

POLI 2520

Introduction to World Politics

MacMechan Auditorium, Killam Library Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:35–3:55pm

Fall 2016

Instructor: David Morgan

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Office: Henry Hicks building, Rm. 363

Office hours: Thursdays 12:30 – 2:00pm (or by appointment)

TA Office hours: TBA

Course Description

This course is intended to introduce students to the study of world politics. It looks at a number of questions vital to understanding continuity and change in international relations: Why does war occur, and what are the conditions for peace? Will the spread of democracy, free trade, and international institutions facilitate cooperation among states? Is state sovereignty weakening in the face of globalization, expanding human rights norms and transnational activism? What explains the rise of international terrorism, and what does it mean to 'win' the war on terror? Are we progressing towards a more peaceful and stable international order, or will the past tragedies of international politics repeat themselves?

The course is deliberately wide-ranging in focus and will examine various facets of world politics. This includes the major schools of international relations theory, decision-making in foreign policy, international security and intervention, human rights and human security, globalization, terrorism, environmental politics, and the role of international institutions, states, and non-state actors. It will consider historical examples as well as more contemporary issues. The objective of this course is to familiarize students with different theoretical perspectives and debates in the study of international relations, and to help them critically analyze and evaluate academic and policy-based scholarship.

Format

The course will involve two lectures per week, held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will be opportunities for questions and discussion in every lecture. I will attempt to bring in guest speakers whenever possible, to give you the opportunity to learn from a variety of perspectives.

Course requirements

Requirements	Percentage of Grade	Due Date	
Two briefing reports (2 x 5% each)	10%	Due within one week of the event (see below)	
Paper proposal	10%	Oct. 18 th	
Term paper	40%	Dec. 1 st	
Final exam	40%	Exam period	
Total	100%		

Please note: Oct 7th is the last day to withdraw from a Fall term course without a "W", and Nov 14th is the last day to withdraw from a Fall term course with a "W".

(1) Briefing reports (10%)

Over the course of the semester, students must attend <u>two</u> extra-curricular events that are relevant to the study of World Politics. These events must be held outside of class (including your other classes), and could include public talks, seminars, workshops, rallies, film screenings, or other public presentations. If you choose a film screening, it must be a documentary and must be screened in theatres during the fall semester.

For each event, students should prepare a short, two-page (double-spaced) briefing report, which: a) briefly summarizes the event, focusing on the main arguments or views of the speaker(s); b) demonstrates how this event is related to one of topics addressed in this course or world politics in general; and c) reflects on your main observations and impressions of the event. Were you convinced by the speaker's argument? Why or why not? What evidence did they present to develop their argument? Did you agree with any policy recommendations they proposed? Did you have any lingering questions or concerns regarding their presentation?

The purpose of this assignment is to get students involved in events on campus and in Halifax more generally. Dalhousie's Centre for Foreign Policy Studies (http://www.dal.ca/dept/cfps.html) holds seminars every week or two, as do the IDS departments at Dal (http://www.dal.ca/faculty/arts/ids.html) and Saint Mary's (http://www.smu.ca/academics/departments/international-development-studies.html). You may wish to sign up to the Today@Dal digest, or check out their events page at events.dal.ca. Outside of the university, the Halifax Central Library also holds public talks. For great documentaries, be sure to check out the Atlantic Film Festival, which runs from September 15-22. I will announce upcoming events at the start of class. Students are also encouraged to announce any events they are involved with at this time.

Each briefing report will be worth 5%, for a total of 10% of your final mark. A hard copy of your briefing will be due in class within one week of the event.

(2) Paper proposal (10%)

A major objective of this course is to help students research and write a high quality paper. To achieve this goal, all students are required to prepare a proposal for their term paper (see below) and have it reviewed for feedback and approval. Your proposal must be 4 pages long (double-spaced). The first page should introduce your topic and its significance to the study of world politics. This introduction must also include a thesis statement that clearly and concisely states your argument. The second and third pages should outline the structure of the paper and how you intend to organize your main points. This outline must use full paragraphs and sentences – in other words, do <u>not</u> use bullet points. Please reference at least three sources within this outline. The fourth and final page should be a tentative bibliography that includes approximately ten sources that you intend to use in your paper. It is highly recommended that you consult with one of the TAs or myself before submitting your proposal. All proposals will be marked by the TAs. If you wish to change your topic after submitting your proposal, you may only do so in consultation with a TA or myself.

