

## **Course(s) Information**

**This term's Link for students to hear on AUDIO: To be updated once classes begin**

**Last term's Link for students to hear on AUDIO: <https://youtu.be/LyuvKwxQ2Vw>**

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### **Course Name(s) and Number(s):**

Department of Political Science POL SCI 2141A 650 FW24: Global Violence & Injustice

Department of Political Science POL SCI 2191A 650 FW24: Special Topics in Poli Sci: Global Diplomacy, International Security and Peace

Department of Political Science POL SCI 2135A 650 FW24: Canada Abroad

### **Date(s) and Time(s) Offered:**

2141A and 2191A Online Courses, Distance Studies (fall term), September 2024-December 2024.

2135 Online Course, Distance Studies (winter term), January-April 2025

Please note that Prof. Simpson will *not* teach POL SCI 3203F in the fall term of 2025.

The Final Version of the Course Syllabus will be posted on Western's online learning management system (OWL) by the third lesson (before the official drop date).

### **Online Quizzes and Exams (not in-person and not proctored):**

The Mid-term Exam, a 2-hour multiple-choice test with 80 questions, focuses on information covered in Slides and Audio Lectures from Classes 1-6. No bonus questions or marks are included, and it excludes content from the Engage More Readings.

Similarly, the Final Exam mirrors the Mid-term, featuring a 2-hour multiple-choice format with 80 questions of varying difficulty. Non-cumulative, it assesses information from Classes 7-12.

The Quizzes are also online. The online quizzes and exams are not in-person and they do not use Proctortrack.

### **Changes to final Course Syllabus:**

Each week's lectures will be released as soon as possible (asap). Please review the lectures sometime during that week before the next set of lectures is released. The lessons are accessible on OWL at your convenience prior to the Mid-term and Final Exams.

Attendance is not tracked, and there are no participation marks. Additionally, written answers to questions and Forum interactions are not required.

This course outline is a contract between the students in the course and the instructor. Changes are normally not made after the course outline is reviewed online (usually the first class) and no later than the last day of registration. All the course due dates are *not* available by the first class therefore they are all not available in this course outline. All the course dates will be made available as soon as possible on the Calendar Tool in OWL.

If a date must be changed, the instructor aims to give at least two weeks' notice before the new deadline, however, this may not be possible.

**Lecture and Exam Location Details:**

This course is taught entirely online through asynchronous lectures. This online course primarily operates asynchronously, allowing you to access instructional materials flexibly. Pre-recorded PowerPoint lectures, featuring the Professor's audio, are available in YouTube, mp4, and pptx formats.

For two Quizzes and/or two Exams, synchronous sessions are conducted from your home office. You'll log in to take the one-hour Quizzes within a 5-day window and/or the two two-hour Exams during specified times within an 8-hour window. This setup provides flexibility to accommodate your schedule.

The critical requirement is taking the 2-hour Mid-term and Final Exams between 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM Eastern Standard Time or Eastern Daylight Time (EST or EDT). While this may require a solid Wi-Fi connection for 2 hours, in a different time zone, you can still pursue this course while traveling or working fulltime/parttime.

**Additional Synchronous Activities are not possible:**

Given the course's asynchronous nature and a considerable number of students, Simulations or Roleplaying Exercises are not included. Synchronous activities in these areas are available through registration in POL SCI 3203F FW23: International Crises.

## **Prerequisites: None**

### **No pre- or anti-requisites:**

This elective has no prerequisites or antirequisites, welcoming students from all campuses. With a winter term enrollment of 1,200 students and a 100-person waiting list, the course structure aligns with other 2100-level cross-campus courses taught by Professor Simpson.

### **English as a Second Language (ESL) and International Students:**

ESL students are encouraged to join, regardless of their background in politics or Canadian history. There are no English writing requirements, making it suitable for international students. However, note that the course follows standardized expectations for an online class hosted by a Canadian University.

International students are graded based on Canadian University standards for exams. Attendance alone does not ensure passing the course, and no attendance marks are recorded.

### **Regulations on English and YouTube captions:**

The Professor's AUDIO lecture and PowerPoint Slides are in English, supplemented by expert Guest Speakers, tested on exams. While YouTube provides captions, any errors are your responsibility. You can convert videos to other languages, but quizzes and exams must be in English, as Western University is English-speaking. If translating the content, errors in captions are your responsibility, not the University or the Professor's.

