

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
POLITICS 2531F-650
FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SUMMER 2024 (DISTANCE ONLINE)

Dr. R. VandeWetering

Lectures: available by Monday at noon (but normally Sunday)

E-mail: Please check your UWO e-mail account for periodic messages. My e-mail address is rvandewe@uwo.ca. When you e-mail me, put in the subject heading "2531-your last name". This will help prevent your message being deleted as spam.

E-mail is the best way to contact me. You may visit me at my office SSC 4143 or phone me at (519) 661-2111, ext. 85177. Please email me to arrange a time to meet or talk; if it is a nice day we can meet in Victoria Park!

Important Notice Re: Prerequisites/Antirequisites: *You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for an appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.*

Prerequisites: Politics 1020E **Antirequisites:** Pol 2131 or 2131E or International Relations 2701E

Important Notice Re: use of AI

Use of AI is Prohibited. The use of generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, etc.) are not permitted in this class; therefore, any use of AI tools for work in this class may be considered a violation of the University of Western Ontario's Academic Misconduct which may constitute a Scholastic Offence. The use of unauthorized AI tools will result in: a failure to receive full grades, the need to resubmit the assignment, need to orally present the assignment in office hours, or a failure to complete the requirements of the course.

Course Description

Students will be introduced to the systematic study of international relations. We will first learn the main theoretical approaches used for describing international relations, and then examine specific actors and issues.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students should a) be able to describe and evaluate the main theoretical approaches used for describing international relations;
b) be able to apply these theoretical approaches to specific actors and issues; and
c) improve their writing skills.

Required Textbook

None, but I recommend that you purchase the main book(s) of the theorist you choose for your essay (see below).

Evaluation

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| Geopolitical Assignment | 20% | due May 22 by 11:59 PM at OWLBrightspace (OWLB) |
| Essay | 40% | due June 8 by 11:59 PM at OWLB |
| Final Exam | 40% | available at OWLB June 16 at 3:00 PM; due OWLB June 17 at 3:00 PM |

Essay: due June 8 by 11:59 PM at OWLB

Minimum 2500 words (not including bibliography or footnotes), maximum 3000; typed; double-spaced; you must keep your notes and rough drafts in case of academic misconduct; if you make a reference to or quote from a source on the internet, you must give me an exact reference so that I can find it. Include page numbers with every non-internet reference. Include a title page with the title, the essay question number, your name, and your email address. Submit an electronic copy at OWLB by 11:59 PM on the due date. **Late essay:** Extensions will only be granted in exceptional—and properly documented—medical circumstances, and by prior arrangement with instructor. Computer problems do not qualify as an excuse: prepare your essay assuming that you will have problems with your hard drive. Late papers will be penalized **10% per day**, including weekends. **Please note that one minute late = late.** Social science students should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> if you have a problem.

***Plagiarism is cheating. Using artificial intelligence (eg ChatGPT) to write an essay is cheating. Buying an essay is cheating. All will be treated as academic offenses.**

*Watch Week Three Part Three: “**WRITING AN ESSAY FOR PROFESSOR VANDEWETERING**” (OWLB) for tips about writing essays for Dr. VandeWetering. Generally you only need two sources for your essay: the book (or books) of a theorist (specified below), and a book (or academic article) to describe the issue (eg “I.M.F.”, or the “Secretary-General”).

Essay: For your essay you will examine an issue from the point of view of a theorist.

*****Please immediately take steps to borrow or purchase the books you intend to use.**

Realist:

Morgenthau, Hans. Politics Among Nations. (Best to use the 5th edition or later) New York: Knopf, 1948.

or

Waltz, Kenneth. Theory of International Politics. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 1979.

Liberal:

Held, David. Democracy and the Global Order. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1995.

World Systems Theory: note—you must read all three pieces:

Wallerstein, Immanuel. World-systems Analysis. Durham: Duke University Press, 2004. PLUS

Wallerstein, Immanuel. The Decline of American Power. New York: New Press, 2003. PLUS from OWLB: 2531HobdenandJones

Essay Topic: due June 8 by 11:59 PM at OWLB

1. "The U.N. creates long-term stability." How would one theorist reply to this statement?

Choose one aspect/function/institution of the U.N. from the following list for this essay:

- a) Peacekeeping
- b) I.C.J./World Court
- c) Security Council
- d) Secretary General

2. "From the point of view of a developing country, the I.M.F. is a beneficial organization." How would one theorist reply to this statement?

