

POLI 2520: WORLD POLITICS

(3 Credits)

Instructor: Dr. Carlos Pessoa

Course Delivery Format: Asynchronous

Duration: June 1 – 22, 2023

How to contact the instructor:

Email: cr966457@dal.ca

In order to get a faster response from your instructor, you need to include the following in your email: full name, student number and the course number. It is very important that you use the Dalhousie email account.

Besides email, I am available for virtual meetings on anything from the course structure and content, to discuss questions about assignments; from Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm, using Teams or Zoom. It is strongly recommended to download the Team App to have faster access to the instructor.

DESCRIPTION

Today we are faced with great challenges beyond one's geographical boundary. After World War II, global issues were often limited to armed conflicts; today effects of Globalization, and other global issues such as the environment, poverty, human rights and global terrorism, have created a shift of politics in 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 as human rights, the environment, global trade and development. Regarding human rights, we look at the challenge to apply a set of human rights universally and across cultures. We then discuss the 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

Reading Review (25%): June 09

Quiz I (25%): June 12

Reading Review II (25%): June 19

Quiz II (25%): June 22

Quiz

There are two online quizzes, each representing 25% of the total grade. Each assessment is based on class notes only. There will be 25 multiple choice questions.

Reading Review:

You are required to write two reading review of any of the assigned chapter. The length is about 6 pages. It should consist of a summary of the reading and your point of view on the chosen chapter. It is based ONLY on the textbook chapter and your own discussions, and no other outside source.

Connectivity or questions during the exams: *In case there is any issue relating to connectivity or any questions regarding the exam, the student must contact the instructor as soon as possible.* The fastest way to contact the instructor is on Teams.

Alternative Arrangements: If for reasons of work, health or religious reasons, you're not able to carry out assignments as they are set up now, let the instructor know within the first 2 days of the course. We can arrange a paper replacement for any of the assignments. The paper

would be of 6-8 pages, using APA citation style, on any topic relating to this course. That is to say, any of the weekly theme. The approval of the topic by the instructor is required in case you take this path.

Late Policy: Extensions of deadlines will be granted only due to illness, and must be supported by appropriate documents. *Late papers will be penalized 5% per day up to three normal calendar days, after which the assignment will automatically receive an 'F'.*

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 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 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 offense 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

Week I (June 1 – 9): **Cold War, Realism, Liberal-international Theory and Marxism.**

Readings: John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 4, 6, 7 and 8.

Video Note on Week I

Lecture Recording on the Basic Terms. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for the Basic Terms. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on the Cold War. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for the aftermath of the Cold War. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on Realism. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for Realism. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on Liberal-International theory. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for the Liberal-International theory. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on Marxism. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for Marxism. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Reading Review I due June 9

Week II (June 12 – 16): **Social Constructivism, International Organizations, Human Rights and Environmental Issues**

Readings: John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 9, 20, 24 and 31.

Video Note on Week II

June 12: Quiz I

Lecture Recording on Social Constructivism. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for social constructivism. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on International Organizations. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for International Organizations. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on Human Rights. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for Human Rights. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on Environmental Issues. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for environmental issues. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Week III (June 19 – 22): **Global Trade, Poverty and Development**

Readings: John Baylis, Steve Smith & Patricia Owens (ed.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, chapter 26 & 27.

Video Note on Week III

Reading Review II: due June 19

Lecture Recording on Global Trade. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for global trade. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

Lecture Recording on Poverty & Development. This recording lecture discusses the class notes for Poverty and development. The class notes for this lecture recording are the very next item in the module.

June 22: Quiz II

** Please do the Course evaluation (SLEQ)*