A hard copy of <u>your proposal is due by the end of class on October 18th</u>. Proposals must be 4 pages long, double-spaced and size 12 font, with one inch margins. Your bibliography must use the APA citation style.

(3) Term paper (40%)

For the research paper, students are asked to prepare a case study of a historical or contemporary world event. Using <u>one</u> of the theories we have covered in the course (e.g. realism, liberalism, constructivism, etc.), you must use this theoretical perspective to explain the outcomes of your case. For example, a student interested in humanitarian intervention might ask: "How does a realist perspective explain the international community's failure to intervene in response to the 1994 Rwandan genocide?" If you are interested in environmental politics, you may wish to evaluate the relative success and failure of the Kyoto Protocol by applying a liberal perspective. Whatever topic you choose, try to be as specific as possible when picking your case. A student that focuses on the Kyoto Protocol, for instance, will produce a much stronger paper than someone who addresses environmental politics writ large. A list of possible topics will be handed out in the first few weeks of class. You are welcome to choose another topic, but I recommend that you meet with a TA or myself before doing so.

In developing your paper, you must: a) discuss the merits and limitations of the theoretical perspective you have chosen; b) provide a brief background on your case study; and c) demonstrate why your theory is a useful 'lens' in explaining or understanding your case. The objective of this assignment is to engage with and correctly apply one of the IR theories we have covered. In other words, you should try to demonstrate how your theory helps to explain the outcomes of the selected case study. For this reason, do not simply summarize the history of your topic. The strongest papers will be those that objectively weigh the

strengths and weaknesses of a particular theory, and argue why it provides the most compelling explanation of your case.

Your essay must be 11-12 pages, not including any footnotes or the bibliography at the end. It must be double-spaced, size 12 font, with one inch margins. It should use at least 10 scholarly (i.e. peer-reviewed) sources. Primary sources such as UN or government documents are also permissible. Newspapers, blogs, and online articles may be used, but do not count as scholarly or primary sources. Do not use class lectures, personal websites, or Wikipedia (or any other online encyclopedia). Your bibliography and all in-text citations must use the APA citation style. If you need a refresher on the APA citation style, please see: http://libraries.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/library/Style_Guides/APA_QuickGuide_6th_V2_2015.pdf.

A hard copy of <u>your term paper is due by the end of class on December 1st</u>. All papers will be marked by the TAs.

(4) Final exam (40%)

The final exam will require students to demonstrate their knowledge of different theoretical perspectives and debates on the topic of world politics. You will be expected to critically evaluate an argument or policy, develop your own conclusions, and justify your answer using historical and contemporary examples.

The final exam will be held during the official exam period, which for the Fall 2016 semester is December 8-18. Please do not make any holiday travel plans until the date and time of the exam has been set by the Registrar's Office. There will be no make-up or alternate exam dates.

Required Readings

Students are expected to read and critically reflect on all *required readings*. You do <u>not</u> need to read the *supplementary readings* that are indicated in the syllabus. I will draw from these readings in my lectures and will highlight the core points and arguments. However, you may wish to consult some of the supplementary readings to advance your understanding of certain themes or for your essay topic.

In order to eliminate the high cost of course material, all of the required readings will be accessible <u>online</u>. They can be found either on Brightspace or by using the links listed in the syllabus. Please follow the course schedule to download the correct reading.

Over the course of the semester, I may also reschedule or revise assigned readings, lecture topics, and assignments. Any changes to the course schedule or readings will be announced at least one week in advance.

Course Schedule and Readings

SECTION 1 – THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

September 6 & 8 - Introduction and Core Concepts

Required readings

Jack Snyder. (2004). One World, Rival Theories. Foreign Policy, 145, 53-62.

David Kinsella, Bruce Russett, & Harvey Starr. World Politics: The Menu for Choice. Read Chapter 1 (Levels of Analysis).

http://www.cengagebrain.com.au/content/9781133968122.pdf

September 13 & 15 - War and Peace: Idealism and Realism

Required readings

Political Realism in International Relations: <u>Read Section 1</u> (The roots of the realist tradition) and <u>Section 2</u> (Twentieth Century Classical Realism). <u>http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/realism-intl-relations/</u>

E. H. Carr. (1939). *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939*. Read Chapter 5 (The Realist Critique). http://ias.wustl.edu/files/ias/imce/ia_reading_one_carrs_realist_critique.pdf

Hans J. Morgenthau. (1966). *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. <u>Read Morgenthau's six principles:</u> http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/morg6.htm

Supplementary readings

Norman Angell. (1913). The Great Illusion. Toronto: McClelland & Goodchild.