Geopolitical Assignment: Algeria: 20% of final mark. You will examine the geopolitical situation of South Africa.. You will provide a "Realist Top Five Point Strategy" with an explanation of each of the five points. You will have to justify why the points are ordered as they are. The strategy will be 1250 to 1750 words. For an example of a "Realist Top Five Point Strategy" see Lecture Two regarding the Geopolitics of Iran. Please see the sheet after the bibliography in this outline for detailed instructions. Submit an electronic copy at OWLB by 11:59 PM on May 22. It will be graded out of 100. Late submissions will be penalized 10% per day; **please note that one minute late = late.**

Final: "take-home exam": on June 16 by 3:00 pm the exam will be made available at OWLB. You will do two questions. Each individual question requires an answer from 750 (minimum) to 1500 words (maximum). You will submit your two answers on one file at OWLB under assignments. The exam is due June 17 by 3:00 pm. The essay answers must be in essay format (intro, thesis, conc). Base your answers only on material from the course readings and lectures.

Readings: most are available at OWLB.

Lectures: will be available at OWLB on Mondays by noon (but normally on the previous Sunday). The lectures are the intellectual property of Richard VandeWetering. You may not copy them or re-broadcast them in any medium.

Lecture Schedule

WEEK ONE: MAY 6

- 1. INTRODUCTION**
- 2. REALISM**
- 3. CRITICISMS OF REALISM**
- 4. GEOPOLITICS**

Readings: 2531Morgenthau; 2531Waltz; 2531Gilpin; 2531SmithandOwens; 2531Copley; 2531Baylis (pp 248-52).

WEEK TWO: MAY 13

- 1. GEOPOLITICS OF IRAN**
- 2. LIBERALISM**
- 3. WORLD SYSTEMS THEORY**
- 4. ALTERNATIVES**

Readings: 2531Iranmap; 2531Dunne; 2531KeohaneandNye1; 2531KeohaneandNye2; 2531Slaughter; 2531HobdenandJones; 2531ReusandSmit.

WEEK THREE: MAY 20

1. LEVELS OF ANALYSIS

2. HISTORY OF WORLD POLITICS: THE STATE 1648-2000

3. WRITING AN ESSAY FOR PROFESSOR VANDEWETERING

Readings: 2531RourkeandBoyer; 2531KeckandSikkink; 2531Lamy.

GEPOLITICAL ASSIGNMENT RE ALGERIA: DUE MAY 22 AT 11:59 PM AT OWLB

WEEK FOUR: MAY 27

1. THE 21ST CENTURY: NATIONALISM OR TRANSNATIONALISM?

2. CLASH OF CIVILIZATIONS

Readings: 2531Barber; 2531Huntington

WEEK FIVE: JUNE 3

1. POWER

2. IS CANADA POWERFUL?

Readings: 2531Nye

ESSAY DUE SATURDAY JUNE 8TH AT 11:59 PM AT OWLB

WEEK SIX: JUNE 10

1. DIPLOMACY

2. SECURITY

3. NUCLEAR SECURITY

Readings: 2531Baylis (pp 241-7, 252-4); 2531Butler; 2531Mueller; 2531Luttwak; 2531WaltzIran

FINAL: "TAKE-HOME EXAM": on **June 16 by 3 pm** the exam will be made available at OWLB. You will do two questions. Each individual question requires an answer from 750 (minimum) to 1500 words (maximum). You will submit your two answers on one file at OWLB under assignments. The exam is **due June 17 by 3 pm**. The essay answers must be in essay format (intro, thesis, conc). Base your answers only on material from the course readings and lectures.

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Clark, Eric. Corps Diplomatique. London: Allen Lane, 1973.

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Cole, John. Global 2050: A Basis for Speculation. Nottingham, U.K.: Nottingham University Press, 1999.

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Dunne, Tim. "Liberalism" in The Globalization of World Politics (2nd ed), eds. John Baylis and Steve Smith. Oxford; Oxford University Press, 2001.

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GEOPOLITICAL ASSIGNMENT: ALGERIA

Geopolitical Question: 20% of final mark. You will be required to provide a "Realist Top Five Point Strategy" for the Algerian government with an explanation of each of the five points. You will have to justify why the points are ordered as they are. The strategy will be 1250 to 1750 words. For an example of a "Realist Top Five Point Strategy" see Lecture Two regarding the Geopolitics of Iran. Submit an electronic copy at OWLB by 11:59 PM on May 22. It will be graded out of 100. Late submissions will be penalized 10% per day; **please note that one minute late = late.**

Instructions:

1. Print up a map of the region or continent in which Algeria is located. This will help you to visualize the state's situation. Adding information from steps 3 and 5 on this sheet will also help you.
2. Read the 'Algeria' article in the Europa World Plus database:
*available at UWO libraries: under databases
3. Find population statistics for neighbouring and relevant states in the Europa World Plus database:
*available at UWO libraries: under databases
4. Read the 'Algeria' article in the The Military Balance:
*available at UWO libraries as an electronic book: Institute for Strategic Studies. The Military Balance 2024. London: 2024.
Read pp. 328-94 re Algeria.
5. Find military statistics for neighbouring and relevant states: The Military Balance pp. 328-94.
Also read about relevant nearby Sub-Saharan states (pp. 458-530) and relevant nearby European states (pp. 54-156).
6. At <https://www.globalfirepower.com/countries-listing.php>, check the rating of our military and those of neighbouring and relevant states, and click on Algeria to get an overview of our strength.

