

POL 208: Introduction to International Relations

Part I - Fall 2019

Wednesdays 10-12

Professor Seva Gunitsky

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4, Munk School 124N

Course Description (Fall Semester): This course examines some key themes and issues in global politics, including interstate war, state formation, nationalism, nuclear weapons, and the evolution of the global order.

Readings: There is a required coursepack for this class, which contains all the readings and is available at UT Pharmacy+Print (193 College Street).

Quercus: All handouts, updates and assignments will be distributed through Quercus. It is your responsibility to regularly access the information posted regarding the course.

Course Requirements: In the first half of the course, you will be evaluated on the basis of one in-class midterm, a 3-page policy brief, and your participation in tutorial. The breakdown of your Fall course grade (50% of your final grade for the year) is as follows:

Policy Brief (due Week 9):	10%
Midterm (Week 12):	25%
Tutorials:	15%

Policy Brief: A 3-page essay that examines a key issue in Canadian foreign policy, offers concrete policy solutions, and uses arguments from the readings to support its conclusions. (Double-spaced, size 12 font, 1 inch margins).

Midterm: The midterm is a closed-book, closed-note test that will cover concepts from both the readings and the in-class lectures.

Tutorials: Tutorials will meet beginning Week 2. There are no tutorials in Weeks 1, 9, and 12. Please note that your tutorial mark for this semester will be assessed separately from the Winter semester.

Your tutorial leader will discuss themes and answer questions dealing with the readings and lecture. Tutorial attendance is therefore crucial to your success in this course. Your grade in tutorial is based on attendance, participation, and a 2-page reading response. (Due by Week 7.)

Laptops and cellphones: if you are using laptops for purposes other than taking notes, please sit in the back or toward the edges, so as not to distract other students. The TAs will ask you to move if your behavior is rude or distracting. You may use phones for taking notes, but please keep them in silent mode.

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

Grade Appeals: If you are unhappy with a grade on an assignment, you may submit a written appeal to your TA, explaining why you feel your grade on an assignment is unjustified. You must submit this written appeal no later than two weeks after your assignment is returned. Regrades do not mean an automatic increase, as assignments must be evaluated anew. Your grade may stay the same, go up, or go down.

If you are still unhappy after your TA's regrade, you may contact the Head TA to request an instructor regrade. These regrades will be granted only in cases where a regrade is deemed necessary by the Head TA or instructor, and may improve or lower your grade.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

See www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize.

Course Outline

Week 1 — Sep 11. Introduction.

No tutorials this week.

Week 2 — Sep 18. Global Politics and ‘Human Nature’.

Week 3 — Sep 25. Realism and Liberalism.

Week 4 — Oct 2. The Rise of the State.

Week 5 — Oct 9. Political Culture and Nationalism.

Week 6 — Oct 16. The Evolution of the Global Order.

Week 7 — Oct 23. The Nuclear Revolution.

Week 8 — Oct 30. Domestic Theories of Global Politics.

[November 6 – no class, reading week]

Week 9 — Nov 13. Espionage and Civil Society. Urban Governance and IR.

Policy brief due Nov 15. No tutorial this week.

Week 10 — Nov 20. From the Global to the Local.

Week 11 — Nov 27. New Challenges in Global Politics.

Week 12 — Dec 4. *Midterm.*

Location TBA. Review sessions will be scheduled in advance. No tutorials this week.

Readings

Week 2 — Sep 18. Global Politics and ‘Human Nature’

- Steven Pinker (2007) “A History of Violence” *The New Republic*, March 19 [5p]
- Chris Hedges (2002) Selections from *War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning*, p.1-7 [7p]
- Jared Diamond (2008) “Vengeance is Ours”, *The New Yorker*, April 21, 2008 [9p]
- Margaret Mead (1940) “Warfare Is Only an Invention – Not a Biological Necessity.” In *Conflict After the Cold War*, Pearson Longman, p.176-180 [5p]

Week 3 — September 25. Realism and Liberalism

- Philip Ball (2006) “Raising Leviathan: The Brutish World of Thomas Hobbes,” pp. 23-29 and “Order in Eden: Learning to Cooperate,” pp. 410-428 in *Critical Mass: How One Thing Leads to Another*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux.
- Stephen Walt (1998) “International Relations: One World, Many Theories”, Foreign Policy.
- Robert Axelrod (1984) “The Live-and-Let-Live System in Trench Warfare in World War I” in *The Evolution of Cooperation*. Basic Books, p.73-87.
- Ikenberry, G. John, ‘Liberal Internationalism 3.0’, Perspectives on Politics 7.1 (2009): 71-87.
- play around with <http://ncase.me/trust/>