## **Instructor Information:**

### **Instructor Information:**

Associate Professor Erika Simpson

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

Office: SSC Room 7331

### **Office Hours:**

Online by zoom on Mondays during fall and winter and spring terms [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 the two-hour time slot on Monday mornings, under any circumstances.

### **Zoom is recorded:**

By taking this course you consent to being recorded by the instructor and/or TA at the link under your Zoom Tool on the OWL website.

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):**

If you have questions about the course outline, class material, or Mid-Term/Final Exam grades, email the Professor: [simpson@uwo.ca](mailto:simpson@uwo.ca)

Due to the high number of students in the course, the Professor does not host live zoom meetings where students can ask questions. The Professor does not hold collective or individual meetings with students to discuss incorrect responses on quizzes or exams. Instead the Professor frequently posts Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Generic questions are not addressed on a drop-in basis during Zoom office hours; however, frequently asked questions (FAQs) are occasionally answered through announcements. FAQs are archived under the Lessons Tool for all students.

### **Emergencies:**

None. You must use email and/or Zoom, not telephone messages or voice mail in all my classes. Do not under any circumstances leave any voice mail message(s) or texts on my cell or landlines. All our communications must be through Western's email and/or by Zoom (recorded).

### **Emails from non-Western Accounts:**

The professor and assistants will read emails only from Western email accounts, subject lines should include the course number and a clear statement of purpose (e.g., POLSCI 2141B I have a question about the quiz). If the question requires more than a brief reply, you may be directed to attend Zoom office hours.

We do not read emails from non-Western accounts. We do not read texts during an exam-related emergency.

Your email's subject heading must say the Class Number and the nature of your question, like this: POL SCI 2141A OWL Link to Exam does not open for me. 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.

For confidential concerns unrelated to medical or personal situations, you could make an appointment to see the professor (not the teaching or any other assistants) during Zoom office hours in a private break-out room. However, individual career or course advice is not provided and the Professor is not trained as a medical health professional to help you.

**More Information about the Course Instructor:**

- Erika Simpson holds a PhD and MA from the University of Toronto and is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Western University, Canada.
- Her research covers international security, foreign and defence policy, focusing on topics like Afghanistan, arms control, disarmament, IR theory, NATO, nuclear proliferation, nuclear waste, peacekeeping, and the UN.
- Author of *NATO and the Bomb* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2001), her articles appear in prominent journals and she is a national columnist for the Hill Times.
- Professor Simpson is a Director on the Boards of the Canadian Pugwash Group and the Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, among other roles.
- Awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by Voice of Women–Canada in 2015, she contributes to various news outlets and is an alumna of the University of Saskatchewan.
- More information can be found on the Department of Political Science's website: [https://politicalscience.uwo.ca/about\\_us/index.html](https://politicalscience.uwo.ca/about_us/index.html) and [https://politicalscience.uwo.ca/people/faculty/full-time\\_faculty/erika\\_simpson.html](https://politicalscience.uwo.ca/people/faculty/full-time_faculty/erika_simpson.html)

**Statement on Reference Letters:**

Professor Simpson does not provide reference letters for students seeking positions with businesses, companies, and/or internships in this online asynchronous course. It is advisable to approach a professor or TA from another class for such requests.

If you require a reference, kindly reach out to your other professors individually for assistance. Professor Simpson adheres to a strict policy of not writing references for law school and/or graduate school based on your performance in a second-year online class, as it may not be as useful as a reference from a 3rd or 4th-year course.

In the case of taking more than three online courses from Professor Simpson, she may consider acting as a referee for jobs and professional programs like internships. However, obtaining a reference from a 3rd or 4th-year instructor is preferred. The Professor will contemplate writing a reference for graduate studies/law school if you have taken or are taking three online classes under her direct supervision, understanding that you have fewer alternative referees. It is essential to note that a reference letter from a professor teaching in smaller, in-person fourth-year courses is generally more desirable.

