

**POL208Y**  
**Introduction to International Relations**  
**Fall/Winter Session 2013/2014**  
Medical Science 2158, Wednesday 10:00-12:00

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This introductory course seeks to develop critical analytical tools for understanding international politics. It is not a survey of current world events but rather a thematic exploration of major topics in international relations theory. As such this course has a strong theoretical and conceptual focus. International relations theory seeks to explain both conflict and cooperation in international relations and the interaction between them. An effective analytical tool has to help us better understand war, and at the same time improve our understanding of peace; we need to understand what allows for the occurrence of arms races and terrorist attacks, yet equally what allows for regional trade agreements, alliances, and international organizations. International relations deal with a very broad range of topics, many of which will be introduced in this course.

#### Teaching Assistants

Alena Drieschova, Beth Evans, Ariana Fernandez, Jonathan Kent, Troy Lundblad,  
Bruce Lyth, Joseph Mackay, Simon Pratt, Mark Winward (head TA).

#### Reading

All course readings are available under the course materials section of Blackboard.

#### Course Requirements

The course meets for two hours of lecture and one hour of tutorial per week. The locations and meeting times for the tutorials will be announced within the first few weeks of the semester.

Lectures, tutorials, and the readings are complementary—they do not overlap. Both lectures and tutorials presuppose familiarity with the readings. Active and productive participation in tutorials is impossible in the absence of prior preparation. Students are responsible for all materials covered in the readings, the lectures and the tutorials. Readings that were not covered during the lectures *could*, and often *would*, appear in the midterms. On some weeks there is a heavier reading load and it is therefore advisable to start studying well in advance.

Familiarity with international history and current affairs can assist you in this course. While it is not a formal requirement, being able to support your discussion with historical or contemporary examples is almost always a key to a stronger argument. It is therefore highly recommended that students read newspapers and follow news broadcasts

or other media as a way to acquire knowledge on current affairs. This could be a helpful and enriching supplement to the readings and lectures of this course. Examples of news sources with good coverage of international affairs include: *The Economist*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*. Most of these sources can be easily accessed online. In addition, there are several engaging and interesting blogs of political scientists and international relations scholars that often relate scholarly work to current events (e.g. [The Monkey Cage](#), [The Duck of Minerva](#), and [Daniel Drezner](#) and [Stephen Walt](#) (among others) on the *Foreign Policy* blogs).

The final grade for this course will be evaluated on the basis of the following components:

First term paper (7-10 pages)	30%
Two quizzes	20%
Final exam	35%
Tutorials	15%

The quizzes will take place during regular lecture time, on the second to last meeting of each semester (weeks 11 and 23). Both tests will be closed book. Each quiz will include all the material covered during the semester (lectures, readings, and tutorials). The final exam will be held during the exam period and will be cumulative.

Tutorials will be graded based on attendance and, more importantly, informed in-class participation. Attending fewer than 60% of the tutorials, in either semester, could lead to a final tutorial grade of 0%.

### Academic Integrity

All written assignments must follow basic academic citation rules. All words and ideas of published works of other individuals should be properly acknowledged. Please consult your TA regarding his or hers preferred forms and rules of citation. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information please consult the University of Toronto's [policy on plagiarism](#). Failure to understand what constitutes plagiarism will not be accepted as an excuse.

In order to promote an atmosphere of academic integrity, this course will uphold the following policies and recommendations:

- Students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they are used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. To review the terms that apply to the University's use of this service, please visit the Turnitin.com website.
- Students must attach a signed copy of the Academic Integrity Checklist to their essay. The Integrity Checklist form is available on Blackboard. Please note that we will not accept your paper without this form. Accordingly, we will apply late penalties to your paper (as detailed below) until the Checklist is submitted.

- Lastly, students are strongly advised to keep rough draft-work and hard copies of their essays and assignments. These should be kept until the marked assignments have been returned.

### Blackboard

We will be using Blackboard in order to manage and coordinate this course. For this purpose, all students must have an active U of T e-mail address (if you have not already established a university e-mail account you can find information on how to do so at Robarts Library). Important course information, such as the essay prompts, will be distributed electronically through Blackboard. It is your responsibility to log on to Blackboard and obtain the posted information. Feel free to use the electronic forums and message boards for any course related topics. Please respect basic netiquette conventions when posting messages. To log-in, please visit: [portal.utoronto.ca](http://portal.utoronto.ca)

### Lecture Outlines

Lecture outlines will be posted online (Blackboard). The outlines point out the structure of the lecture, and the topics and central concepts that it covers. As such, it can assist in reviewing the lecture material afterwards. Note, however, that the outlines are 'bare-bone' and cannot be used as a substitute for attendance and detailed lecture notes.

