

# **POL208Y**

## **Introduction to International Relations**

University of Toronto  
Department of Political Science  
2009/10

Monday 6pm– 8pm  
Alumni Hall (AH), Room 100

Instructor: Dr. Thomas Kwasi Tieku

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Office hours: Monday, 3:30-5:30pm

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Smith(craigdamian.smith@utoronto.ca), and Gordon Hawkins(g.hawkins@utoronto.ca).

### **Purpose of the Course**

This course is designed to help you acquire the intellectual tools used to understand and analyze international politics. The course is divided into four parts:

- Part I introduces you to concepts and analytical perspectives used to study international politics. This part is intended to help you to organize information on global issues in a coherent way. It also tries to assist you in developing your own perspective(s) on the issues.
- Part II places international relations in historical context. It tries to help you gain a deeper understanding of the roots of the international system and how the modern international system was put in place.
- Part III turns your attention to themes and issue-areas that have attracted the attention of students and scholars of international relations. It is intended not only to convey information on global issues but also to provide you the opportunity to examine the explanatory power of the analytical perspectives discussed in part I.
- Part IV examines emerging areas in the IR sub-field. This part also offers you the opportunity to assess the future of these areas.

## Course Text

John Baylis and Steve Smith, eds., *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, (Oxford University Press, 2008). The book is available at the University of Toronto Bookstore.

## Writing Requirements and Participation

### Breakdown of Course Grade

Assignments	Value	Date Due	Place	Length
Group Project	15%	October 26, 2009	Classroom	TBA
Research Essay: Prospectus	15%	November 30, 2009	Classroom	5pages
Final Paper	20%	February 8, 2010	Classroom Classroom	10-12pages
Participation	15%	TBA	TBA	TBA
Final Test	35%	March 1, 2010	Classroom	NA

### Essay prospectus

This assignment is due in class on November 30, 2010. It must be 5 pages long, excluding the bibliography citation of works used to write the prospectus. The prospectus should present a specific research question, a preliminary thesis (a response to the research question), a summary of the theory that will drive the essay, justification for selecting that theory and annotated bibliography of academic works on the topic and a bibliographical citation of works used to write the prospectus.

### Research Paper

The research essay is due in class on February 8, 2010. It should be 10-12 pages long or 2500 words. You are required to draw on at least seven (7) reputable works—three (3) scholarly journal articles, two (2) text books or a chapter in two (2) different books and two (2) reputable newspaper/magazine/internet articles—to craft a well-thought-out and clearly argued research paper.

- The essay prospectus and research paper must have 1-inch margins and 12 point font-size in Times New Roman.
- The essay prospectus and research paper should be double-spaced and numbered.
- Use either footnotes at the bottom of the page or endnotes at the end of the paper or in text citation but not a combination of these. Citations do count towards the length requirements of your paper. As a result, those who use footnotes or endnotes are allowed to submit papers that are up to 12 pages long but the papers of those who use in text citation must not exceed 10 pages.

- The essay prospectus and research paper must be proofread for spelling, typographical, grammatical, or syntactical errors.
- A printed copy of your essay prospectus and research paper must be submitted in class (AH, room 100) on or before 6:10pm on the due dates. Essay prospectus and papers handed in after 6:10pm on the due date will be subject to a 1% penalty.
- There will be a penalty of 2% of the assignment grade per day for late essay prospectus and papers (including weekends).
- Late essay prospectus and research papers must be submitted to your TA through the reception desk in the Department of Political Science on the third floor of Sidney Smith Hall.
- Ensure that your late essay prospectus and research papers are date-stamped at the reception desk in the Department of Political Science. Please remember that the Department closes at 5pm on week-days and does not open on week-ends.
- Do not attempt to submit your essay prospectus and paper by leaving them under an office door or sending them by e-mail or fax or any other medium. Papers submitted in any form other than printed copy will not be accepted.
- Make a copy of your essay prospectus and paper before submitting them and keep copies of your research notes.
- You should request extensions in writing from your TA. Request for extension should be submitted ahead of time. The TA will grant the extension only on unavoidable and justifiable grounds (e.g. serious illness, etc).
- You will be required to submit an acceptable documentation (such as doctor's note on the official University of Toronto Medical Note form in case of illness) to have any chance of being granted an extension.
- You should acknowledge properly the work and ideas of other people.
- You are reminded that plagiarism is a serious academic offense and the offender will be punished. Read carefully the University's policies on proper academic behavior at [www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/pap/policies/behaveac.html](http://www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/pap/policies/behaveac.html), [www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html](http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html). You should consult me or your TA or any one of the many guides available at the Writing Center (<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing>) if you are at all uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism, or what acceptable forms of citation and referencing are.

## Final Test

The final test will be held in class (AH, room 100) on March 1, 2010 between 6pm and 8pm. The final test is based on the material covered in class, during tutorials and in the assigned text. Part I will give you the chance to show your understanding of concepts covered in class. Part II will offer you the opportunity to show your understanding of theoretical perspectives covered in class. Part III will provide the space for you to examine key IR debates and issues.

