



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2017

#### **PO 2610 (A2/VC) INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS I: SECURITY, WAR AND PEACE - 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS FOR 15 WEEKS**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dawn Moffat McMaster   **PHONE:** 780-539-2763  
**OFFICE:** C415   **E-MAIL:** dmcmaster@gprc.ab.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon. & Wed. 10:00 - 11:00 am, or by appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This is an introduction to the study of international relations with a focus on armed conflict, the pursuit of peace and related military matters. Topics may include the causes of war, the Cold War, arms control, post-Cold War military challenges, terrorism, international organizations, international law, international responses to domestic armed conflicts and the direction of Canadian defense policy.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** Students without the course prerequisite (PO 1010 or 1020) should speak with the instructor before registering. The Department may cancel your registration if you do not have the required course prerequisites.

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

- John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens. The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Toronto. Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Internet & database readings as listed in the syllabus appendix.
- Readings assigned by instructor in class.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lecture and Discussion

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course is designed to introduce you to the study of international relations and global politics. It is intended to:

- introduce you to key concepts, theories and tools of the field;

- provide you with the ability to identify specific aspects the modern global political environment, including conflict, war, trade, culture, poverty and development, environmental change, etc.;
- encourage you compare the rights and obligations of states to those of other security actors and institutions;
- demonstrate the value of thinking clearly and systematically about complex nature of governance in the international political environment;
- prepare you for further studies in international relations at the postsecondary level.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of political concepts and theories of International Relations and their real-life applications;
- apply these to the specific challenges of international governance;
- evaluate the arguments which attempt to explain the behavior of international security actors;
- engage in formal and informal politics through discussion of international current events;
- assess original and secondary sources of argumentation and evidence, both scholarly and popular, and apply findings to new situations;
- demonstrate effective essay writing skills, through the evaluation of evidence and coherent synthesis of arguments;
- apply these specific skills to further academic study of politics.

**TRANSFERABILITY:** AU, UA, UC, UL, MU\*, BU, KUC

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlinerearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Reading Summaries (3 x 10%) .....30%  
 Participation.....10%  
 International Crisis Simulation..... 20%

Exam Preparation Assignment..... 10%

Final Exam..... 30%

**Reading Summary:** You will choose three (3) topics from the theoretical approaches topics (Realism, Liberalism, Marxism, Social Constructivism/Post-structuralism & Feminism/Post-colonialism, and provide a 2-3 pages summary of assigned readings in class. You will provide a copy of this summary to the instructors and your classmates, and should be prepared for in-class discussion.

**Participation:** Your participation grade will be awarded for completion of at least 80% of peer evaluations for Readings summaries. For example, if there are thirty (30) Reading Summaries submitted, you will need to submit at twenty-four (24) evaluations to receive the participation grade. This is an example only; the number of actual summaries submitted will depend on the number of students in the class.

**International Crisis Simulation:** You will participate in a simulation of an international crisis where you will take on the role of either an international diplomat or an advisor to a head of government. You will be grade on both submitted written material and on your participation in the simulation.

**Exam:** The final exam will be a take-home written assignment of 10 – 12 pages, which will require a demonstration of knowledge of specific concepts and theories presented in the course, as well as application of that knowledge into a long form, written response. You will be given the exam question in advance, and will submit the **Exam Prep** assignment to make sure you are on the right track and get some preliminary feedback. The exam will be due on a date set by the Registrar.

***More detailed information on all assignments will be distributed in class.***

## GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	66-69
A	4.0	90-94		C	2.0	63-65
A-	3.7	85-89		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	80-84		D+	1.3	54-59
B	3.0	75-79		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-74		F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

<b>Schedule of Lectures &amp; Readings</b> (subject to alteration, upon consent of instructor and students)	
Week 1 (Aug. 30 – Sept. 1)	Lecture 1: Introduction to the International Relations
Week 2 (Sept. 4 – 8)	Lecture 2: Historical Context  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Chs. 3, 4 &amp; 5</li> </ul>
Week 3 (Sept. 11 – 15)	Lecture 3: Realism  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 6</li> </ul>
Week 4 (Sept. 18 – 22)	Lecture 4: Liberal Internationalism  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 7</li> </ul>
Week 5 (Sept. 25 – 29)	Lecture 5: Marxist theories of IR / Social constructivism  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 8 &amp; 9</li> </ul>
Week 6 (Oct. 2 – 6)	Lecture 6: Post-structuralism / Post-colonialism / Feminism in IR  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 10, 11, 12</li> </ul>
Week 7	Lecture 6 cont.

