

**MIGHT AND RIGHT AMONG NATIONS**  
POL323YIY—2013-2014  
(UC 87, Wed 10-12)

Seth N. Jaffe  
seth.jaffe@utoronto.ca

Office hrs  
Sidney Smith 3118  
Wed 1-3PM

Anchored by a reading of Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*, an examination of justice among nations, focusing on the relationship between justice and necessity in the work of ancient and modern authors. Explores the question of whether international justice is genuine or largely spurious, the extent to which nations are bound to consider the good of other nations, to what extent it is reasonable to expect them to do so, as well as the prospects for a just international order. Authors may include Walzer, Thucydides, Vitoria, Hobbes, Kant, and Rawls along with supplementary readings.

Course Readings

Please use the editions listed below, as translations can vary widely. Since we will be reading these texts closely, it is *essential* that students easily locate the passages under discussion. The below are available for purchase at the U of T bookstore (or will be soon):

First Semester

1. *The Landmark Thucydides*, ed. Strassler, trans. Crawley (Simon and Shuster)
2. Michael Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars* (Basic Books)

Second Semester

3. Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, ed. Curley (Hackett)
4. Immanuel Kant, *Political Writings*, ed. Reiss (Cambridge)
5. John Rawls, *The Law of Peoples* (Harvard)

In addition, I will assign several articles that I will either email around or have you track down via the U of T library system. These are marked on your syllabus. Note that I also reserve the right to change or modify the reading assignments as the year progresses.

Course Requirements

In the first semester, you are required to write a short paper on Walzer (1,400 words) and a long paper on Thucydides (2,800 words). In the second semester, you must write two, 2,000 word essays on two of Vitoria, Hobbes or Kant. There will be a comprehensive final examination during the examination period, covering material from both terms, but

somewhat weighted toward the second semester reading assignments. There will be a participation component of your grade in both terms, which will include class attendance. Assignment deadlines and percentage breakdowns are on the final page of this syllabus. (Assignments will generally be due at the beginning of class on the assigned date, with the occasional exception which the instructor will specify in advance.)

### Course Policies

**E-mail policy:** All University of Toronto students are now required to have an @utoronto.ca or @mail.utoronto.ca e-mail account. The instructor will *only* respond to e-mails sent from a University of Toronto account, that clearly identify the sender, and have “POL323Y1Y” in the subject line. (You are expected to check your utoronto account at least once a day.) Mon-Fri, the instructor will endeavour to respond to emails w/in 24 hrs.

**Submitting assignments:** All assignments must be submitted to the instructor in printed form **and to <http://www.turnitin.com> on the due date**. Normally, 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 will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website. If, as a student, you object to using turnitin.com, please see the course instructor to establish appropriate alternative arrangements for submission of your written assignments. Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of their essays and assignments before handing in to the instructors. These should be kept until marked assignments have been returned and the grades posted on ROSI.

**Late assignments:** No extensions will be granted on essays except with good cause. If you foresee a problem, communicate with the instructor as far in advance as possible. Late penalties are as follows: 5% on the first day, and 2% for each following day (if your paper is one day late you will lose 5%, two days late 7%, three 9% and so on). Late assignments must be submitted to the instructor’s drop box located on the Third floor of Sidney Smith Hall to the Political Science receptionist.

**Academic integrity:** To protect and uphold academic integrity in the class, it is the responsibility of each student to be able to demonstrate the originality of his or her work if called upon to do so.

*Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For further clarification and information on plagiarism, please see Writing at the University of Toronto <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources>*

## Assistance

**Help with writing:** Learning to express ideas clearly is a central goal of the university experience. If academic writing does not come easily to you, you are strongly encouraged to make use of the available Writing Centres: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>

**Accessibility needs:** The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom, or course materials, please make an appointment with *AccessAbility Services* to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations as soon as possible. Enquiries are confidential: <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca>. Contact them at [accessibility@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility@utoronto.ca) or 416-978-8060.

