

**Dalhousie University
K'jipuktuk, Mi'kmaq Territory
Department of Political Science
POLI 2520: World Politics**



Palace of Nations (Geneva, Switzerland)

Instruction: Dr. Gregg French

Semester: Fall 2019

Class Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:05am–11:25am

Class Location: Sir James Dunn Building, Room 117

Course Website: <https://dal.brightspace.com/d21/login>

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Gregg French

E-mail: gregg.french@dal.ca

Office Location: Henry Hicks Academic Building, Room 352

Office Hours: Thursdays, 9:00am–10:00am or by appointment

Course Description

POLI 2520 will provide students with an introduction to the concepts and theories associated with the study of international relations, as well as both how and why state and non-state actors engage in the international system. The course will begin by analyzing the historical formation of the global community and the stimuli that led to the creation of various theoretical approaches to international relations, such as realism, liberalism, Marxism, constructivism, and postcolonialism. Students will then interact with the state and non-state actors that influence international relations in the twenty-first century. The course will conclude by addressing the political challenges faced by the practitioners of international relations. These challenges will include climate change, development issues, weapons of mass destruction, terrorist activities, the international political economy, and human rights.

POLI 2520 will consist of two lectures per week. It is expected that students will have their weekly required readings completed prior to the beginning of each week, to enable them to be active members of our safe and productive community of inquiry. Although they are not mandatory, students are encouraged to explore the “Optional Readings” section for each week of the course. These readings are available in the course textbook, online, via Brightspace, or the Killam Memorial Library. Students are allowed to use laptops during class lectures; however, the use of recording devices, messaging platforms, and social media websites is not permitted.

Additional course information, weekly readings, PowerPoint slides, assignment outlines, and announcement will appear on Brightspace. I encourage students to familiarize themselves with the course’s online learning management system before the start of the semester. If students have any questions regarding Brightspace, please contact or visit the IT Help Desk.

Course Outcomes

By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the creation of the study of international relations.
- Define the key concepts and theories associated with the field of study.
- Identify the institutions, structures, and processes that influence world politics.
- Relate various approaches to ongoing current events.
- Develop an awareness of how political, economic, and cultural globalization impact events on the local, regional, national, and international levels.
- Conduct scholarly research and present evidence in a coherent manner.
- Cite references using *The Chicago Manual of Style*.
- Apply research, critical thinking, writing, and organizational skills to new tasks.

Textbook and Readings

John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).

Non-textbook readings will be available on Brightspace, via hyperlink, or at the Killam Memorial Library.

* Please note that readings are subject to change. If a change is made, details will be posted on Brightspace.

Course Requirements and Evaluations

Document Analysis Assignment	Due: September 26, 2019	15%
Mid-Term Examination	Due: Week 6	25%
Current Events Assignment	Due: November 26, 2019	20%
Online Discussion Boards	Due: Full Semester	10%
Final Examination	Due: December Exam Period	30%

Paper copies of assignments must be submitted to the instructor or to the Political Science office between 9:00am and 4:00pm (Monday to Friday). Neither the professor nor the Department of Political Science can assume responsibility for assignments submitted by e-mail.

Unless instructed otherwise, assignments must be double-spaced, presented in 12-point font, and include both the student's name and the course code (POLI 2520).

Document Analysis Assignment

In this assignment, students will be asked to provide a critical analysis of a primary source document. Submissions should interpret and analyze the document, place the document in its appropriate context, and evaluate the document's significance. A selection of primary source documents will be posted on Brightspace prior to the beginning of the course. The assignment should be 3 pages in length and will be submitted in class on **September 26, 2019**.

Mid-Term Examination

The mid-term examination will occur over two days and will be made up of two parts. The first portion of the examination, which will occur in class on **October 8, 2019**, will offer students twelve identification questions (people, places, events, documents, theories) and students will be asked to select four. Students will then be asked to define the who, what, where, why, how, when, and significance associated with each identification question that the students selected.

The second portion of the examination, which will occur in class on **October 10, 2019**, will offer students three essay questions. Students will be asked to select one of these questions and will be expected to appropriately answer it in essay form.

