Political Science 3366E: International Conflict Management

Instructor: Dr. Mark Yaniszewski  
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Class Location: SSC-3010  
Class: Tuesday + Thursday 7-10 pm  
Office: SSC 4139  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 6:15 to 7:00 pm (also after most classes)

Course Description

An examination of theories and strategies of international conflict and conflict management, including the causes of war, arms control, and various methods of reducing or eliminating conflict.

This course combines both lectures and seminars. Consequently, students are expected to contribute — along with the instructor — to the success of the course.

Distribution of Marks

Students in Political Science 3366E will be graded on the basis of the following components:

- Participation = 25%*  
- Midterm Examinations = 2 x 15% each = 30%  
- Writing Assignment = 20%  
- Final Exam = 25%

* Details regarding the breakdown and composition of the participation grade will be made available once the exact size of the class is known. A handout detailing these requirements will be distributed in class and posted to OWL. In the unlikely event that the class size is too large to allow for productive discussions, this distribution of grades may have to be altered (e.g., the participation grade may be converted into a different kind of assignment).
Writing Assignment

A detailed list of topics and requirements is posted separately to OWL.

In terms of the writing assignment due date, a printed copy of the assignment must be handed in directly to the instructor (e.g., during class or office hours) on or before the end of class on Thursday July 14th. No other arrangements are permitted (e.g., the assignment may not be submitted by e-mail nor may it be slipped under a door nor are assignments to be dropped in an essay drop box).

Late papers will be accepted until the end of class on Thursday July 21st and are automatically penalized by 15%. All papers not handed in by the time class ends on Thursday July 21st will automatically receive a grade of 0%.

To summarize:
Assignments handed in on or before class ends on Thursday July 14th — no late penalty
Late papers will be accepted until class ends on Thursday July 21st — with a 15% penalty
After class ends on Thursday July 21st — an automatic grade of 0% will be assigned

Note: The late penalty is a flat rate penalty. Papers five minutes late, one day late, five days late, or any variation therein receive the same 15% penalty. These penalties will only be waived in the case of illness (or similar serious circumstances) and will require proper documentation (e.g., a doctor’s note). Otherwise, extensions will not normally be granted (e.g., forgetting to buy a new ink cartridge for your printer or having the dog eat your homework and so on does not constitute a legitimate excuse for not completing the assignment on time).

Lectures and Course Readings

Class Structure
Classes will be organized along one of the following two lines. Various “foundational” classes are lecture-only classes. And while informal discussions are welcomed — and specifically encouraged — on these days, students will not be graded on their participation in these classes.

Unless the class is too large to allow for productive discussions (see above), the majority of classes will combine both lectures and formal discussions. Depending on the topic, these classes will begin with a 30 to 90 minute long introductory lecture by the instructor. Then, following a short break, the class will resume with the discussion component. These discussions will last approximately one hour. During these discussions, students
will be graded on their contribution to the discussion.

As noted above, details regarding student participation in the discussions will be provided once the size of the class is known (e.g., how often individual students may be tasked with leading the discussion component). At a *minimum*, students should come to every class having read all the required readings and be prepared to ask relevant questions. Students who are uncomfortable talking in class (etc.) should consult the instructor as well as Student Development Services. Alternative arrangements will only be made in the case of students who are making an *active effort* to become more engaged in discussions (e.g., as indicated by their willingness to work with SDS).

**Course Readings**

There is no textbook for this course. Some readings are available at the Weldon Library Reserve Desk. Note that in the case of Reserve Desk materials, only one copy may be placed on reserve due to Canadian copyright restrictions. To avoid disappointment, students are encouraged *not* to wait until the last moment to access these readings.

Other course readings are available free of charge on the internet or as e-journals from the library. Obtaining e-journals articles is relatively straight forward:

(i) Go to Library homepage and log in  
(ii) Click on Catalogue  
(iii) Select “Journal Title” and type in the name of the journal (e.g., Foreign Affairs)  
(iv) Select “Go”  
(v) Browse results. Many journals are stored at multiple electronic storage sites. Select the storage site that covers the date range you are looking for (e.g., some may store older issues while another covers more recent years and so on). Note also that some storage sites may have PDFs of the articles (e.g., versions that look like the hardcopy) while others only store HTML versions (which look like websites).

If you have trouble accessing the readings, consult the instructor or a reference librarian.

