6 [not including Lesson 7]

Mar 8 Lesson 8

1. U.S. Nuclear Force Modernization, Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) and new U.S. Space Force
2. How to Write Better Essays, Opinion Pieces and Forum Answers
3. Conversation with a U.S. Diplomat in favor of nuclear modernization
4. Conversation with a U.S. Diplomat against relying on nuclear deterrence

Mar 15 Lesson 9

1. Nuclear Waste as an emerging new International Security threat
2. Burying Nuclear Waste: Pros and Cons
3. The Canadian proposal to bury nuclear waste: merits/demerits
4. Conversation with experts on nuclear radiation and nuclear waste

Mar 22 Lesson 10

1. Violence on the Internet: gaming and videos
2. Media Violence
3. Conversation with an expert on media violence and roots of violence
4. Conversation with expert on child exploitation and child pornography

Mar 29 Lesson 11

1. Climate Change and Climate Injustice
2. Conversation with expert on Climate Change and Climate Injustice
3. Seven-Generation Thinking on Violence and Injustice
4. Conversation with experts on roots of violence and fostering recovery

Apr 5 Lesson 12

1. Conversation with expert on Gender, Human Rights and Violence
2. Conversation with experts on roots of violence and fostering recovery
3. **FINAL EXAM (40%) Information on Lessons 7-12**
4. The final exam and make-up exams are generally likely to take place on-line sometime during the Official Exam Period (locations/times to be announced). 10.
*EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE

Academic Policies for online courses – this section of the Course Outline and the Official Syllabus must be attached to your Course Outline and you are responsible for reading the Academic Policies on your own time. You should read these policies if you have any questions and before consulting

with the Course Instructor (and/or Teaching Assistants).

The Mid-term and Final Exams: Regulations, what to study, and advice on taking notes

If you need to miss a lecture, you do *not* need to report your absence through any online absence declaration system available and you do not need to inform the instructor and/or teaching assistant. No additional documentation is necessary. But you will be examined on the material (slides, audio, etc.) that you missed and the quiz and exams will test you on the material you missed.

If you are ill (e.g. from Covid) and you miss more than one week of lectures, you definitely should speak to your Academic Counsellor about how to obtain notes from fellow students in the class and how to catch up – but as a policy, the instructor cannot change the quiz or exam to suit any student's prolonged or short absences, no matter how long they are absent from classes.

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

Mid-Term Exam:

The Mid-term Exam is a 2-hour multiple choice exam with 80 compulsory questions. There are no bonus questions nor bonus marks. It tests you on the information covered on the Slides delivered in Classes 1-6. It does not test you on the *Engage More Readings*. Generally it is scheduled in October about one week before or after the Reading break.

Final Exam:

The Final Exam is constructed exactly similarly to the Mid-Term Exam so it is a 2-hour multiple choice exam with 80 compulsory exam questions ranging from 'very easy' to 'very challenging' and 'very difficult'. Like the mid-term exam, the final exam is non-cumulative so it tests you on the information covered in Classes 7-12. As soon as the professor knows when the final exam is scheduled, the final exam date schedule will be posted on OWL. You must have documented reasons with Academic Counselling to write the make-up exams.

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

Exam questions are composed by the Professor; multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking systems (e.g. 'Scanitron', 'Proctorio', etc.) Special and/or makeup 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 must write a multiple-choice exam 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).

Errors? Prof. Simpson programs the computer in the class's favour if she makes errors. If you see an error, email the professor separately at simpson@uwo.ca

11. EMERGENCIES AND EMERGENCIES RELATED TO THE EXAMS AND QUIZZES:

You must use email and/or Zoom, not telephone messages or voice mail in this class. Do not under any circumstances leave any voice mail message(s) or texts for any instructors on their cell or landline(s). All communications must be by Zoom or through Western's email. We do not read emails from non-Western accounts. The subject heading must say the Class Number and the nature of your question, like this: POL SCI 3203F I CANNOT FIND THE EXAM ROOM. If the answer is *not* brief, then we will ask you to meet with other students during Zoom office hours in a separate break-out room (e.g. a room devoted to narrowing down your essay questions).