September 20 & 22 - Anarchy and Institutions: Neorealism and Neoliberalism

Required readings

Political Realism in International Relations: <u>Read Section 3</u> (Neorealism) and <u>Section 4</u> (Conclusion). <u>http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/realism-intl-relations/</u>

Jo Jakobsen. (2013). "Neorealism in International Relations - Kenneth Waltz." A summary of Waltz's Man, the State and War (1959) and Theory of International Politics (1979). http://www.popularsocialscience.com/2013/11/06/neorealism-in-international-relations-kenneth-waltz/

Robert O. Keohane. (1989). "Neoliberal Institutionalism: A Perspective on World Politics." In Robert O. Keohane (Ed.), *International Institutions and State Power* (pp.1-16). London: Westview.

 $\frac{http://media.library.ku.edu.tr/reserve/resfall07_08/intl531_cbakir/internationalinstitu}{tions.pdf}$

Supplementary readings

Kenneth Oye. (1985). Explaining Cooperation under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies. *World Politics*, 38(1), 1-24.

John Mearsheimer. (1994/95). The False Promise of Institutions. *International Security*, 19(3), 5-49.

September 27 & 29 - International Society, Norms, and Order

Required readings

Stanley Hoffman. (1986). Hedley Bull and His Contribution to International Relations. *International Affairs*, 62(2), 179-195.

Alexander Wendt. (1992). Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics. *International Organization*, 46, 391-425.

Richard Price. (2013, September 8). Chemical weapons: How we built a taboo. *Boston Globe*. http://www.bostonglobe.com/ideas/2013/09/08/chemical-weapons-how-built-taboo/4LmSkZpbXgLDpVYpKBOnwJ/story.html

Supplementary readings

Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink. (1998). International Norm Dynamics and Political Change. *International Organization*, 52, 887-917.

Dale C. Copeland. (2000). The Constructivist Challenge to Structural Realism: A Review Essay. *International Security*, 25(2), 187–212.

October 4 & 6 - International Security after the Cold War

Required readings

Francis Fukuyama. (1989). The End of History. *The National Interest* http://www.kropfpolisci.com/exceptionalism.fukuyama.pdf

John J. Mearsheimer. (1990). Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War. *Atlantic Monthly*, 266, 35-50. http://www.theatlantic.com/past/politics/foreign/mearsh.htm

Supplementary readings

Richard Matthew and Mark Zacher, "Liberal International Relations Theory: Common Threads, Divergent Strands," in Charles Kegley (ed.), *Controversies in International Relations Theory* (New York: St. Martin's, 1995), pp. 107-50.

Michael Doyle. (1983). Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs: Parts 1 and 2. *Philosophy & Public Affairs*, 12(3&4), 205-235 and 323-353.

SECTION 2 - THINKING GLOBALLY: ISSUES IN WORLD POLITICS

October 11 & 13 - Politics and the World Economy

Required readings

David Held et al. (1999). Globalization. Global Governance, 5 (4), 483-496.

Bruce R. Scott, "The Great Divide in the Global Village," Foreign Affairs, vol. 80, no. 1 (January/February 2001), pp. 160-177.

Marc Francis & Nick Francis (producers and directors). (2006). *Black Gold*. Fulcrum Productions. https://vimeo.com/ondemand/blackgold.

Supplementary readings

Kari Polanyi Levitt. (2005). Globalization, Development, and Economics: Reflections on the History of Development Thought. *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 26(3), 517-526.

Immanuel Wallerstein. (1974). The rise and future demise of the world capitalist system: Concepts for comparative analysis. *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 16(4), 387-415.

Andre Gunder Frank. (1966). The Development of Underdevelopment. *Monthly Review*, 9, 17-30.

October 18 & 20 - Human Rights and Human Security

Required readings

Jack Donnelly. (2014). State Sovereignty and International Human Rights. *Ethics & International Affairs*, 28(2), 225-238.

Sadako Ogata and Johan Cels. (2003). Human Security - Protecting and Empowering the People. *Global Governance* 9(3), 273-282.