You should request extensions in writing from me within two days in case you were unable to take part in the final test. I will grant the extension only in the case of

unavoidable and justifiable situations. Only those who provide acceptable documentation will have a chance to write make-up test.

## **Tutorials**

Tutorials will start during the fourth week. Tutorial attendance is mandatory. You are required to sign up for a tutorial session and you will not be allowed to move to another tutorial group. Tutorial performance will constitute 15% of your total course grade. Tutorial assignments and breakdown of tutorial grade will be provided by the TA during the first tutorial session.

## **Group Project**

Details about the group project will be provided by the TA during the first tutorial session.

## **Accessibility Issues:**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

## **Contacts**

I will be pleased to see you during regular office hours. I will also be happy to answer your questions about the course through email. However, please take note of the following:

- It is advisable that you consult the course syllabus before sending questions about the course via email to me or the TAs.
- It is recommended that you use your UTOR account when communicating with me. You must therefore have a University of Toronto email address.
- I will answer only simple and direct questions about the course through email.
- I will do my best to reply to your e-mail messages within 24 hours of receipt of the mail during regular business hours.
- I will not be checking my e-mails regularly or not at all on weekends or after regular business hours.
- I will use email address provided by ROSI to get in touch with you. Please ensure that your information on ROSI is up-to-date.

## **Appeal Procedures**

- If you are dissatisfied with your essay and midterm grades and wish to appeal, please follow the steps below:
- Go to the office of the grader (TA) during his or her office hours and have a frank but a courteous discussion with the TA about your answers and his/her comments.

- If, following a full discussion, you remain unsatisfied with his or her explanation you should re-submit your answer booklets to the TA along with a one-page written explanation of the substance of the appeal. A good written appeal is clear, direct, and specific about exactly where, why, and how you disagree with the TA's assessment of your work. It should respond to TA's comments, and may also suggest the specify mark (eg 40%, 65%, 92%) you think your answers or essay deserve, and why.
- The TA will read the written appeal, re-read the answers, and reconsider his/her original assessment. The TA **may raise the grade or lower it or keep it the same.**
- If you are still unsatisfied with the outcome, please re-submit your paper or answer booklets to the head TA along with a one-page written explanation of the substance of the appeal. The head TA and I might **raise or lower the grade, or keep it the same.**
- I may not be in a position to talk with you about your grades unless you go through the above process. **You should submit your appeal to the TA within a week (i.e. 7days) of the return of your work.**

## **H1N1 Concerns**

The Provost Office will issue an institutional policy on absence in the event of H1N1 outbreak. The policy and instruction will be posted on official website of University of Toronto [www.preparedness.utoronto.ca](http://www.preparedness.utoronto.ca). Policies indicated in this syllabus will be changed if necessary to reflect instructions provided by the Provost Office. I will do my possible best to make accommodation for you should you be affected by the H1N1.

## **Course Schedule and Readings**

### **September 14: Overview**

### **September 21: Levels of Analysis**

Steve Smith, The discipline of international relations: still an American social Science? *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, Vol. 2 Issue 3 (2000), page 374-402. Available on course website.

## **Part 1: Analytical Issues**

### **September 28: Key Concepts**

Baylis & Smith, Introduction & ch.1.

**October 5:** Realism

Baylis & Smith, Chs. 5; Ch. 7

**October 12: NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

**October 19, 2009:** Liberalism

Baylis & Smith, Chs. 6&7.

**October 26, 2009:** Marxist Perspectives

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 8.

**November 2, 2009:** The Third Debate

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 10.

**November 9, 2009:** Gender and Post-Colonial Perspectives

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 15.

**November 11, 2009:** Green Theory

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 20.

**November 16, 2009:** Social Constructivism

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 9.

## **Part II: Historical Processes**

**November 23, 2009:** The Evolution of the International System

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 2.

**November 30, 2009:** Critical Junctures of the International System **Prospectus Due**

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 3.

## **Part III: Mainstream Areas**

**January 4, 2010:** Peace and Conflict

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 12; Ch. 13

**January 11, 2010:** International Political Economy

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 14; Ch. 26..

**January 18, 2010:** Globalization

Baylis & Smith, Ch. 32.

**January 25, 2010:** International Cooperation  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 19.

**February 1, 2010:** International Institutions  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 18.

**February 8, 2010:** Global Governance      **Research Paper Due**  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 17.

**February 15, 2010: FAMILY DAY AND READING WEEK**

### **Part III: Emerging Areas**

**February 22, 2010:** International Development  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 27.

**March 1, 2010: FINAL TEST**

**March 8, 2010:** Global Terrorism  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 21.

**March 15, 2010:** Human Rights  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 29.

**March 22, 2010:** Humanitarian Interventions  
Baylis & Smith, Ch. 30

**March 29, 2010:** Review