- Professor Simpson never reviews the correct answers with students because if she reviews the correct answers with students, she cannot use variations of these multiple questions in future years and she depletes her exam bank. Professor Simpson checks all the exams for consistency but if you think it is necessary, after emailing the professor, the professor **may possibly** send you your **incorrect** answers on the answer sheet by sending you screenshots after obtaining advice from the Dean/Undergrad Chair.
- **Cheating?** Professor Simpson will not give you or email you your own copy of the mid-term question sheet as you could distribute it to all the students. Some students will be writing one of the make-up exams or another exam in future years. You may not receive a copy of the mid-term or final exam question sheets by email or online. If you request to view your exam in an off-campus location or you have moved away from London, then you may not receive your question sheet by email. You may not ask to view any question sheet accompanied by an off-campus proctor unless you have received written permission from the Dean of your faculty to do so. If you live in another city, you may not receive a copy of the exam through a registered university-endorsed proctor.
- **Appeals?** The third and fourth make-ups for the mid-term and final exam will take place approximately 4 weeks after the final marks are submitted. At that time, you may email the professor and ask to view a copy of your question sheet in Professor Simpson's Zoom office (on a shared screen). You may not use a camera or take photos of your question sheet.

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 but since this is an online course, the professor assumes you will not be meeting with other students to form small study groups. There is nothing wrong with a collective effort in terms of studying for all your classes. After all, that is what the virtual classroom is about—all of us working together for fun and learning. You could study online with help from other students but the professor assumes you are studying alone and the professor cannot help you form study groups or share student's email addresses.
- The two-hour, multiple-choice exams test you on the lecture material, including all the posted slides [**not** the Engage More Readings]. The mid-term exam tests you on classes 1-6, and the final exam tests you on classes 7-12 including the sample questions posed during Lesson 12 in the 'Global Jeopardy game'. You can answer sample multiple choice questions in the Lessons section pertaining to each hour.
- While I appreciate many students want to reinforce the lecture material by writing handwritten

or typewritten notes, you do not need to take extra handwritten or typed notes unless this is your preferred learning style. Why get writer's cramp? All the slides are posted and the professor deletes those slides we did not cover so you do not need to study them.

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

12. Non-medical and medical accommodation

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.

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 studying the lecture materials and slides for any reason (documented or not) you are responsible. 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 marks before the drop-date and/or before I write the final exam?

- The professor will update your marks before the final exam so you know all your marks - except the final exam mark - when you begin the final 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

16. When and How to study for the non-cumulative multiple-choice 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 recorded audio lectures and/or the materials that are linked to the course 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 nor on what you or other students say in class discussion. You will only be tested on what the professor says, not on what your colleagues assert.

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 Lessons Tool rather than take copious notes.

Should I study the timelines and other dates?

If a detailed timeline or map is included on the Slides or linked using an URL, you should assume it is testable material. In rare cases, the detailed picture, timeline or map is not testable material and in that very rare case, it is clearly marked on the Slide that it is NOT ON THE EXAM. You are expected to memorize many dates and numbers. Often students find it useful to maintain a separate list of dates and numbers to study a few days before the Mid-term or 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 write the exam early.

Will software be used to detect cheating?

Since computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be given, software will 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? For example, do you accept multiple choice questions written by students in the class and pose these questions in the make-up exam?

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 marks. The Quizzes are changed as the week progresses depending on if any problems or concerns are found.

17. Required Readings and Engage More Readings

To summarize, the two exams test you on everything you learned from the slides and the spoken lectures, not on the *Engage More Readings*. There is no textbook and the *Engage More Readings* are *not* Required Readings. The *Engage More Readings* are used by you to stimulate your interest in learning more about particular issues.

18. 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 your Academic Counsellor - as your mark will be worth more than 10% - and they will decide, although they may consult with the Professor, who will together with your academic counsellor, decide upon 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 the Lessons Tool will be graded according to Canadian University standards. Attending class is not sufficient to pass the course, and no attendance marks are taken or recorded.

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 Counsellor 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 Counsellor. 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 Counsellor, not with the Professor. Do not meet with the professor to discuss the reasons for accommodation for medical or non-medical grounds.

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? What is Proctorio? Are they always used?

Exam questions are composed by the Professors; multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system (e.g. 'Scanitron' 'Proctorio', 'Turnitin' etc.). 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.