**International Relations as a Career Choice:**

To explore additional classes related to the general topic of International Relations (IR), refer to the faculty and personal websites accessible through the Department of Political Science:

<https://politicalscience.uwo.ca/>

Professor Simpson currently instructs four courses, namely POLSCI 2135A 650, 2191B 650, 2141B 650, and 3203F 650. Occasionally, Professor Simpson offers specialized Reading Courses and oversees Undergraduate Theses. Additionally, she frequently mentors Graduate Students, including MA and PhD students, in the field of International Relations.

# Course Syllabus

## **Course Description(s):**

### **Department of Political Science POL SCI 2141A 650 FW24: Global Violence & Injustice**

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 armed intervention and peacekeeping operations, and explore the roots of media violence, climate injustice, gender violence, human rights violations, and refugee movements.

### **Department of Political Science POL SCI 2191A 650 FW24: Special Topics in Poli Sci: Global Diplomacy, International Security and Peace**

Using lectures including experts and diplomats, this course helps you understand diplomacy and peace in International Relations (IR). The lectures survey traditional instruments of diplomacy including alliances, nuclear threats as well as NATO and peacekeeping. We focus on how to prevent terrorism, war in Europe, international diseases and on learning lessons from game theory for cooperation. Experts explore diverse options to enhance global governance including the UN's Sustainable Development goals and UN peacekeeping operations while diplomats help explore future challenges for humankind including population explosions, nuclear proliferation, growth pressures and refugee movements.

### **Department of Political Science POL SCI 2135A 650 FW24: Canada Abroad**

Using lectures including with guest experts and diplomats, this course will help you understand Canada's role in the world that confronts us. The lectures survey current topics including ballistic missile defence, disarmament, free trade, nuclear proliferation and peacekeeping. Guest lectures help understand the roots of terrorism, the causes of environmentally-induced warfare over resources and the Arctic, and the foreseeable impact of population growth and migration on refugee policy.

## **Lesson Plan(s) and Class Schedule(s):**

For the official up-to-date and current versions, see the Lesson Tool and the Syllabus on WESTERN'S ONLINE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (OWL) website(s). For help to access the OWL site, see <https://owlhelp.uwo.ca/index.html>

## **Course Materials:**

### **Required Textbooks, Readings and Course Materials:**

No purchased items are necessary for this course, including textbooks, course readers, manuals, laboratory or safety materials, and specific electronic devices.

All instructor's PowerPoint Slides and Engage More Readings are accessible during the term on WESTERN'S ONLINE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (OWL). Once the term is over, the materials are removed from the OWL site and are no longer accessible.

### **Copyright for all instructor's slides and lectures, including Guest Speaker lectures:**

Copyright belongs to the instructor and not the University of Western Ontario. Reusing lecture material for other purposes is prohibited, even with written permission from Professor Erika Simpson and/or Accessible Education.

All required, supplementary, and optional PowerPoint Slides, lecture materials, and readings are the property of the instructor. Engage More Readings are sourced from freely available online platforms such as Google Scholar, Scholarship@Western, and videos.

### **Supplementary materials:**

Supplementary materials, including lecture slides, handouts, videos, and career/essay writing advice, are regularly posted on OWL as Supplementary Lessons. These materials belong to the instructor and are protected by copyright; do not download, copy, or share without explicit written permission.



## Methods of Evaluation:

### **Non-Cumulative Quizzes and Exams:**

The quizzes and exams are not cumulative, meaning the Final Exam won't include material covered before the Mid-term. Assessment is based solely on information presented by the professor and guest speakers, not on colleagues, search engines like Google, other websites, or external sources. The focus is strictly on course content and not external opinions or materials.

### **Exam Bank:**

The exam bank comprises over 1000 questions randomly assigned to students. Meeting with the professor to review incorrect answers is not allowed. To seek a review, students must formally appeal the class grade by contacting the Dean's Office, the Chair of the Department and/or the Undergraduate Chair. These individuals decide whether to provide general feedback on incorrect answers.

### **Proctor track is not used:**

Proctor track is not utilized for Quizzes and/or two Exams due to widespread student privacy concerns. The Dean's office handles all cheating offense allegations. Students engaging in activities like sharing correct answers or taking screenshots may face consequences, such as referral to the Dean's Office, in-person exam rewrites with proctors, or potential expulsion. Decisions on such matters are made by the Dean's Office, not by Course Instructor Professor Simpson.