### Rules and Regulations: Please note the following carefully!

- No photography or audio recording of the lectures or the lecture slides is permitted.
- If you are unable to submit the term paper at the appointed time, you must request permission for an extension. In order to maintain fairness and efficiency in such a large course all such requests will be handled centrally by the head TA.  
In general, extensions will not be granted unless it is a case of unavoidable and unforeseeable extenuating circumstances.
- To seek an extension you must submit a hard copy of a one page explanation justifying your request. This document should indicate how the circumstances surrounding your request were both unavoidable and unforeseeable. You must contact the head TA to schedule a meeting in which you will submit this document and make your case. In some instances, the head TA may request additional supporting documentation before any extension is granted. Extensions will not be granted unless such a meeting has been held. Unless the head TA informs you otherwise, we do not collect nor require doctors' notes. Please note: The dates and topics for the papers are clearly stated throughout this document. Plan your schedule accordingly! Extensions on paper submission are EXTREMELY rare.
- We do not offer a makeup option for missed quizzes.
- *Assignments in other courses are NOT grounds for an extension.*
- Written assignments are to be handed to your TA on the due date, as stated on the course syllabus *at the beginning of the lecture*. Late submissions will be penalized as

follows: There is a 2% penalty for assignments received after class has begun but before 5 pm on the due date. After that the late submission penalty is 4% per each late day or fraction of a day, *weekends included*. The cut off time for the determination of a late day is 5pm. Late-assignments should be submitted to the main desk of the Political Science Department (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Sidney Smith Hall). Students should make sure that late submissions are signed and dated by departmental staff. Only hard copies are acceptable, e-mailed or faxed assignments will not be accepted unless you have obtained prior approval from your TA.

- All papers should be printed, double spaced (and preferably double sided), 12 font, with proper margins, page numbers and securely stapled. Papers that go beyond the stated page limit for the assignment, or papers that do not conform to the directions above, may be penalized. Make sure that a signed copy of the integrity checklist is attached to your paper.
- No accommodation will be offered for missed tutorials, unless students have acceptable and adequately documented reasons for missing a tutorial as determined by their TA. Students should contact their TA to discuss such circumstances- preferably *prior* to the tutorial in question.
- If you have concerns regarding your grade (either a paper grade or an exam grade) you should first discuss the matter with your TA. If this discussion does not resolve the problem you can submit a grade appeal to me. No appeal will be considered unless it is accompanied by a detailed written explanation of why you feel the grade is unjustified, and unless the issue was first discussed in person with your TA. Once an appeal is submitted I will reexamine the entire assignment, not just the question or paragraph mentioned in the appeal. Since I will be re-grading the assignment anew, the appeal process can result in one of three outcomes: no change to the original grade, a higher grade, or a lower grade. Important deadlines: *Potential appeals must be discussed with your TA within two weeks of grade submission. If you wish to submit a written appeal to me, you must submit it within 10 days of the meeting with your TA.*
- **THE FINAL GRADES IN THIS COURSE ARE FINAL.** We will not round grades up or add a few points to the grade. The grades are not arbitrary; they reflect our assessment of your work. If you need to maintain a certain average, or get a specific minimum grade in this class, make sure that the quality your work warrants this grade. We will be happy to offer help prior to the paper/exams. However, once the grades are in, we will not make any changes to the grade even if you are “only missing two points” and not rounding up the grade is “mean, evil and certain to ruin your life.”

## Fall Term

### 1. September 11: Introduction

### 2. September 18: Levels of analysis

Singer, David J. 1961. "The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations." *World Politics*. 14/1: 77-92.

Hans Koning. 1988. "Ifs: Destiny and the Archduke's Chauffeur," *Harper's* (May), pp.74-76.

### 3. September 25: Sovereignty and Anarchy

Krasner, Stephan. 2001. "Think Again: Sovereignty." *Foreign Policy*, No. 122: 20-29.

Waltz, Kenneth N. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*. Wesley: Reading, Mass. pp. 79-106. (Excerpts in Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis (eds.). 2000. *International Politics*. Longman: New York. pp.49-69).

### 4. October 2: Realism and Liberalism

Snyder, Jack. 2004. "One world, rival theories." *Foreign Policy*, 53-62.

Jervis, Robert. 2003. "Understanding the Bush Doctrine." *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 118/3: 365-388

### 5. October 9: Power

Zbigniew Brzezinski, John J. Mearsheimer. 2005. "Clash of the Titans." *Foreign Policy*

### 6. October 16: The National Interest

Finnemore, Martha. 1996. *National Interests in International Society*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. pp. 1-33.