(Oct. 9 – 13)	
Week 8 (Oct. 16 – 20)	Lecture 7: Global Security & Nuclear Proliferation  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 15 &amp; 26</li> </ul>
Week 9 (Oct. 23 – 27)	Lecture 8: Nationalism & Terrorism  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 25 &amp; 27</li> </ul>
Week 10 (Oct. 30 – Nov. 3)	Lecture 9: Human Security & Humanitarian Intervention  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 30 &amp; 32</li> </ul>
Week 11 (Nov. 6 – 10)	Lecture 10: International Organizations and the United Nations  Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baylis, Smith &amp; Owens text, Ch. 10, 11, 12</li> </ul>
Week 12 (Nov. 13 – 17)	Lecture 10 cont.
Week 13 (Nov. 20 – 24)	<i>CLASS CANCELLED – INSTRUCTOR AT CONFERENCE.</i>  <i>Class time will be made up upon consultation with students.</i>  <b>**Exam Prep Assignment Due – Thurs., Nov. 23**</b>
Week 14 (Nov. 27 – Dec. 1)	International Crisis Simulation  Readings TBA
Week 15 (Dec. 4 – 7)	International Crisis Simulation (conclusion & debrief)

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Full participation in class will require demonstration that you have completed the assigned readings, as well as an active role in group work and class discussions.

### Punctual submission of assignments:

- An electronic copy is due by midnight on the due date. It should be submitted via Moodle, and should be formatted as a PDF. If you do not know how to save a document as a PDF, please contact me.
- Please title your paper as follows: LASTNAMEFirstname-Assignment-PO2610F2017. (Ex. Jane Smith's paper should be saved as SMITHJane-ReadingSummary#1- PO2610F2017.)
- Late assignments will be docked 3% (i.e. an A becomes an A-) for each day they are late. If extenuating circumstances necessitate an extension on an assignment, you are required to

Speak with me AHEAD OF TIME, and appropriate paperwork (i.e. a medical note) may be required. Also, please note that you are required to write the final exam on the date scheduled by the College. You should take this into account when making any travel plans.

### **Classroom Conduct:**

GPRC is committed to promote an environment free of harassment or discrimination where respect will be given to ethnic, cultural, religious, and lifestyle diversity, and expects individuals will conduct themselves with respect for one another. This means your behavior should exhibit respect for yourselves, each other, the instructor, and the course material. As such:

- Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared.
- Laptops and cellphones are permitted in class, with a few caveats.
  - Cellphones should be on silent or vibrate mode, and I expect you wait to check calls or messages until after class. If an emergency requires otherwise, I expect you to advise me at the beginning of class.
  - Laptops are to be used for class work ONLY. Students carrying out other activities will be asked to leave their laptops at home.
- Working on assignments for other courses is not permitted. Students doing so will be asked to leave the class.
- I encourage an atmosphere of positive and constructive debate. Expressing criticism or annoyance with a view expressed by another person, either through a comment, audible noise, facial expression or body language, is not acceptable, unless you are prepared to debate your position openly & respectfully in class.
- Regular attendance. If you know you are going to be absent from class, I expect you to contact me prior to class with a reason. Students who miss more than 1/3 of classes (9 or more) may be denied the opportunity to write the final exam, as stated in GPRC's Examination Policy (available at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/)).

For information on key dates and other important matters, please refer to the GPRC Calendar, available [www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/).

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**\*\*Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.