Jennifer M. Welsh. (2010). Implementing the "Responsibility to Protect": Where Expectations Meet Reality. *Ethics & International Affairs*, 24(4), 415–30.

Supplementary readings

The Responsibility To Protect: A Background Briefing. (October 2015). *The Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect*, 1-4. http://www.globalr2p.org/media/files/r2p-backgrounder.pdf

Roland Paris. (2001). Human Security: Paradigm Shift or Hot Air? *International Security*, 26(2), 87-102.

David Chandler. (2004). The responsibility to protect? Imposing the 'Liberal Peace'. *International Peacekeeping*, 11(1), 59-81.

October 25 & 27 - Transnational Networks: Case Study on Ecopolitics

Required readings

Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink. (1999). "Transnational advocacy networks in international and regional politics." UNESCO.

http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic446176.files/Week_7/Keck_and_Sikkink_Transnational_Advocacy.pdf

Nisbet, Matthew C. (2013). "How Bill McKibben changed environmental politics and took on the oil patch." *Policy Options*, 29-41. http://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/arctic-visions/nisbet/

Ezra Levant. (2014). "The fracking solution." *Policy Options*, 35(5), 21-24.

Supplementary readings

Kathryn Harrison and Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom (Eds.). (2010). "Introduction" and "Conclusion". In *Global Commons, Domestic Decisions: The Comparative Politics of Climate Change*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Anders Hayden. (2014). Chapter 2: "Canada: Stuck Between Business-as-Usual and Ecological Modernization," and Chapter 5: "Alberta's Oil/Tar Sands: Time to Step on the Brake?" In When Green Growth is Not Enough: Climate Change, Ecological Modernization, and Sufficiency. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

November 1 & 3 - The Dark Sides of Transnationalism: Case Study on Terrorism

Required readings

Robert Keohane. (2001). The Globalization of Informal Violence, Theories of World Politics, and 'The Liberalism of Fear'. http://essays.ssrc.org/sept11/essays/keohane2.htm

David Kilcullen. (2005). Countering global insurgency. *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 28(4), 597-617.

Audrey Kurth Cronin. (2014). The 'War on Terrorism': What Does it Mean to Win? *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 37(2), 174-197.

Supplementary readings

Robert I. Rotberg, (2003). Failed States, Collapsed States, Weak States: Causes and Indicators. In *State Failure and State Weakness in a Time of Terror*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Phil Williams. (2008). From the New Middle Ages to a New Dark Age: The Decline of the State and U.S. Strategy. Carlisle, PA: Strategic Studies Institute.

Shadi Hamid. (2015, November 23). Is there a method to ISIS's madness? *The Atlantic*. http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/11/isis-rational-actor-paris-attacks/417312/

November 8 & 10

Fall study break - no classes scheduled

November 15 & 17 - Canada's Role in the World

Required readings

Adam Chapnick. (2013). Middle Power No More? Canada in World Affairs Since 2006. *Seton Hall Journal of Diplomacy and International* Relations, 14(2), 101-110.

Don Munton. (2003). Whither internationalism? *International Journal*, 58(2), 155-180.

Trudeau's Foreign Policy: A Year in Review. Reading to be assigned.

Supplementary readings

John W. Holmes. (1984). Most Safely in the Middle. *International Journal*, 39(2), 366-388.

Roland Paris. (2014). Are Canadians Still Liberal Internationalists? Foreign Policy and Public Opinion in the Harper Era. *International Journal*, 69(3), 274-307.

SECTION 3 - THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

November 22 & 24 - Future World Orders

Required readings

John Ikenberry. (2011). The Future of the Liberal World Order: Internationalism After America. *Foreign Affairs*, 90(3), 56-68.

Stephen Walt. (2011). The End of the American Era. The National Interest, 116, 6-16.

Robert Legvold. (2014). Managing the New Cold War. Foreign Affairs, 93(4), 74-84.

Graham T. Allison Jr. (2013, June 6). Obama and Xi Must Think Broadly to Avoid a Classic Trap. *The New York Times*, http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/07/opinion/obama-and-xi-must-think-broadly-to-avoid-a-classic-trap.html

Supplementary readings

Charles A. Kupchan. (2014). The Normative Foundations of Hegemony and The Coming Challenge to Pax Americana. *Security Studies*, 23(2), 219-257.

