

# **POLI 2520: WORLD POLITICS**

(3 Credits)

**Instructor:** Dr. Carlos Pessoa

**Classroom:** Sir James Dunn Building, 117

**Day/time:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 14:35pm

**Office:** Henry Hicks Building, room 352'

**Office Hour:** Tuesday 4:00pm

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## **DESCRIPTION**

Today we are faced with great challenges beyond one's geographical boundary. If after the World War II, global issues were limited to wars, today effects of Globalization, and other global issues such as environment, poverty, human rights and global terrorism, has created shift of politics at the global arena. The main purpose of this course is to give an introduction to these issues and the challenges faced by States. We start the course by looking at three predominant theoretical approaches to International Relations: Realism, Liberalism, Marxism and social constructivism. They set the basic conceptual background to our further discussions in class.

After a discussion on the main theories of World Politics, we then focus on predominant structural forces and issues at the global arena. We look at the nature of global and regional institutions such the UN, and regional groups such the EU, examining challenges they face in contemporary times. From there, we discuss global issues such human rights, environment, global trade and development. Regarding Human rights, we look at the challenge to apply a set of human rights universally and cross culture. We than discuss environment and the quest to create global environmental norms. We finish our course with discussion on global trade and development.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To introduce the main theoretical approaches of International Relations in order to learn how various interpretations can be given to the same global event.
- To introduce and discuss contemporary issues of International Relations from various perspectives.

- To enable students to proceed to further studies in the area of International Relations.

### **TEXTBOOKS**

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), **The Globalization of World Politics: An introduction to international relations**, eighth edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2020. (*Required*)

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Exam I (30%): October 13

Research Paper (40%): November 22

Exam II (30%): TBA

#### *Exam*

There are two examinations, each representing 30% of the total grade. Each exam is based on class lectures and readings up to the last class before the exam date. There will be 30 multiples choices questions.

#### *Research paper*

You are expected to write one eight-pages research paper (typed, double-space and numbered pages) on one of the topics of the course or chosen by you and verified by the professor. The approval of the topic is required for those students creating their own topic, as *irrelevant topics are not accepted and automatically leads to an 'F' for the assignment.*

This assignment requires the proper use of citations throughout the text. A separate essay guide will be circulated in class. *The assignment requires a minimum of four peer-reviewed academic sources, which should not be drawn from the course lectures or textbook.*

The student is responsible to keep an extra copy of his/her paper, in case the professor requests it. *Failure to provide an extra copy of the paper on request will lead to an 'F' as a mark for the assignment.*

*Late Policy:* Extensions of deadlines are granted *only* due to illness, and must be followed by appropriate documents. *Late papers will be penalized 5% per day up to three normal calendar days.* After three days, the assignment automatically receives 0%.

## **ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. 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](http://www.dal.ca/access) for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation – Form A.

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 494-2836 for more information.

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 participate in the class.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT**

All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on academic integrity and plagiarism referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the [academicintegrity.dal.ca](http://academicintegrity.dal.ca) website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even to the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived. At Dalhousie there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course, students should read the Policy on Intellectual Honesty contained in the Calendar or on the Online Dalhousie website. The Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student papers be submitted in both written and computer-readable format, and to submit any paper to be checked electronically for originality. As a student in this class, you are to keep an electronic copy of any paper you submit, and the course instructor may require you to submit that electronic copy on demand.

## **COURSE PROGRAM**

There are readings for each week, as indicated in the 'program' of this syllabus. The compulsory readings, however, are only those firstly listed.

Students are expected to read the material referred for each lecture *prior* to the lecture and to discuss in class, issues raised by the readings, as well as in the lecture.

### **September 6 & 8: Introduction**

We start with a thorough explanation on the expectations of the course and its assignments.

It is important for student to be familiar with Brightspace, in case we have to move to online delivery. With that in mind, we will be meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> online.

### **September 13 & 15: Historical context: From Cold War to Global Era**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 4.

Additional Readings:

M. Cox(2102), 'Power Shifts, Economic Change and the Decline of the West?', *International Relations*, 2012, 26(4), pp.369-383.

J. Snyder(2004), 'One World, Rival Theories', *Foreign Policy*; Nov/Dec, (145), pp.52-62.

### **September 20 & 22: Realism**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 8.

Additional Readings:

S. E. Lobell *et al*(eds)(2009), *Neoclassical Realism, the State, and Foreign Policy*. Cambridge: Cambridge Polity Press.

S.M walt(2002), 'The Enduring Relevance of the Realist Tradition', in I. Katznelson and H.V. Milner(eds), *Political Science: The State of the Discipline*. New York: W.W. Norton.

S. G. Brooks and W. C. Wohlforth(2002), 'American Primacy in Perspective', *Foreign Affairs*, July/August, pp.1-9.

### **September 27 & 29: Liberal-international theory**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 6

Additional Readings:

T. Dunne & T. Flockhart (eds) (2013), *Liberal World Order*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

S. Roberts *et al* (2003), 'Neoliberal Geopolitics', *Antipode*, November, Vol. 35, issue 5, pp. 886- 897.

### **October 4 & 6: Marxism and the International Politics**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 7.

Additional Readings:

Ankie Hoogvelt, *Globalization and the Postcolonial World*, Second Edition (Houndmills: Palgrave, 2001), pp.29-42.

K. Anderson (2010), *Marx at the Margins*. London: University of Chicago Press.

### **October 11: Revision**

### **October 13: EXAMINATION I**

### **October 18 & 20: Social Constructivism**

J. Baylis, S. Smith, P. Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics: An introduction to international relations*, chapter 9.

*Further Readings:*

E. Adler, 'Constructivism', in W. Carlneas *et al* (eds), *Handbook of International Relations* (Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2003).

M. Finnemore and K. Sikkink, 'International Norms and Political Change', in P. Katzenstein *et al* (eds), *Explorations and Controversies in World Politics* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1999).

A.Wendt, *A Social Theory of International Politics* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999)

### **October 25 & 27: International Organizations**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 20

Mark Charlton (ed.), *Crosscurrents: International Relations*, chapter 14

Additional Readings:

D. Hawkins et al, (2006), *Delegation to International Organizations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

M. Mazower(2009), *No Enchanted Palace: The End of Empire and the Ideological Origins of the United Nations*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

**\*\*Video: *Not on Our Watch*\*\***

### **November 1 & 3: Human Rights and Its Universal Application**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 31.

Additional Readings:

Mark Charlton (ed.), *Crosscurrents: International Relations*, chapter 16.

### **November 7-11: Fall Break (No Class)**

### **November 15 & 17: Environmental Issues**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 24

Additional Readings:

Mark Charlton (ed.), *Crosscurrents: International Relations*, chapter 17 & 18.

P. Dauvergne(2012), *Handbook of Global Environmental Politics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

T. Brenton(1994), *The Greening Machiavelli*. London: Earthscan.

### **November 22 & 24: Global Trade and Finance**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 27.

Additional Readings:

Mark Charlton (ed.), *Crosscurrents: International Relations*, chapter 8.

C. Crouch(2011), *The Strange Non-Death of Neoliberalism*.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

A.Narlikar (2005), *The World Trade Organization: A very short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**November 29 & December 1: Poverty and Development**

Required Readings:

John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 26.

Additional Readings:

Mark Charlton (ed.), *Crosscurrents: International Relations*, chapter 9.

P. Baroch(2013), *The Economic Development of the Third World*.

London: Routledge.

J Dreze *et al* (edts)(1995), *The Political Economy of Hunger*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**December 6: Conclusion:** World Politics in times of Pandemic and War (Course Evaluation!)