### **Search Engines (e.g. Google, CHATGBT):**

It is important to recognize that the Professor emphasizes maintaining the integrity of the course's learning experience. Incorrect answers often result from Google searches and ChatGPT inaccuracies. These responses may appear sensible to those who did not attend the lectures, but they are incorrect as they were not covered in the lecture material.

### **The Quizzes close 10 minutes before the Exams commence:**

Quiz #1 and the Mid-term Exam assess Lessons 1-6, typically scheduled around Reading Break. Quiz #2 and the Final Exam cover Lessons 7-12, scheduled during the Official Exam Period. Both Quizzes close for all students 10 minutes before the Mid-term and/or Final Exam begins.

### **Quizzes (10% EACH):**

Quiz #1 covers Lessons 1-6 and Quiz #2 covers Lessons 7-12

Total Quizzes: 10% each = 20%

You can retake each of the two multiple-choice quizzes up to three times, and only your highest score will be noted. Quiz #1 becomes accessible about 5 days before the Mid-Term Exam, while Quiz #2 opens around 5 days before the Final Exam. The highest scores from Quiz #1 and Quiz #2 are separately recorded, offering a rapid learning opportunity for score improvement.

### **Exams (40% EACH):**

Mid-term Exam#1 covers Lessons 1-6 and Final Exam #2 covers Lessons 7-12  
Total Exams: 40% each = 80%

The Mid-Term Exam consists of 80 multiple-choice questions to be completed within 2 hours, contributing 40% to your final grade. It covers Lessons 1-6 exclusively. Similarly, the non-cumulative Final April exam features 80 multiple-choice questions within a 2-hour timeframe, also accounting for 40% of your final grade. This exam focuses on Lessons 7-12 only.

To pass this course, students must complete all quizzes and the final exam and achieve the minimum course grade to pass, as per university regulations. Failure to meet these requirements will result in an automatic failure in the course.

**Final Exam:**

The Final Exam's location, date, and time are To Be Confirmed [TBC] by the University. Students with Official Exam Conflicts (consult your Counsellor for the Form) must write a Makeup Exam, typically scheduled 1 week later, but possibly up to four weeks later. To miss and write a Makeup Exam, students need documented reasons and permission from their Academic Counsellor (not the Professor). After obtaining permission, students must promptly email the Professor to arrange the Makeup Exam time.

**Makeup Quizzes and Exams: (for more information, see Additional Statements below)**

There is no Makeup Quiz unless you provide documentation to your Counselor covering the entire time from the time the Quiz is posted online until 10 minutes before the Exam begins.

To write Make-up Quizzes and/or Exams, documented reasons must be presented to Academic Counselling. Do not send your documentation to the Professor, as it is personal and confidential. The decision to allow a Make-up Exam, and its scheduling, is determined by your Academic Counsellor based on your individual situation. A Make-up Quiz is only possible with documentation covering the entire period from the time the Quiz was first posted until 10 minutes before the Final Exam.

**Use of Electronic Devices and Handwritten/Typed Notes:**

Electronic devices are prohibited during tests and examinations. Opening additional windows, PowerPoint slides, audio, or handwritten notes during quizzes and exams is not allowed. WTS personnel may check your OWL use after exam submission to ensure compliance. Any deviation can result in charges of cheating, handled by the Dean's office, not the Professor.

**Quizzes and/or Exams are *not* Open Book or Open Computer:**

Objective questions, not subjective ones, are assessed in both the two Quizzes and the two Exams. These questions require answers within 5 days (Quizzes) or 8 hours (Exams) and are presented in multiple choice (A, B, C, D, E) format. Each Quiz consists of 40 objective questions, while each Exam includes 80 questions.

**Linear and randomized multiple choice questions:**

The questions are randomized multiple-choice with single correct answers. These questions are presented linearly, preventing you from revisiting and reviewing your answers. No feedback is provided, and correct answers are not disclosed. The rationale behind this is to prevent the sharing of correct and incorrect answers publicly, preserving the integrity of the extensive Exam Bank each year.

**Calendar Tool (not Syllabus) shows Quiz, Mid-Term, and Final Exam Dates:**

Refer to your Calendar Tool on WESTERN'S ONLINE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (OWL) for specific Quiz, Mid-term, and Make-up exam dates.

