

International Politics (385-203-LA)
Winter 2018

Instructor: Mark Paradis, PhD

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Office Hours: M, W: 10:00-10:45 (exclusive), T: 11:00-11:45

Class: Monday: 14:00 to 15:15

Wednesday: 14:30 to 15:45

Course Description:

This Level II course helps the student understand the interesting and complex world of international politics. It explains the foundations of the international system, by using theoretical frameworks to analyze the behaviour of its players and institutions. It helps the student analyze themes such as the end of the North-South relations, ethnic conflicts, armed conflicts, democratic waves, global terrorism, global economic interdependence, the role of the United Nations, humanitarian intervention, environmental decay and the erosion of state sovereignty by new transnational forces.

Evaluation:

End of Week Syntheses (10 x 1%) 10%

On each of 10 designated weeks, students must identify in writing what they judge to be the main points covered during that week's readings, as well as a description of the points they found most confusing. Each synthesis should be 8-10 lines in length.

Research Paper Outline (due March 12) 5%

In a one page document, students must provide an outline of their proposed research paper. Outlines must include: 1) your research topic, 2) your research question, and 3) at least five academic references. All paper topics must be drawn from the course material. If students do not hand in a paper outline, they will receive a 0 on both their paper outline and on the research paper.

Research Paper 25%

The research paper is due on April 25. The paper must be 6-8 pages in length (excluding any cover page and your reference list). Papers must be double-spaced with a 12-point Times New Roman font. Your paper should include the following sections: 1) an introduction that introduces your topic and briefly presents your research question and thesis statement, 2) a literature review that briefly presents the literature on your topic, 3) the development of *your* argument (hypotheses), 4) a presentation of evidence to test your argument, and 5) a brief conclusion.

Tests (3 x 20%)

60%

Each test will cover approximately 5 weeks of material. Questions can be drawn from any of the material covered in class or in the assigned readings. Students will be judged on their understanding of the course concepts and on their ability to apply them to real world issues.

Texts:

The following textbook is required for the course:

Goldstein, J.S., J.C. Pevehouse and S. Whitworth. (2013). *International Relations, (Third Canadian Edition)*. Toronto: Pearson.

New copies are available at the College bookstore. There are other required readings (articles or book chapters) available on the course LÉA webpage. All readings are mandatory. Furthermore, students are strongly encouraged to keep up with current events at the international level.

Schedule:

Week 1

Monday, January 22

Class 1: Introduction

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 1.

Wednesday, January 24

Class 2: Realism

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 2.

Week 2

Monday, January 29

Class 3: Liberalism

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 3 (except section on constructivism).

Wednesday, January 31

Class 4: Cooperation Simulation

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 3 (except section on constructivism).

Assignment: Synthesis 1 due

Week 3

Monday, February 5

Class 5: Constructivism and Critical Approaches

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 3 (section on constructivism), Chapter 4

Wednesday, February 7

Class 6: Foreign Policy

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 5.

Assignment: Synthesis 2 due

Week 4

Monday, February 12

Class 7: Public Opinion

Reading: Holsti, Ole R. 1992. Public Opinion and Foreign Policy. *International Studies Quarterly* 36: 439-466.

Wednesday, February 14

Class 8: Bargaining Simulation

Skim read: Rathbun, Brian C, Joshua D. Kertzer, and Mark Paradis. 2017. Homo Diplomaticus: Mixed-Method Evidence of Variation in Strategic Rationality. *International Organization* 71 (S1): S33-S60.

Assignment: Synthesis 3 due

Week 5

Monday, February 19

Class 9: Militaries and the Use of Force

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 7.

Wednesday, February 21

Class 10: **TEST #1** (covers material from classes 1-9)

Week 6

Monday, February 26:

READING WEEK (NO CLASS)

Wednesday, February 28:

READING WEEK (NO CLASS)

Week 7

Monday, March 5

Class 11: International Conflict

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 6.

Wednesday, March 7

Class 12: Civil Wars

Reading: Collier, Paul. 2003. The Market for Civil War. *Foreign Policy* 136: 38-45.

Assignment: Synthesis 4 due

Week 8

Monday, March 12

Class 13: The Syrian Crisis

Reading: Lawson, F. H. 2014. Syria's mutating civil war and its impact on Turkey, Iraq and Iran. *International Affairs* 90 (6): 1351–1365.

Assignment: **RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE**

Wednesday, March 14

Class 14: The Syrian Crisis

Reading: Berti, B., & Paris, J. 2014. Beyond Sectarianism: Geopolitics, Fragmentation, and the Syrian Civil War. *Strategic Assessment* 16 (4): 21–34.