**Accommodations for religious observances:** It is the policy of the University of Toronto to arrange reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by ordinary scheduling and statutory holidays. Students have a responsibility to alert instructors in a timely fashion to upcoming religious observances and anticipated absences. Please review the policy at: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/religious.htm>

# POL323YIY—Fall Readings

## JUSTICE vs. NECESSITY

1. Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> Course Intro “Might and Right Among Nations”
2. Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> *Just and Unjust Wars*, Preface (general, not specific to edition), Part I, “The Moral Reality of War” (pp. 3-47); and Part II, “The Theory of Aggression” (pp. 51-124).
3. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Part III, “The War Convention” (pp. 127-222); and Part IV, “Dilemmas of War” (pp. 225-283).
4. Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> “Dilemmas of War” Cont. Intro to Thucydides, the Archaeology, 1.1-1.24 (pp. 3-16); Connor, *Thucydides*, Book One (30 pp.)
5. Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> The Regional and Systemic Balance of Power, 1.24-1.67 (pp. 16-38); Kauppi, “Contemporary International Relations Theory and the Peloponnesian War” (23 pp.).
6. Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> The Spartan Congress and Sparta’s War Vote, 1.67-1.89 (pp. 38-48). Pericles on Necessity and War, 1.89-1.146 (pp. 49-85).
7. Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> All of book two, *especially* 2.1-2.65; chap. 3 of D. Kagan’s *Pericles of Athens*; and Connor, *Thucydides*, Book Two (26 pp.)
8. Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> The Revolt of Mytilene and the Mytilenean Debate, 3.1-3.50 (pp. 159-184); Connor, *Thucydides*, Book Three (28 pp.). Thebes, Sparta, and Plataea, 3.51-3.69 (pp. 184-194).
9. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> Mytilene and Plataea wrap-up. Civil War at Corcyra, 3.70-3.85, also remainder of book three (pp. 195-218 inclusive).
10. Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> All of book four to first part of book five, 4.1-5.26 and 5.84-5.116 (pp. 223-316 and 350-357), especially the speech of Hermocrates at Gela (pp. 255-259), and the Melian Dialogue, (pp. 350-357).
11. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> The Sicilian Expedition, books six and seven (pp. 361-478).
12. Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> No class
13. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> Make up class: The Sicilian Expedition Cont. Final reflections on Thucydides. Optional reading: Book eight (pp. 481-554).

# POL323YIY—Spring Readings

## THE JUST WAR TRADITION

13. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> Cicero, *On Duties* (excerpts) and Pangle & Ahrens Dorf, “*Justice Among Nations*”, ”The Christian Teaching on Just War” (excerpts).
14. Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> Vitoria, “On the Law of War” (PORTAL, 34pp.); Vitoria Intro (Pagden).
15. Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> “On the Law of War” Continued. Vitoria and Walzer compared.

## MODERN REALISM

16. Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> Hobbes, *Leviathan* Chs. 10-15 (pp. 50-100)
17. Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> *Leviathan* Chs. 17-20 (pp. 106-135)
18. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> *Leviathan* Chs. 29-30 (pp. 210-233); Michael Williams, “Hobbes and International Relations: A Reconsideration.” (25 pp.) Hedley Bull, “Society and Anarchy in International Relations” and “The Grotian Conception of International Society” (42 pp.)
- Reading Week (February 18-21)

## MODERN IDEALISM

19. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Kant, *Political Writings*, “Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose” and “An Answer to the Question: ‘What is Enlightenment?’” (pp. 41-53, 54-60).
20. Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> Kant, “Perpetual Peace: a Philosophical Sketch” (pp. 93-130)
21. Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> “Perpetual Peace” continued; Michael Doyle, “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs”, two-part article.
22. Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> Rawls, *The Law of Peoples*, Introduction and Part I (pp. 3-58).
23. Mar. 26<sup>th</sup> *The Law of Peoples*, Part II (pp. 59-88)
24. April. 2<sup>nd</sup> *The Law of Peoples*, Part III and Conclusion (pp. 89-128)
- End of Term Exam

## Assignment Deadlines and Grade Breakdown

First term (40% of course mark):

1. 1,400 words essay on Walzer **due October 16<sup>th</sup>** (15%)
2. 2,800 words essay on Thucydides essay **due December 4<sup>th</sup>** (20%)
3. Class Participation (includes attendance) (5%)

Second term (60% course mark):

In the second term, you must write on TWO of the three assigned authors (deadlines below).

1. 2,000 word essay on Vitoria **due Feb 5<sup>th</sup>** (15%)
2. 2,000 word essay on Hobbes **due March 5<sup>th</sup>** (15%)
3. 2,000 word essay on Kant/Doyle **due March 26<sup>th</sup>** (15%)
4. Class participation (includes attendance) (5%)
5. Final examination (25%)

Except for the Walzer essay, where the prompt is mandatory, for every essay assignment you will receive an essay prompt from the instructor via email, usually a choice of two options. You may create your own topic with the approval of the instructor. (Approval must be secured by email within two days of the emailing out of the formal prompt.)