**Errors on quizzes and/or exams:**

The Mid-term and Final Exams follow an identical structure: Professor Simpson creates multiple-choice exam questions, which include objective questions. University-approved computer-marking systems assess these objective questions. Questions are presented linearly, allowing no revisiting for checking work.

In case of errors, Prof. Simpson adjusts the computer in favor of the class. If you notice an error, make hand-written notes and email the professor at [simpson@uwo.ca](mailto:simpson@uwo.ca) after the exam. Avoid taking screenshots, as it is a serious academic offense. Any inadvertent screenshots may result in a warning or referral to the Dean's office.

**Emergency Procedures during Examinations and Assembly Points:**

In the event of WESTERN'S ONLINE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (OWL) collapse or the instructor's unavailability for an entire week, the Lesson will be canceled, and relevant slides for that day will be removed from OWL, eliminating the need for study.

If OWL experiences issues during Quizzes and/or Exams, an alternative exam, initially scheduled as a Make-up Exam, will be administered. If OWL faces a 5-day collapse during a Quiz, the Quiz will be reopened briefly once OWL stabilizes.

If you encounter issues with OWL or there is an emergency during an exam or quiz, evacuate the area and go to the assembly points. Later, report the incident to WTS personnel via [WTS Jira Ticket](#) at [https://wts.uwo.ca/service\\_desk.html](https://wts.uwo.ca/service_desk.html) or by calling 519 661-3800 (Ext. 83800) until 10 pm daily.

Communication in this class is restricted to email and/or Zoom. In an emergency, do not leave voice messages or texts on the instructor's cell or landlines. All communication must occur through Zoom or Western's email, with no phone calls answered.

**Study Material and Notetaking Guidance:**

In the event of missing a lecture, there is no need to report your absence through any online declaration system, and it's unnecessary to inform the instructor or teaching assistant. No additional documentation is required. However, all missed material, including PowerPoint Slides, Audio, and Guest Speakers, will be covered in Quizzes and Exams. The assessments will encompass all content, and no Gradebook Items can be adjusted for absences or illnesses. If illness results in missing more

than three weeks of lectures, it is advised to consult with your Academic Counsellor to discuss catch-up possibilities. However, as a steadfast policy, the instructor will not modify Quizzes or Exams to accommodate individual students' extended or short-term absences, regardless of the duration of their absence from classes.

You are required to memorize numerous dates and numbers. Many students find it helpful to maintain a separate list of these details to review a few days before the Mid-term or Final Exams.

If a detailed timeline, video, or map is presented on the Slides or linked via a URL, consider it testable material. The audio lecture will emphasize testable information, indicated by the Professor's spoken emphasis. In rare cases where a detailed picture, timeline, or map is not testable, it will be explicitly marked on the Slide as "NOT ON THE EXAM."

### **Exam Review and Cheating Policies:**

We do not disclose individual correct or incorrect answers to students, preserving the integrity of our large Exam Bank. The Professor does not provide Mid-term Correct Answer sheets to prevent distribution and potential cheating in future cohorts. Viewing exams off-campus requires written permission from the Dean, and sharing with off-campus proctors is prohibited.

### **Study Groups:**

Studying with others is encouraged, but taking the exam in a small study group or hiring someone to write it for you is considered an academic offense and will be reported to the Dean's Office. Exams must be taken independently, although forming small study groups is encouraged but difficult for you to organize in an online course setting.

The Professor cannot assist in forming study groups or share student email addresses without permission. Collaborative studying is encouraged, but individual exam completion is assumed. Hiring someone to write exams is considered an academic offense.

### **Note-Taking for Quizzes and Exams:**

While handwritten or typed notes are appreciated, they are not necessary as all the PowerPoint slides and the AUDIO transcript of the lectures are posted online. Some students use free online transcript generators to create transcripts using the YouTube link (e.g. Kome YouTube Transcript Generator). Some students use free AI systems (e.g. ChatGPT 3.5) to create sample multiple choice questions. The transcript AUDIO of the lecture is testable material. Some students convert the PowerPoint text to a MS Word document that they study although the Professor shows pictures, charts, diagrams, and maps that are testable material.