7. In order to evaluate which states might be helpful to our state, you may need to examine extra state articles in the Europa World Plus or consult Wikipedia to discover which states have surpluses of food, fresh water or energy.

Then, answer these questions as a), b), c), etc. in separate paragraphs. Your answer for h) should be at least 400 words.

Be direct: no filler.

Be specific: e.g. does Algeria need water? From which specific state will you get it? (And will this fit with the rest of your strategy?) Note: each of your 5 points in the strategy should mention the states from which you will need to help support that aspect of the strategy. The most important question: which state will be your best big buddy? That will almost always be Point number #1 in a 5-point strategy.

Answer the questions: duh, but you would be surprised. e.g. for Section a) answer each question explicitly

Be internally consistent and build on your previous statements: if your strategy (h) has little connection to (a) to (g) you will not do well.

Be realistic: do not hope for a technological miracle to save our country. Solar power and batteries will not be in a position for decades to replace oil, especially when it comes to fueling tanks and bombers.

Be Realist: Remember to think as a geopolitical realist, even if you disagree with them—you have to put yourself in his or her place. Do not include Liberal concerns about the type of government or export growth or human rights or W.S.T. concerns about inequality. Treat the world as an unforgiving place of “self-help”, and “my state first”.

Note: In one sense, we are going to be unrealistic. For the sake of simplifying the assignment, we are not going to make judgements about the quality of the government. *We are going to pretend that it is competent and honest.* However, you may judge whether it is ideological, and thus (in a realist’s mind) liable to make foolish non-realist decisions.

| | |
|----|---|
| a) | how strong are we? (Top 5, 10, 25, 100? Are we a local power? A continental power? A global power?) |
| b) | what are our strengths? (Mention especially our strategic resources: food, water, energy and human resources) |
| c) | what are our weaknesses? (Assume the government is competent and honest.) |
| d) | how strong can we be? What must change for us to be stronger? (e.g. to a geopolitical realist Canada might need more population, where India might need less) |
| e) | which states can help us with our weaknesses? List and rank at least three. (And therefore which sea routes are important to us?) |
| f) | which states are our most substantial threats? Which is the most dangerous to us? List and rank at least three. Remember to consider the geographical distances and geographical obstacles: for example a large ocean or mountain range will in practical terms reduce the threat of a state to your state compared to having a land border on a plain. Remember that you must consider states which could be a potential danger—that includes current friendly allies. |
| g) | which states can be our most reliable friends? List and rank at least three. (Primarily based on similar enemies, or based on those states needing us for something) |
| h) | Therefore: Five-point Geopolitical Strategy; Number One being the most important. Justify your order (for an example, see the lecture on the Geopolitics of Iran): at least 400 words. |

APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar*
<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>)

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE (Sen. Min. Feb.4/49, May 23/58, S.94, S.3538, S.3632, S.04-097) A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations: 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year. 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, please contact the Academic Counselling office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a "Multiple Exam Situation" (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

Note: Missed work can *only* be excused through one of the mechanisms above. Being asked not to attend an in-person course requirement due to potential COVID-19 symptoms is **not** sufficient on its own. Students should check the Western website to see what directives for Covid are to be followed. Western has been and will continue to follow directives established by the Middlesex-London Health Unit. That directive will state whether students should or should not come to campus/class and any other requirements (e.g., masks are mandatory). Please check on your own and do not email the instructor, the Department Undergraduate Advisor/Coordinator or the Faculty of Social Science Academic Counselling Office.

Accommodation and Accessibility

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>.

Accommodation Policies

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_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

Academic Policies

The website for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>.

In accordance with policy,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf,

the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

During exams/tests/quizzes, no electronic devices (e.g. a phone, laptop, iPad) are allowed and must be powered down and stored out of reach.

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/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

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>).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

If a course uses remote proctoring, please be advised that you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including

some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. Completion of a course with remote proctoring will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at:

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

Support Services

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: [Academic Counselling - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_counselling/)

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

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.

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at

http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Learning Development and Success Centre (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) 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. 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/>.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently.

Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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