

International Politics

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Discipline for this Course
Political Science (Social Science)

Credits, Course Length, and Hours

- Credits: 2.00
- Hours: The weighting for this course is 3-0-3. This means that the course requires 3 hours per week of lecture time, 0 hour a week of lab time, and an average of 3 hours per week of homework.

Prerequisites

Political Science 385-101-LA

Evaluations

End of Week Syntheses: 10%

Research Paper Outline: 5%

Research Paper: 25%

Tests: 60%

Reading Material

Goldstein, J.S., J.C. Pevenhouse and S. Whitworth. 2013. *International Relations* (3rd Canadian edition). Toronto: Pearson.

About the instructor

- Name: Mark Paradis
- Email: MIO
- Office hours:
 - T 10:00-11:00
 - Th 10:30-11:30
- Office: F-225

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.

REQUIRED READINGS

The following textbook can be purchased online:

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

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.

STUDENT EVALUATION

End of Week Syntheses (10 x 1%; summative) 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 13; summative) 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 (Formative) 25%

The research paper is due on May 1. 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%; summative)

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. *Test #1 will be used for the midterm assessment grade.*

SCHEDULE

Please note: This schedule is subject to change. I will inform you of any changes through email and/or in class.

Week 1

Wednesday, January 23

Introduction

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

Friday, January 25

Realism

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

Week 2

Wednesday, January 30

Liberalism

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

Friday, February 01

Cooperation Simulation

Assignment: Synthesis 1 due

Week 3

Wednesday, February 06

Constructivism and Critical Theory

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

Friday, February 08

Foreign Policy

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

Assignment: Synthesis 2 due

Week 4

Wednesday, February 13

Public Opinion

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

Friday, February 15

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

Wednesday, February 20

Militaries and Use of Force

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

Friday, February 22

Test #1 (covers material up to and including February 20)

Week 6

Wednesday, February 27

International Conflict

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

Friday, March 01

Civil War

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

Assignment: Synthesis 4 due

Week 7

Wednesday, March 06

NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Friday, March 08

NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Week 8

Wednesday, March 13

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**

Friday, March 15

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

Wednesday, March 20

International Organizations

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

Friday, March 22

International Organizations

Assignment: Synthesis 6 due.

Week 10

Wednesday, March 27

International Law

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

Assignment: Synthesis 7 due.

Friday, March 29

NO CLASS (International Studies Association conference)

Week 11

Wednesday, April 03

International Law

Friday, April 05

Test #2

Week 12

Wednesday, April 10

Peacekeeping (in-class movie)

Friday, April 12

Peacekeeping (in-class movie)

Week 13

Wednesday, April 17

Terrorism

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

Assignment: Synthesis 7 due

Friday, April 19

NO CLASS (Good Friday)

Week 14

Wednesday, April 24

Trade

Reading: Goldstein et al. 2013. *International Relations*, Chapter 10.

Friday, April 26

Money and Business

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

Assignment: Synthesis 8 due.

Week 15

Wednesday, May 01

North-South Gap

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

Assignment: **RESEARCH PAPER**

Friday, May 03

International Development

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

Assignment: Synthesis 9 due.

Week 16

Wednesday, May 08

Tragedy of the Commons

Friday, May 10

Environment and Health

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

Assignment: Synthesis 10 due.

Week 17

Tuesday, May 14

Test #3

COURSE POLICIES:

To ensure that you have the best possible chance of succeeding in this course and that you have the best possible learning environment, the following policies are in effect:

Email/MIO ASSIGNMENTS: Assignments sent by email WILL NOT be accepted unless otherwise specified.

LATE assignments: One of the goals of CEGEP is to help you to develop skills in managing deadlines. All assignments are to be handed in on the day assigned at the beginning of class. Late marks will be given to all assignments received after class has begun, unless official documentation is presented to the Registrar's office. Late marks are as follows: 5% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted more than a week late.

CLASSROOM COMPORTMENT guidelines: The classroom is an educational environment. All students will be treated with respect, regarded as equals, and treated fairly without discrimination. On your part, you will be expected to respect your peers' right to learn in the best possible environment and to act as responsible adults. To this end, completing work unrelated to the course, private conversations, talking during lectures, sleeping, and any other disruptive behaviour is not permitted. In particular, the following are prohibited during class time: using cell phones for calling, texting or photography, listening to an iPod or other audio device, using a laptop for purposes other than note-taking or unrelated to the course (laptop users must sit in front row), chatting while teacher or classmates are speaking, passing notes to a classmate(s), doing work/reading material for another course, putting your head down on the desk, sleeping in class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY and EVALUATION: The College has established a comprehensive policy on the evaluation of students, which spells out the criteria on literacy, plagiarism, cheating and attendance. This policy will be applied in the course. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the policy. Key excerpts are printed in the current college calendar. Disciplinary action runs from receiving a zero grade on the work in question to expulsion from the college. Here's a more constructive solution: If you are having trouble with any part of this course, come see me as soon as possible. There are usually more solutions available if we address the problem early. You should retain all copies, rough drafts, notes etc. of all your work so that should you wish to appeal a grade, you will have evidence of your work. Save all of your work on your own data storage device.

ATTENDANCE, PUNCTUALITY AND PARTICIPATION are extremely important. They are an integral part of a positive attitude toward your academic responsibilities. Attendance has a proven positive effect on your success in the course. Students who miss more than 3 classes/meetings are usually unable to successfully pass the course because they have missed too much material. Avoid arriving late to class or leaving early as it distracts your fellow students and it will result in your being marked absent for the day. It is not enough to just hand your work in: you must attend classes and be “mentally” present during classes. Chronic absenteeism will affect your grade. If you miss a class, get the notes from a classmate. You can also see me during my office hours

LITERACY: The proper use of English in all your work is very important and will affect your grade in this course. If I cannot understand what you are trying to say, I cannot give you a grade. In addition to disciplinary content, such written work will also be evaluated for adequate writing style and mechanics. The correction of written English is part of the quality of the teaching offered at Champlain Saint Lambert. One of the goals of this course is for students to use and develop their English-language skills in reading and oral comprehension, speaking and writing. All assignments and papers must be typed, be presented in the correct form, be well-written and organized and be printed using a computer printer unless otherwise specified. Evaluation criteria applied are academic tone, appropriate disciplinary vocabulary, flow and clarity of style, continuity, correct paragraph and sentence structures, grammar, punctuation, spelling and use of adequate in-text and end-text documentation according to Chicago, in-text style. There are language tutors and other services available at the learning center for any Champlain students in need of help in this area. it is your responsibility to get the help you need.

CLEAR GRADING: Every evaluation method will contain clear grading criteria. Numerical grades will be assigned as follows, as per the College policy: 90-100% for work that is of outstanding quality, 80-90% for very good work quality, 70-79% good quality work, 60-69% work that is of satisfactory quality, and 0-59% for work that is of unsatisfactory quality (failure).

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.