### **Memorizing Dates, Numbers and Maps:**

You are required to memorize numerous dates and numbers. You are required to study the pictures, maps and URL links that are explored during the lectures. Many students find it helpful to maintain a separate list of these details to review a few days before the Mid-term or Final Exams.

If a detailed timeline, video, or map is presented on the Slides or linked via a URL, consider it testable material. The audio lecture will emphasize testable information, indicated by the Professor's spoken emphasis. In rare cases where a detailed picture, timeline, or map is not testable, it will be explicitly marked on the Slide as "NOT ON THE EXAM."

**Availability of Marks on your Gradebook:**

Mid-term exam marks will be available before the drop date and/or before writing the final exam. Yes, the professor will update your marks before the drop date and/or final exam, providing information on all your marks except for the final exam mark. However, if you miss Quiz #1 and/or the Mid-term Exam, you must see an Academic Counselor. Since Academic Counselling may be delayed by a few days or weeks, your Gradebook may change after the drop date and/or final exam.

**Cheating detection software is employed after your quiz mark appears on your Gradebook:**

Yes, since computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be administered, software will be used to identify 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."

**Exams, quizzes and make-up exams will be different for each student:**

The Professor frequently updates PowerPoint slides and creates new multiple-choice questions. The Exam Bank is very large, and you will not write the same exam as other students in the class because your quizzes and exams are randomized. The answers are randomized. And the order of questions is randomized.

While you are welcome to email potential questions for the Exam Bank, please note that doing so will not impact your grades.

**Early exam date and 'wrong answers' on OWL cannot be accommodated:**

Once the final exam schedule is posted on OWL, you cannot arrange to take any quizzes or exams early.

Rewriting exams or assignments after submission is generally not allowed, except in exceptional circumstances assessed by the Dean's office.

If you submit the "wrong answer" and wish to provide the "right version," consult your Academic Counsellor. The decision will be made in collaboration with the Professor.

Missing classes does not result in mark reweighting for absences. Permission from your Academic Counsellor is required for any adjustments, and you should consult them, not the Professor.

## Additional Statements:

### Scholastic offences:

#### University policies on scholastic 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/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

That policy reads:

“Scholastic Offences include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Plagiarism, which may be defined as “The act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own.” Excerpted from Black’s Law Dictionary, West Group, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170. This concept applies with equal force to all assignments, including laboratory reports, diagrams, and computer projects. Students wishing more detailed information should consult their instructor, Department Chair, or Dean’s Office. In addition, they may seek guidance from a variety of current style manuals available in the University’s libraries. Information about these resources can be found at: <http://www.lib.uwo.ca/services/styleguides.html>
2. Cheating on an examination or falsifying material subject to academic evaluation.
3. Submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials; or falsifying records, transcripts or other academic documents.
4. Submitting a false medical or other such certificate under false pretences.
5. a) Improperly obtaining, through theft, bribery, collusion or otherwise, an examination paper prior to the date and time for writing such an examination. b) Unauthorized possession of an examination paper, however obtained, prior to the date and time for writing such an examination, unless the student reports the matter to the instructor, the relevant Department, or the Registrar as soon as possible after receiving the paper in question.
6. Impersonating a candidate at an examination or availing oneself of the results of such an impersonation.
7. Intentionally interfering in any way with any person's scholastic work.
8. Submitting for credit in any course or program of study, without the knowledge and written approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which 6 credit has been obtained previously or is being sought in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.
9. Aiding or abetting any such offence.”

For example, if you submit a paper written for a previous or concurrent course, you are committing a scholastic offense. Instead, you must produce new work for each class (unless you have obtained the written permission of all course instructors involved).

**Scholastic offence to search for 'right' answers during exams:**

During the exams, it is prohibited and not anticipated for you to search through saved PowerPoint Slides or your notes. You are expected to have a thorough understanding of the material to respond to the randomized questions. Attempting to search for answers using Control-F or Google during the online tests is considered an academic offense, and there isn't sufficient time for such actions. Additionally, cheating students may score much lower, as the Professor utilizes Google and Chat GBT to formulate incorrect answers.

**Attendance and Examination Policy if you miss quizzes and/or exams:**

Failure to attend the Mid-term, Final Exams, or Make-up Exams will result in automatic course failure. Even if you excel in the Final Exam covering Lessons 7-12 after missing the Mid-term Exam on Lessons 1-6, course failure is inevitable.