Current Events Assignment

This assignment will enable students to make connections between the course and ongoing current events by reviewing news reports and addressing how they relate to the topics under discussion in POLI 2520. Students will be expected to select five different current events from newspapers, television reports, credible news websites, and magazine-format newspapers. They will then be asked to cite these sources correctly, using *The Chicago Manual of Style*, and to provide a 400-word synopsis of each event. This assignment will be submitted on **November 26, 2019**.

Online Discussion Boards

On a weekly basis, the instructor will post relevant questions, conversation points, videos, or current event topics, which students will be asked to comment on and discuss on the Brightspace Discussion Board. Both the instructor and the teaching assistant(s) will moderate these discussions. Students are required to post at least 2 responses per week (100-150 words per response) and are responsible for furthering the discussion. Responses can be conversational but vulgar comments will not be tolerated.

As we progress through the semester, inquiries regarding discussion board grades can be sent to the instructor and/or the teaching assistant(s).

Final Examination

The final examination will occur during the **December Exam Period** and will include all of the material covered during the course. Questions will come from the lectures, course readings, and both classroom and online discussions.

The first portion of the examination will include twelve identification questions (people, places, events, documents, theories) and students will select four. Students will then be asked to define who, what, where, why, how, when, and the significance surrounding each selected identification question.

The second portion of the examination will include three broad questions. Students will be asked to select one question and will be expected to appropriately answer it in essay form.

Grading

Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage	Definition	
A+	4.30	90-100	Excellent	Considerable evidence of original thinking; demonstrated outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
A	4.00	85-89		
A-	3.70	80-84		
B+	3.30	77-79	Good	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and
B	3.00	73-76		

B-	2.70	70-72		analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
C+ C C-	2.30 2.00 1.70	65-69 60-64 55-59	Satisfactory	Evidence of some understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems; benefitting from his/her university experience.
D	1.00	50-54	Marginal Pass	Evidence of minimally acceptable familiarity with subject matter, critical and analytical skills (except in programs where a minimum grade of 'C' is required).
F	0.00	0-49	Inadequate	Insufficient evidence of understanding of the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytical skills; limited or irrelevant use of the literature.

Late Penalties and Absences

If a student fails to submit the document analysis assignment or the current events assignment on the appropriate due date, 5% will be immediately deducted from the overall grade of the assignment. For every day that the assignment is late, after that initial day, the student will be penalized an additional 2% per day.

As of the 2017/2018 academic year: Dalhousie students are asked to take responsibility for their own short-term absences (3 days or less) by contacting their instructor by phone or e-mail prior to the academic requirement deadline or scheduled time and by submitting a completed Student Declaration of Absence to their instructor in case of missed or late academic requirements. Only 2 separate Student Declaration of Absence forms may be submitted per course during a term.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. A finding of plagiarism may result in a **failing grade** of an assignment or course or, if very serious, **suspension** or **expulsion** from the university. In fact, if plagiarism is discovered after a student has completed his or her studies, and the penalty results in that student no longer meeting the requirements of a degree that has been awarded, the university may **rescind** that degree.

Some examples of plagiarism:

- **Failure to attribute authorship** when using sources such as written or oral work, computer codes/programs, artistic or architectural works, scientific projects,

performances, web page designs, graphical representations, diagrams, videos, and images.

- Downloading all or part of the work of another from the Internet and **submitting as one's own**.
- **The use of a paper** prepared by any person other than the individual claiming to be the author.

Plagiarism is committed when you do not acknowledge using someone else's:

- words or phrases
- ideas or thoughts
- term paper
- recording
- images
- computer code
- experiment results
- lecture content
- falsified data, citations or other text
- OR your own previously submitted work

Plagiarized materials can come from:

- books
- journal articles
- CD's
- encyclopedias
- web pages
- online term papers
- email or listservs
- talks or lecture

* This information was taken directly from:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/plagiarism-cheating.html

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. (read more: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html)

Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students on the Halifax campus who request accommodation as a result of: a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (NS, NB, PEI, NFLD).

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion please contact the Study Accessibility Centre:
https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Please note that your classroom may contain accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, undisturbed, so that students who require their use will be able to fully participate.