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**The History and Evolution of War**

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**Class 1 — May 10**  
Course Overview / A History of War (I)  
(Lecture Only)

Class 2 — May 12  A History of War (II)
(Lecture Only)


Class 3 — May 17  A History of War (III)
(Lecture Only)


Seymour M. Hersh, “The Online Threat: Should We Be Worried About Cyber War?” *New Yorker*, Vol. 86, No. 34 (November 1, 2010), pp. 44-55. [E-Journal]


Nonviolent Responses to International Conflict

Class 4 — May 19  Pacifism, Nonviolent Resistance, and Their Critics
(Lecture and “Practice” Discussion Run By the Instructor)


Note: Pay particular attention to the first part of this article (i.e., pp. 7-24) and skim the East Timor case study (i.e., pp. 25-32). You can skip the Philippine and Burmese case studies in this otherwise lengthy reading.

Discussion Theme
Can a nonviolent response break the cycle of violence?
Class 5 — May 24  
Mediation  
(Lecture and Discussion)


Discussion Theme  
To what degree can mediation resolve armed conflicts?

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Arms Control and Conflict
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Class 6 — May 26  
Nuclear Proliferation and the Case of North Korea  
(Lecture and Discussion)


Discussion Theme  
What (if anything) can be done about North Korea’s nuclear program?

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Economic Sanctions and Conflict
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Class 7 — May 31  
Economic Sanctions and the Case of Iraq  
(Lecture and Discussion)

or


**Note:** Read either the longer article or the two shorter ones to prepare for the discussion.

**Discussion Theme**
(i) What went wrong with the Iraq sanctions?
(ii) Could the Iraqi sanctions have been made to work better?

Class 8 — June 2 Mid-Term Examination (2 Hours)

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**Legal and Judicial Limits on War**

Class 9 — June 7 International Law and the International Court of Justice
(Lecture and Discussion)

<http://studentorgs.kentlaw.iit.edu/jicl/journal/volume-12/> Read pages 58-72 of this lengthy article and skim the rest.


**Discussion Theme**
To what degree can courts like the ICJ manage international conflict?

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Class 10 — June 9 Jus Post Bellum and the International Criminal Court
(Lecture and Discussion)


Discussion Themes
(i) What is just: tribunals, amnesties, or truth and reconciliation commissions?
(ii) To what degree is the ICC working?

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**Resolving Conflict with Peacekeeping**

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Class 11 — June 14  The History and Evolution of Peacekeeping
(Lecture Only)


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Class 12 — June 16 Intervention’s Unintended Consequences
(Lecture and Discussion)


Discussion Themes
(i) When does an international intervention make things worse?
(ii) What are the best practices for intervention?
Class 13 — June 21  When Peacekeeping Fails (Rwanda)
(Lecture and Discussion)


Discussion Theme
Could Rwanda have been saved?

Class 14 — June 23  The Myths and Realities of Canadian Peacekeeping
(Lecture and Discussion)


Discussion Themes
(i) Is Canada a peacekeeping nation?
(ii) Should Canada be doing more peacekeeping?

Using Force to End Conflict

Class 15 — June 28  *Jus ad Bellum*: Waging War under International Law
(Lecture Only)

**Note:** This lengthy article is well worth the effort. It covers both the general debate on the powers of the Security Council and it applies these debates to the Libyan case which is covered in Class 21. For this class, focus on pages 357-371 and 391-394.

Class 16 — June 30  **Jus ad Bellum: The International Community Goes to War** (Lecture Only)

Jonathan Soffer, “All for One or All for All: The UN Military Staff Committee and the Contradictions within American Internationalism, *Diplomatic History*, Vol. 21, No. 1 (Winter 1997), pp. 45-69. [E-Journal]

Class 17 — July 5  **Case Study: Jus ad Bellum and the War in Afghanistan** (Lecture and Discussion)


**Discussion Theme**

Was the 2001 War in Afghanistan legal and/or moral?

Class 18 — July 7  **Mid-Term Examination (2 Hours)**

Class 19 — July 12  **War Outside the UN System: Kosovo** (Lecture and Discussion)


**Discussion Theme**
(i) Did the KLA tail wag the NATO dog?
(ii) The implications of going to war without a UN Chapter VII mandate.

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**Class 20 — July 14  Responsibility to Protect / Humanitarian Interventions**
(Lecture and Discussion)


**Discussion Theme**
R2P: an idea whose time has come…and passed?

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**Class 21 — July 19  Humanitarian Interventions and the Case of Libya**
(Lecture and Discussion)


**Note:** This is the same article used for Class 15. For this class, pay particular attention to pages 372-391 and 395-403.