Week 4 — Oct 2. The Rise of the State

- Selections from Robert Bates (2001) *Prosperity and Violence: The Political Economy of Development*. W.W. Norton, p.50-51, 56-69, 77-83. [15p]
- Olson, Mancur (1993) “Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development.” *American Political Science Review* 87.03: 567-576. [9p]
- Krasner, Stephen D. (1999) *Sovereignty: Organized hypocrisy*. Princeton University Press, Ch. 1, page 1-25 [26p]

Week 5 — Oct 9. Political Culture and Nationalism

- David McRaney (2011) Excerpt from “The Illusion of Asymmetric Insight” [5p]
- Ronald Inglehart and Pippa Norris (2003) “The True Clash of Civilizations” *Foreign Policy* 135, p.62-70 [8p]
- Excerpt from *Henry V* by William Shakespeare, c.1599 [1p]
- Wilfred Owen (1917) “Dulce et Decorum Est” [2p]
- Anthony Smith (1991) *National Identity*, Chapter 1. [18p]
- Sheri Berman and Mariya Snegovaya (2019) “Populism and the Decline of Social Democracy” *Journal of Democracy* 30(3)

Week 6 — Oct 16. The Evolution of the Global Order

- G. John Ikenberry, “The Myth of Post-Cold War Chaos” *Foreign Affairs*, May 1996 [5p]
- Richard Betts (2010) “Conflict or Cooperation: Three Visions Revisited.” *Foreign Affairs*. [9p]
- John Mueller (1989) “The Obsolescence of Major War”, p.146-157 in Richard Betts, ed., *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace*, 2nd edition, Pearson Longman [10p]
- Jeff Colgan (2019) “Three Visions of International Order.” *The Washington Quarterly* 42(2)

Week 7 — Oct 23. The Nuclear Revolution

- Thomas Schelling (2005) Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech [11p]
- Kenneth Waltz (2012) “Why Iran Should Get the Bomb” *Foreign Affairs* July/August 2012, p.2-5 [4p]
- Eric Schlosser (2013) *Command and Control: Nuclear Weapons, The Damascus Incident, and the Illusion of Safety*. New York: Penguin. Pages 167-72, 192-93 [8p]
- John Harris and Bryan Bender (2017) “Bill Perry is Terrified. Why Aren’t You?” *Politico*, January 6 [14p].

Week 8 — Oct 30. Domestic Theories of International Politics

- Erich Maria Remarque (1929) *All Quiet on the Western Front*, p.220-27 [8p]
- Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder (1995) “Democratization and War” *Foreign Affairs* 74.3, p.79-97 [19p]
- Matthew White (2005) “Democracies Do Not Make War on One Another...or Do They?” [16p]
- Azar Gat (2005) Selections from “The Democratic Peace Theory Reframed: The Impact of Modernity” *World Politics* 58.1, p.73-88, 97-100 [20p]

[Nov 6 – no class; reading week]

Week 9 — Nov 13. Espionage and Civil Society. Urban Governance and IR.

- Siena Anstis, Ronald J. Deibert, John Scott-Railton (2019) "A Proposed Response to the Commercial Surveillance Emergency" *Lawfare*, July 19, 2019
- Emma Green (2013) “Can Mayors Really Save the World?” *Citylab*, Sep 23, 2013
- Dafe Oputu (2019) “Zombiescapes: Africa’s Megacity Addiction”, *Republic.com*, July 11

Week 10 — Nov 20. From the Global to the Local. (45 pages)

- Samuel Huntington (1991) Selections from “Democracy’s Third Wave”, *Journal of Democracy*, p.1-16 [16p]
- Lucan Way (2011) “The Lessons of 1989.” *Journal of Democracy* 22(4):17-27[9p]
- Seva Gunitsky (2017) Selections from *Aftershocks: Great Powers and Domestic Reforms in the Twentieth Century*

Week 11 — Nov 27. New Challenges in Global Politics

- Selections from “Out of Order? The Future of the International System.” *Foreign Affairs* January 2017. (16p)
- Fareed Zakaria (2019) “The Self-Destruction of American Power” *Foreign Affairs*
- Joshua Busby (2019) “A Warming World.” *Foreign Affairs*
- Ron Deibert (2019) “The Road to Digital Unfreedom” *Journal of Democracy*

Week 12 – Dec 4. Midterm Test.

Location TBA. No tutorials this week.