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. (read more: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html)

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness. (read more: <https://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>)

Classroom Etiquette

I intend to create a safe and productive learning environment for every student enrolled in POLI 2520. In exchange, I ask that all students respect the views and opinions of their fellow classmates.

Additionally, I am asking that all students avoid the needless use of messaging and social media platforms on their phones, laptops, and tablets during lectures. Using these platforms can be distracting to both the instructor and fellow students.

E-mail Policy and Important Announcements

When communicating with the instructor via e-mail, please include **POLI 2520** in the subject line, as well as proper greetings and salutations (using your full name). I will do my best to respond within 24 hours.

Please be sure to regularly check the “News” section on Brightspace for important announcements regarding the course and other relevant events going on in the Department of Political Science, Dalhousie University, or the surrounding community.

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.

The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office in the McCain Building (room 3037) or contact the programs at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803 (leave a message).

University Policies and Programs

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html
- Dalhousie Grading Practices Policy
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html
- Grade Appeal Process https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html
- Sexualized Violence Policy https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/human-rights---equity/sexualized-violence-policy.html
- Scent-Free Program <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Learning and Support Resources

- General Academic Support – Advising https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html
- Student Health & Wellness Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html
- On Track (helps you transition into university, and supports you through your first year at Dalhousie and beyond https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/On-track.html)
- Indigenous Student Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html
- Elders-in-Residence (The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office in the Indigenous Student Centre or contact the program at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803.)
<https://medicine.dal.ca/departments/core-units/global-health/diversity/indigenous-health/elders-in-residence.html>
- Black Student Advising Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html
- International Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html
- South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre <https://southhousehalifax.ca/>
- LGBTQ2SIA+ Collaborative - <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres/education-campaigns/LGBTQ2SIA-collaborative.html>
- Library <http://libraries.dal.ca>
- Copyright Office <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

- Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services <http://dsu.ca/dsas>
- Dalhousie Ombudsperson https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html
- Human Rights and Equity Services <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres.html>
- Writing Centre https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html
- Study Skills/Tutoring: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html
- Faculty or Departmental Advising Support: See <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/arts/programs.html> for links to departmental websites and information about advising

Lecture Schedule

Week 1

September 3–5, 2019

Introduction: International Relations and Networks of Connectivity in a Globalized World

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Introduction: From International Politics to World Politics
 - Chapter 1: Globalization and Global Politics

Week 2

September 10–12, 2019

Imperial Politics and Global Power in the Pre-World War II Era

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 2: The Rise of Modern International Order
 - Chapter 3: International History, 1900-99
- Optional Readings
 - David Armitage, “Introduction,” in *An Expanding World, The European Impact on World History, 1450-1800, Volume 20: Theories of Empire, 1450-1800*, edited by David Armitage (Brookfield, Vermont: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 1998), xv–xxxiii.
 - Heather Streets-Salter and Trevor R. Getz, *Empires and Colonies in the Modern World: A Global Perspective* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016).
 - Introduction
 - Ann Laura Stoler and Frederick Cooper, “Between Metropole and Colony: Rethinking a Research Agenda,” in *Tensions of Empire: Colonial Cultures in a Bourgeois World*, edited by Frederick Cooper and Ann Laura Stoler (Berkeley, California: University of California Press, 1997), 1–37.

Week 3

September 17–19, 2019

The Cold War International System and Beyond, 1945 to the Present

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 4: From the End of the Cold War to a New Global Era?
 - Chapter 5: Rising Powers and the Emerging Global Order

- Optional Readings
 - Pauline Kerr and Geoffrey Wiseman (editors), *Diplomacy in a Globalizing World: Theories and Practices – Second Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).
 - Chapter 1: Diplomacy through the Ages
 - Jim O’Neill, “Building Better Global Economic BRICs,” *GS Global Economics Website*, Global Economics Paper No: 66 (November 30, 2001): 1–16.
 - <https://www.goldmansachs.com/insights/archive/archive-pdfs/build-better-brics.pdf>

Week 4

September 24–26, 2019

Using Theories to Address International Issues (Part I)