Robert Kagan. (2014). Superpowers Don't Get to Retire. *New Republic*. https://newrepublic.com/article/117859/superpowers-dont-get-retire

November 29 & December 1 - Future World Orders (cont'd)

Required readings

'Unprecedented' 65 million people displaced by war and persecution in 2015. (2016, June 20). *UN News Centre*.

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54269#.V6t0H5grIhd

Drawbridges up. (2016, July 30). *The Economist*, 420(9000), 16.

http://www.economist.com/news/briefing/21702748-new-divide-rich-countries-not-between-left-and-right-between-open-and

Leon Hadar. (2016, June 30). Nationalism Isn't Replacing Globalism. *The National Interest*. http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-skeptics/nationalism-isnt-replacing-globalism-16792

Supplementary readings

Looking for a home. (2016, May 28). *The Economist*, 419(8991), 3. http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21699307-migrant-crisis-europe-last-year-was-only-one-part-worldwide-problem-rich l

Michael S. Teitelbaum. (2015). The truth about the migrant crisis. *Foreign Affairs*. https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/western-europe/2015-09-14/truth-about-migrant-crisis

Grading

(1) Late penalties

Students must submit hard copies of all assignments. Papers are due in class and are considered late if they are not submitted by the end of the lecture. The penalty for late papers is 5% per day. All late papers must be submitted to the Political Science office (Henry Hicks building, Rm 301) and must be date-stamped by the secretary. They cannot be submitted by email or under my office door.

(2) Grade appeals

Any student wishing to appeal a grade must do so during the instructor's office hours or by appointment. Students must prepare and submit a brief written statement (approximately 200 words) explaining why they feel the assignment / exam was not graded correctly. Appeals must be made within one week from the date that the assignment was returned. After the appeal, grades may be raised, lowered, or unchanged. The revised grade is final and cannot be appealed. Grades will not be discussed over email.

(3) Grading Scale

All course assignments and exams will be graded according to the following scale and definitions¹:

Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage	Definition	
A+ A A-	4.30 4.00 3.70	90-100 85-89 80-84	Excellent	Considerable evidence of original thinking; demonstrated outstanding capacity to analyze and synthesize; outstanding grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
B+ B B-	3.30 3.00 2.70	77-79 73-76 70-72	Good	Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.
C+ C	2.30 2.00	65-69 60-64	Satisfactory	Evidence of some understanding of the subject

C-	1.70	55-59		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
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.
INC	0.00		Incomplete	
W	Neutral and no credit obtained		Withdrew after deadline	
ILL	Neutral and no credit obtained		Compassionate reasons, illness	

 $^{^{1}\,}http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/grade-scale-and-definitions.html$

Other Important Information

(1) Plagiarism and academic integrity

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and abide by Dalhousie's policies on plagiarism and academic integrity. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating are considered serious academic offences which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even the revocation of a degree. Plagiarism can also happen unintentionally, so be sure to take careful notes when gathering sources for your assignments. If you are paraphrasing someone else's idea, be sure to acknowledge the source. When in doubt, please cite!

To review Dalhousie's policy on plagiarism and academic integrity, please visit http://academicintegrity.dal.ca/Policies/. If you have any questions or concerns about your work, please do not hesitate to contact me (or the TAs).

(2) Student accessibility and accommodation

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation.

Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services

Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit www.dal.ca/access for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation form.

A note taker may be required as part of a student's accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 902-494-2836 for more information or send an email to notetaking@dal.ca

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

(3) Use of electronic devices

Laptops, tablets, and other electronic devices may be used during lectures for the purposes of note-taking. Student are asked to turn off their cell phones during lectures, and to refrain from using social media or sites that may be distracting to other students (i.e. listening to music, streaming videos, etc.).

(4) Where to go for help

If you are struggling with your assignments, please do not hesitate to contact me (or one of your TAs). Alternatively, you may wish to take advantage of one of the following resources at Dal:

- Writing Centre a free service to any student who wishes to receive feedback on their writing (http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html)
- **Academic Support** offers help with program advising and academic planning (http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html)
- **The Dalhousie political science library guide** offers writing tools, suggested resources, and citation guides (http://dal.ca.libguides.com/c.php?g=257013)
- **Counselling Services** offers counseling for stress and other challenges that may arise (http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/counselling.html). I also hear there are puppies (http://www.dal.ca/news/2012/12/05/dal-goes-to-the-dogs.html).