A student is entitled to be examined in courses maintained in registration, but with limitations:

- A student may be barred from the final examination due to unsatisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- Excessive absences, as determined by the instructor, may lead to reporting to the Dean of the offering Faculty after due warning. This condition must be explicitly outlined in the course syllabus. "Due warning" implies a personal email before reaching the specified threshold of absences.
- Based on the Department's recommendation and with the Dean's permission, the student may be prevented from taking the regular examination for the course.

## **Learning Objectives:**

### **By the end of the course, students will be able to:**

- Recognize various key figures, events, and trends in recent international relations history.
- Engage with various political theories in the realm of international relations.
- Analyse various international issues, situating them within their historical context.
- Establish various connections between contemporary problems, historical events, and their global context.

### **Learning Objectives related to many Lecture Slides and many Spoken Audio Lectures by Guest Speakers:**

While reviewing the Slides and listening to the audio lectures, including the guest lectures, your main focus should be on contemplating and questioning the material, not on extensive note-taking like a medieval scribe. Although the professor understands that some students prefer reinforcing lecture material with many handwritten or typewritten notes, it is unnecessary due to all the Slides and audio being posted on OWL as YouTube links, MP4 files and PowerPoint slides.

You are encouraged to engage with the content of the slides and think about them, rather than taking copious notes. Many students find reviewing by studying the Slides without audio to be effective; however most if not all the guest speakers refrain from using PowerPoint Slides. It is common practice in government, among non-governmental organization and in the working world, to refrain from using slides – and to rely on the spoken word. Rarely, guest speaker use Slides so you must take notes or rely on YouTube transcripts in order to study the guest speakers.



## **Support Services:**

### **Non-Medical and Medical Accommodation:**

For work totalling 10% or more of the final course grade, you must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as possible. Instructors must explain how they will handle accommodation for medical illness affecting less than 10% of the course grade. The exams and quizzes are worth 10% of the course grade, therefore students must see their Academic Counsellor for all accommodations. For absences worth more than 10% of the course grade, students should consult their Academic Counsellor and are not obligated to disclose confidential medical information to the professor.

### **Social Science Academic Counselling Services and Medical Illness Policies:**

Please visit the Social Science Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters.

For further information, please consult the University's medical illness policy at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

The Student Medical Certificate is available at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

Medical or non-medical accommodation documentation should be submitted to the appropriate University counselling office, and definitely not the instructor.

Please note: Multiple-choice questions on exams and quiz/exam dates cannot be changed for accommodation reasons. Students must consult the Calendar Tool to find out the date(s) of Makeup Quizzes and Exams. Then they must inform their counselor and take the earliest possible makeup.

### **Religious Accommodation:**

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration.

Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

### **Students with Accessible Education:**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation%20disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation%20disabilities.pdf)

**Mental Health at Western:**

The instructor posts a disclaimer on the lectures that may have slides and/or pictures that affect students in emotional/mental distress. The disclaimer also applies to the entire course's materials, therefore a sample disclaimer is here:

**WEBSITE DISCLAIMER:**

The information provided by Professor Erika Simpson ('we', 'us' or 'our') on the OWL Site (the 'Site') is for general informational purposes only. All information on the Site is provided in good faith, however we make no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, regarding the accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, availability, or completeness of any information on the Site. Under no circumstance shall we have any liability to you for any loss or damage of any kind incurred as a result of the use of the site or reliance on any information provided on the site your use of the site and your reliance on any information on the site is solely at your own risk.

**EXTERNAL LINKS DISCLAIMER:**

The Site may contain (or you may be sent through the Site) links to other websites or content belonging to or originating from third parties or links to websites and features in banners or other advertising. Such external links are not investigated, monitored or checked for accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, availability or completely by us. We do not warrant, endorse, guarantee, or assume responsibility for the accuracy or reliability of any information offered by third-party websites linked through the site or any website or feature linked in any banner or other advertising. We will not be a party to or in any way be responsible for monitoring any transaction between you and third-party providers of products or services.