Assignment: Synthesis 5 due.

Week 9

Monday, March 19

Class 15: International Organizations

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 8.

Wednesday, March 21

Class 16: International Organizations

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 8.

Assignment: Synthesis 6 due.

Week 10

Monday, March 26

Class 17: International Law

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 9.

Wednesday, March 28

Class 18: International Law

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 9.

Assignment: Synthesis 7 due.

Week 11

Monday, April 2

EASTER MONDAY (NO CLASS)

Wednesday, April 4

Class 19: **TEST #2** (covers material from classes 11-18)

Week 12

Monday, April 9

Class 20: Peacekeeping (in-class movie “Shake Hands with the Devil”)

Wednesday, April 11

Class 21: Peacekeeping (in-class movie “Shake Hands with the Devil”)

Week 13

Monday, April 16

Class 22: Terrorism

Reading: Pape, Robert A. 2003. The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism.
American Political Science Review 97 (3): 343-361.

Wednesday, April 18

Class 23: Trade

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 10.
Assignment: Synthesis 8 due.

Week 14

Monday, April 23

Class 24: Money and Business

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 11.

Wednesday, April 25

Class 25: The North-South Gap

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 12.
Assignment: **RESEARCH PAPER**

Week 15

Monday, April 30

Class 26: International Development

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 13.

Wednesday, May 2

Class 27: Tragedy of the Commons simulation

Assignment: Synthesis 9 due (synthesis 9 covers classes 25 and 26).

Week 16

Monday, May 7

Class 28: Environment and Health

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 14.

Wednesday, May 9

Class 29: Biosecurity

Reading: Koblenz, Gregory D. 2010 Biosecurity Reconsidered. *International Security* 34 (4): 2010.

Assignment: Synthesis 10 due.

Week 17

Monday, May 14

Class 30: **TEST #3** (covers material from classes 20-29)

Late Assignment Penalty

Assignments must be handed in on time. Late assignments will be penalized 5% every 24 hours (including weekends). If an assignment is a week late, it will receive an automatic grade of 0.

Cell Phones in Classroom

Cell phones may not be used during class time. They must be stored in your pocket or in your bag.

Cheating and Plagiarism Policy

Cheating and/or plagiarism are serious academic offences. Punishment ranges from receiving the grade of zero for the plagiarized paper or the exam on which the cheating occurred, to a recommendation, in critical cases, that the student be withdrawn from the course. A student who repeatedly commits such offences may be told to leave the institution. An example of plagiarism is the submission of any work that is copied from the Internet or from another student or based on material from a previous semester and submitted as your own. Anti-plagiarism software may be used by teachers to verify students' work.

Students are strongly advised to carefully read the Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism in the College Calendar or the Student Handbook. Offences are kept on file and will be reported to the Office of the Registrar for inclusion in the student's permanent record.

Class Attendance Policy

In accordance with College policy, students are expected to attend all class meetings and to arrive on time. Students are responsible for all course work, even for classes that they miss due to an “excused” or “unexcused” absence. An absence is defined as non-attendance for any reason, whether illness, emergency, or official leave. Unexcused absences, tardiness, and leaving class early are discouraged.

If you are absent more than ten percent (10%) of the total meeting time during the semester with an unexcused absence, you may be assigned a failing grade in the course. This is a 45-hour course; the limit of absences before reaching ten percent is five hours (5) hours. Any absence from class is detrimental to your progress; therefore, an “excused” absence is no less serious than an “unexcused” absence. As such, you are urged not to miss classes without good reason.

Attendance is mandatory at all tests scheduled in your Course Calendar; due dates for assignments must be respected. This rule may be deviated from on the grounds of illness necessitating confinement for 24 hours or more, death in the family, or other extreme emergencies. You will be required to furnish verification of circumstances by a note from the hospital, doctor, nurse, police officer (for an accident report or any other excuse involving the police), or dean, as appropriate, to the Registrar’s Office should this be the case.

For more information about the College’s Attendance Policy, please refer to the Course Calendar.

NOTICE: World Studies Students Only

Each semester, the Champlain World Studies Option provides a programme of Seminars during the Wednesday Activities Bloc. These Seminars are scheduled, whenever possible, every second or third week. Even though these seminars are considered to be on a voluntary basis, students intending to secure a *World Studies Certificate* on graduation are expected to attend a certain minimum of seminars every semester. Details of the World Studies Option requirements will be given in the first meeting with Faculty and Students in the second/third week of classes.