**Discussion Theme**
What are the legal and political implications of the 2011 intervention in Libya?
Class 22 — July 21  

**Jus in Bello: The Laws of War**
(Lecture Only)


Class 23 — July 26  

**Jus in Bello: Controversial Issues**
(Lecture and Discussion)

Read any pair of the following:

**On Voluntary Human Shields**  
<http://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/other/irrc-872-bouchie-de-belle.pdf>


or

**On Hyper-Technological Warfare (i.e., Drones and Cyber War)**  

Discussion Themes
How should the law treat controversial tactics in war?

Class 24 — July 28  Are We Winning the War on War?
(Discussion Only)


Final Exam Period — August 2-3
Details to be determined.
Do not make travel plans (etc.) until the exam is set.

Important Notices

The University is a place of work and learning. It is not the time to play games, chat, listen to music, send text messages, or participate in similar recreational activities using your electronic devices. Consequently, as a courtesy to the instructor and other students, the use of laptops, cell phones, iPods, PDAs, and other electronic devices for recreational purposes during class is strictly forbidden. Students violating this rule will be subject to sanctions including, but not limited to, being asked to leave the classroom. Only in exceptional circumstances will this policy be waived.

Students must complete all course requirements. Failure to do so (e.g., missing an examination without cause) will subject the student to the relevant Departmental and University regulations (e.g., possibly failing the course.)

All students should also keep a duplicate copy of their assignments. Students must also
note that it is a serious academic offense to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses or to pass off another person's work as their own (i.e., plagiarism). At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on their assignment and/or show their rough work before a final grade is assigned. (A detailed statement on plagiarism follows.)

Final examinations will be held during the regular examination period as set by the Registrar’s Office. Except in the case of medical (or similar) problems, substitute examinations will normally not be given.

## Plagiarism

Students must also note that it is a serious academic offense to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses or to pass off another person's work as their own (i.e., plagiarism). The University of Western Ontario “Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy” defines plagiarism as follows:

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).

At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required: (i) to pass a brief oral examination on their assignment before a final grade is assigned and/or (ii) provide and electronic copy of their assignment so that their work can be checked using plagiarism-checking software (e.g., Turnitin.com). As stated in the University of Western Ontario “Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy:”

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 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).

If students have any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism, there are various resources available to them including (but not limited to) the Student Development Centre and the instructor (during office hours). If in doubt — ASK!!!

As a general guide consider the following. When you make a direct quote — Yes, you need a footnote. When you closely paraphrase ideas (e.g., following a text that someone
else wrote while changing a small number of words) — Yes, you need a footnote.

What about basic facts and dates? Do you still need a footnote? Say, for example, you are asked to write a paper on the Franco-Prussian War and you have never heard about that particular conflict. And then you write in your paper that the war started in 1870 and that France was led by Louis Napoleon. Would you need a footnote for that sort of information? No. Generally, basic facts and dates are covered by the “Common Knowledge Exception.” If you picked up any general history of that conflict, they would all relate how the war started in 1870 and that France that led by Louis Napoleon.

(Another way to think of the “Common Knowledge Exception” is to call it the “Rule of Three” — if a basic fact is reported in three separate general academic sources, you need not provide a footnote.)

At the same time, if one general source was particularly influential in helping you write a section of your paper (even if you did not need to footnote specific passages from it directly), you can add a footnote like the following.¹


And what about material covered in class (e.g., basic facts and dates). Generally this material falls under the “Common Knowledge Exception” (i.e., no footnote needed), HOWEVER if students really want to use material from the lectures they should go back to original sources whenever possible — especially where specific facts or data are presented or if the words of individual theorists or other experts are presented. For example, imagine the instructor states in class that “some historians consider Louis Napoleon’s strategy during the war to be similar to that used by Alexander the Great.” If you wanted to use that idea in your lecture, you should ask the instructor “which historians said this” and “where did that idea come from” BEFORE you use it in your paper. In other words, you always want to go back to the original source rather than rely solely on the material covered in class. For one thing, as a conscientious academic, you want to make sure that your professor has not made a mistake!
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.

Medical Policy, Late Assignments, etc.

Students registered in Social Science should refer to http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having_problems/index.html for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty’s academic counselling office.

University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

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

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

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

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html
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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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991
Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

SUPPORT SERVICES
The Registrar’s office can be accessed for Student Support Services at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca

Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here) can be reached at: http://westernusc.ca/services/

Student Development Services can be reached at: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.