**SENSITIVE CONTENT AND DESCRIPTIONS OF WAR AND VIOLENCE**

Some students might find the Content and pictures on some PowerPoint Slides upsetting. The Slides deal with strong adult themes concerning violence, death, war, abuse (torture), international and national conflict as well as political or religious affiliation, substance abuse, illegal activities, and other adverse health or mental health issues including mental illness, drug and alcohol addiction, hate speech or strong abusive language.

Viewers may not use the Content in any manner that would be deemed offensive or in connection with a subject that would be controversial or unflattering to a reasonable person.

There may be sensitive topics or images in the content that might be triggering to someone who experienced war, trauma or an abusive situation.

**Sensitive Content Notice in the Lessons (examples):**

This week's lessons contain content that may be challenging to deal with now, in the context of..... (fill in the blank using lesson title), and I want to flag it now. The content is used in the course to provide a real-world example for applying what you are learning about international crises, global violence, global diplomacy, and/or Canada abroad.

As the course instructor, I want to do my best to make any conversations we have either online or in class about this content feel safe for you. If clips from pictures or documentary are shown, they are neither meant as an endorsement nor as a criticism of the content. If you have thoughts to share with me about this, please do send me a note: [simpson@uwo.ca](mailto:simpson@uwo.ca)

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

<https://uwo.ca/health/>

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html).

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact [support@uwo.ca](mailto:support@uwo.ca).

### **Learning skills:**

Learning-skills counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling. Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats.

<https://learning.uwo.ca>

We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>

## **Additional regulations on course re-evaluation, absences, and evaluation of international students:**

Refer to the APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, located in the folder within this section of the Syllabus, for additional university and departmental regulations applicable to this course. **Note: You are responsible for reading and adhering to the APPENDIX and the INFORMATION BELOW, although we do not cover this information during class time.**

### **Updated Policies:**

Please refer to student services for the updated Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and Student Medical Certificate.

If you have medical illness or other documentation, present it to the Dean's Office or an Academic Counsellor in your Faculty. They will assess whether accommodation is possible.

Follow Student Services, Dean's Office, or your Academic Counsellor's instructions for documenting any medical absences.

Academic Counseling will inform the Professor about accommodation, and decisions on due dates, re-weighting, and/or transfer weighting will be decided in consultation with you and your Academic Counsellor, not the Professor.

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

### **Handwritten or Typed Notes and/or Electronic Devices:**

You may not use additional electronic devices, such as cellphones, personal computers, or electronic dictionaries, during any exams.

### **Regarding Scanitron, Proctorio, and Proctor track:**

Exam questions are created by professors and objective questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking systems like 'OWL,' 'Scanitron,' 'Proctorio,' or 'Turnitin.' Professor Simpson does not use Proctor track.

"Special exams" may have different content, structure, and format than regularly scheduled exams. The specific format will be announced by the Professor, Dean, or Chair, but most cases involve objective questions (e.g., multiple choice, blank answers, T/F).

If you miss too many mid-term or final exams, you may have to write a combined multiple-choice and essay-type exam, with essay-style answers. For instance, missing the third make-up for the mid-term exam means the fourth make-up exam will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is due to the professor's large exam bank not being large enough for various multiple-choice makeup exams.

### **Appeals:**

Appeals to change an exam or essay grade must be submitted during the term of instruction, as the Course Instructor does not handle appeals after the term ends.

**If there are changes to the Official Course Outline:**

Under certain circumstances, such as the illness or death of the course instructor, you will be notified through all available communication channels, and a replacement instructor will be assigned promptly.

Lecture, simulation, and exam dates and topics may be adjusted due to schedules, illnesses, or unforeseen events. The dates in this course outline are for illustration purposes and may be updated on the class website as the term progresses.

**Mask Policy:**

University policy may require instructors and students to wear non-medical face masks in all common-use indoor spaces on campus, including classrooms. For the complete Health & Safety mask policy, visit <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/healthsafety/index.html>

**Vaccination Policy:**

Western has protocols for any member of the University community coming onto campus, 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.

**Academic Policies for Online Courses:**

This part of the Course Outline and Official Syllabus must be appended to your Course Outline, and it is your responsibility to read the Academic Policies at your own pace. Please review these policies for any queries before seeking guidance from the Course Instructor (and/or Teaching Assistants).