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 6: Realism
 - Chapter 7: Liberalism
- Optional Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 8: Marxist Theories of International Relations
 - Deborah Brock, Rebecca Raby, and Mark P. Thomas (editors), *Power and Everyday Practices* (Toronto, Ontario: Nelson Education Limited, 2012).
 - Chapter 2: Thinking About Power: Exploring Theories of Domination and Governance
- **Due: Document Analysis Assignment (September 24, 2019)**

Week 5

October 1–3, 2019

Using Theories to Address International Issues (Part II)

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 9: Social Constructivism
 - Chapter 11: Post-Colonialism
- Optional Readings
 - Ted Hopf, “The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory,” *International Security* 23, no. 1 (1998), 171–200.
 - Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan, “Why is There No Non-Western International Relations Theory? Ten Years On,” *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 17, no. 3 (2017), 341–370.
- **Mid-Term Examination Review (October 3, 2019)**

Week 6**October 8–10, 2019**

Mid-Term Examination

- No assigned readings.

Week 7**October 15–17, 2019**

War and Global Security in World Politics

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 14: War and World Politics
 - Chapter 15: International and Global Security
- Optional Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 16: Global Political Economy

Week 8**October 22–24, 2019**

Gender, Race, and Sexuality: An Intersectional Approach to International Relations

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 17: Gender
 - Chapter 18: Race in World Politics
- Optional Readings
 - Rohit Barot and John Bird, “Racialization: The Genealogy and Critique of a Concept,” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24, no. 4 (2001), 601–618.
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 12: Feminism
 - Elisabeth J. Porter, *Peacebuilding: Women in International Perspective* (New York: Routledge, 2007).
 - Chapter 2: Overcoming the Harm of Polarization
 - Jasbir K. Puar, *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times* (Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 2007).
 - Chapter 1: The Sexuality of Terrorism

Week 9**October 29–31, 2019**

Intergovernmental Actors in International Relations

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 20: International Organizations in World Politics
 - Chapter 21: The United Nations
- Optional Readings
 - J.P. Muldoon Jr., J. Fagot Aviel, R. Reitano, and E. Sullivan (editors), *The New Dynamics of Multilateralism: Diplomacy, International Organizations, and Global Governance* (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 2011).
 - Chapter 2: Systemic Change, International Organizations, and the Evolution of Multilateralism
 - P. Wallensteen and P. Johansson, “The UN Security Council: Decisions and Actions,” in *The UN Security Council in the 21st Century*, edited by Sebastian von Einsiedel, David M. Malone, and Bruno Stagno Ugarte (Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2016).

Week 10**November 5–7, 2019**

Non-State Actors in International Relations

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 22: NGOs in World Politics
 - Chapter 25: Terrorism and Globalization
- Optional Readings
 - J.P. Muldoon Jr., J. Fagot Aviel, R. Reitano, and E. Sullivan (editors), *The New Dynamics of Multilateralism: Diplomacy, International Organizations, and Global Governance* (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 2011).
 - Chapter 5: The Challenge of “Rogue States” for a Troubled International Community
 - William E. DeMars and Dennis Dijkzeul (editors), *The NGO Challenge for International Relations* (New York: Routledge Press, 2015).
 - Chapter 9: NGOs in Peacebuilding: High Expectations, Mixed Results

Week 11**November 12–14, 2019**

Reading Week

- No assigned readings.

Week 12**November 19–21, 2019**

Addressing Equity and Equality: International Relations, Development Issues, and Human Rights

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 29: Poverty, Hunger, and Development Issues
 - Chapter 31: Human Rights
- Optional Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 24: Environmental Issues
 - Chapter 28: Global Trade and Global Finance
 - Chapter 32: Humanitarian Intervention in World Politics

Week 13**November 26–28, 2019**

The Ramifications of Unequal Power Relations: The Rise of Nationalism and Weapons of Mass Destruction

- Required Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 26: Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - Chapter 27: Nationalism, National Self-Determination, and International Relations
- Optional Readings
 - John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens (editors), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations – Seventh Edition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).
 - Chapter 30: Human Security
- **Due: Current Events Assignment (November 26, 2019)**
- **Final Examination Review (November 28, 2019)**