19. Questions about the course outline, class material and/or about my Mid-Term or Final Exam Grade

- The professor and assistants (e.g. teaching assistants and/or graduate students) will read email messages *only* if they are from a Western email account and their subject lines include the course number and a clear statement of purpose. For example, POLSCI 3203F I have a question about the quiz. Where a question cannot be answered with a brief reply email, you will receive an email that indicates that you should attend the office hours on Zoom. The professor and assistants will take up generic questions on a drop-in basis. You will wait in a Zoom waiting room. The instructor keeps track of the generic questions of interest to all students and issues a Frequently Asked Questions handout using Powerpoint slides to all students during the term.
- If you have a confidential concern that is *not* related to your medical and/or personal situation, you can make an appointment to see the professor during Zoom office hours in a break-out room with nobody else present. This is more difficult and time-consuming for us to arrange and the professor's policy is that she will not give you career or course advice. She will not counsel you on other courses you can take to compete in International Relations nor will she give you any advice on an individual-level. Lecture slides, handouts, short videos, and other resources with such career and essay writing advice is regularly posted as Supplementary Slides to the Owl website. These materials belong to the instructor, not the university, and/or other sources

depending on the specific facts each material, and they are protected by copyright. Do not download, copy, or share any of the Supplementary materials without the explicit written permission of the instructor.

- 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.
- Mask Policy: University policy may require that instructors and students wear non-medical face masks in all common-use indoor spaces on campus, including in classroom. For the University's complete [Health & Safety](https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/health-safety/index.html) mask policy, see <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/health-safety/index.html>
- Vaccination Policy: Western has developed [protocols](https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/health-safety/index.html#before) regarding any member of the University community who comes onto campus which are explained here <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/health-safety/index.html#before> Students with questions can contact the Student Health Care clinic at 519-661-3030.

20. For more university and departmental regulations that apply to this course and for more on the Late penalty or non-submission of paper: See the **APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE** in the folder in this section of the Syllabus. You are responsible for reading and abiding by the APPENDIX, but we do not cover the information during classtime.

21. Statement on Reference Letters

- If you need a reference, please email your other 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 online class because such a reference – compared to a 3rd-year or 4th-year reference is *not* useful – and would do you a **diservice**, not a service.
- If you take more than three online 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 3rd or 4th year instructor is preferable. She will consider whether to write you a reference for graduate studies/law school if you have taken or are taking three online classes under her direct supervision because this means you have fewer other possible referees; however, keep in mind that a reference letter from a professor who taught you many second-year courses is not as desirable as a reference letter from a professor who taught you an in-person fourth-year course.
- Professor Simpson does not write reference letters for students who are seeking positions with businesses, companies and/or internships due to fact that this is an online asynchronous course. You could ask a professor or TA in another class, but not this class.

22. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AS A CAREER CHOICE

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](#). At this time, Professor Simpson teaches four courses including **POLSCI 2135A 650 FW22; 2191B 650 FW22; 2141B 650 FW22 and 3203F 650 FW22**. Professor Simpson does *not* teach any specialized Reading Courses nor supervise Undergraduate Theses. Professor Simpson supervises Graduate Students (including MA and PhD students) in International Relations. To learn more information about Professor Simpson:

- Erika Simpson (PhD and MA, University of Toronto) is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Western University, London, Canada and the President of the Canadian Peace Research Association (CPRA).
- Her research interests are in international security and foreign and defence policy, particularly Afghanistan, arms control, disarmament, IR theory, NATO, nuclear proliferation, nuclear waste, peacekeeping and the UN.
- She is the author of *NATO and the Bomb* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2001) and her articles have appeared in leading journals including the *Brown Journal of World Politics*; *International Journal*; *In Victus Pax: Journal of Peace Education and Social Justice*; *Peace Magazine*; *Peace Research*; *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*; and *Policy Options*.
- She is a national syndicated columnist for the *Postmedia Network*, Canada's largest digital and newspaper chain, and a frequent commentator for *The Hill Times: Canada's Foreign Policy Magazine*, as well as Canada's *CTV Television News*, Asia's *Urdu News* and Russia's *Sputnik News*.
- She serves as a Director on the Board of the Canadian Pugwash Group; an associate editor for *Peace Review*; a Senior Advisor for the Rideau Institute; an invited Consultant for the Nuclear Abolition Forum; and a Peer Reviewer for the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health.
- Formerly she was an Alton Jones Fellow; a Barton Fellow; a Liu Institute Visiting Fellow; a NATO Research Fellow; and the Vice-Chair and Treasurer of Pugwash Canada.
- In 2015 the Voice of Women–Canada awarded her a Lifetime Achievement Award for her writing on peace-related issues. At the University of Western Ontario, she teaches 2135A; 3203F; 2191B; 2141B and MA and PhD graduate students. She is a Canadian citizen and a long-time resident of London, Ontario formerly from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (email: simpson@uwo.ca).