### 7. October 23: The Security Dilemma

Robert Jervis. 1978. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics* , 30/2: 167-214.

**8. October 30: Playing Chicken: Crisis Decision Making**

Allison, Graham T. 2004. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review*. 63/3: 689-718.

**9. November 6: Deterrence and the Theory of Costly Signals**

Posen, Barry R. 2006. "We Can Live with a Nuclear Iran." *MIT Center for International Studies*: 1-3.

Edelman, Eric S., Andrew F. Krepinevich and Evan B. Montgomery. 2011. "The Dangers of a Nuclear Iran." *Foreign Affairs*. 90/1: 66-81

**10. November 13: The Democratic Peace**

Russett, Bruce. 1993. *Grasping the Democratic Peace*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, Ch. 1-2

**11. November 20: Conflict Resolution (and Quiz!)**

Chaim Kaufmann. 1996. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars." *International Security*. 20/4: 136-175

**12. November 27: Critical Approaches**

Ba, Alice and Matthew J. Hoffman. 2003. "Making and Remaking the World for IR 101: A Resource for Teaching Social Constructivism in Introductory Classes." *International Studies Perspectives*, 4:15-33

## Winter Term

**1. January 8: Introduction to International Political Economy: Relative and Absolute Gains**

Gilpin, Robert. 1987. *The Political Economy of International Relations*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. pp. 25-64

**2. January 15: Hegemony and International Institutions**

Krasner, Stephen D. 2000. "State Power and the Structure of International Trade." In Jeffery A. Frieden and David A. Lake, eds. *International Political Economy*:

*Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's. pp. 19-36.

### **3. January 22: Interdependence and Globalization**

Rodrik, Dani. 2000. "How Far Will International Economic Integration Go?" *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 14/1:177-186.

Eichengreen, Barry. 2012. "When Currencies Collapse: Will We Replay the 1930's or the 1970's." *Foreign Affairs*, 91/1: 117-134.

### **4. January 29: North vs. South: Modernization Theory**

Charlton, Mark. Ed. 2010. "Can Trade Liberalization Benefit Both Rich and Poor?" *International Relations*, Toronto: Nelson, pp.184-199

### **5. February 5: North vs. South: Dependency Theory**

Moyo, Dambisa. 2009. "Why Foreign Aid is Hurting Africa?" *Wall Street Journal*, March 21.

Sachs, Jeffrey. 2009. "Moyo's Confused Attack on Aid for Africa."  
<http://www.voxeu.org/article/moyos-confused-attack-aid-africa>

### **6. February 12: Functionalism and Regional Integration**

Feldstein, Martin. 2012. "Failure of the Euro: The Little Currency that Couldn't." *Foreign Affairs*, 91/1:105-116.

Dixon, Hugo. 2011. "Can Europe's Divided House Stand?" *Foreign Affairs*, 90/6: 74-82.

### **February 19: Reading Week**

### **7. February 26: International Regimes and the Environment**

Mearsheimer, John J. 1994. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security*, 19/3: 5-49

Frieden, Jeffrey, David A. Lake and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2010. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. New York: W.W. Norton and Co. pp. 444-475

**8. March 5: International Law**

Hurd, Ian. 2013. "Bomb Syria Even if It Is Illegal." *New York Times*. August 27.

Carpenter, Charlie. 2013. "If Syria Used WMD, It Violated International Law. But so Would a US Intervention." [\*Duck of Minerva\*](#). August 28.

Charlton, Mark. Ed. 2010. "Do We Need an International Criminal Court?" *International Relations*, Toronto: Nelson, pp.375-393

**9. March 12: Non State Actors**

Matthews, Jessica. 1997. "Power Shift." *Foreign Affairs*. 76/1: 50-66.

**10. March 19: Human Rights and the Power of Norms**

Kausikan, Bilahari. 1993. "Asia's Different Standard," *Foreign Policy*, 92: 24-51.

Aryeh Neier. 1993. "Asia's Unacceptable Standard." *Foreign Policy*, 92: 24-51.

Bob, Clifford. "Merchants of Morality." *Foreign Policy*. 129: 36-45.

**11. March 26: Normative Theories of International Relations (and Quiz!)**

Walzer, Michael. 1995. "The Politics of Rescue." *Social Research*, 62/1: 53-66.

Betts, Richard K. 1994. "The Delusion of Impartial Intervention." *Foreign Affairs*. 73/6: 20-33.

**12. April 2: Alternative Futures**

Huntington, Samuel. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations? The Next Pattern of Conflict." *Foreign Affairs*. 72/3: 22-28

Fukuyama, Francis. 1989. "The End of History." *The National Interest*. 16:3-18