

WINTER 2022

385-203-LA

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

Research Paper Outline: 5%
Research Paper: 35%
Tests: 60%

Reading Material

No textbook; all readings available on Lea

About the instructor

- Name: Mark Paradis, PhD
- Email: MIO
- Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-11:00
- Classroom: Online and A-114
- Office hours: Thursday: 12:30-13:30
- Office: Zoom and G-238

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

There is no textbook for this course. All of the readings are available on Lea. The reading load will start a little heavier as we review theories, but will progressively diminish as we get further into the semester. All readings are mandatory. Furthermore, students are encouraged to keep up with current events at the international level.

STUDENT EVALUATION

<i>Research Paper Outline (due March 10; summative)</i>	5%
<i>Research Paper (due April 28; formative)</i>	35%
<i>Tests (3 x 20%; summative)</i>	60%

Assignment Descriptions:

Research Paper Outline (due March 8; summative)

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)

The research paper is due on April 29. 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 (summative)

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.*

Note on class format: The first three weeks of the semester will occur online. These sessions will be a mixture of asynchronous video lectures posted on Lea and synchronous group discussions held on Zoom. After we return to in-person lectures, all lectures will be held in the regular classroom at the scheduled class time.

SCHEDULE

Note: Schedule is subject to change. I will inform you of any changes through email and/or in class.

Legend: **Online (synchronous); Online (asynchronous); Regular Classroom; No Class**

WEEK 1

Tuesday, January 18 – Introduction to the Course and Introduction to International Relations

Thursday, January 20 – Tragedy of the Commons

WEEK 2

Tuesday, January 25 – Realism

- Reading: Mearsheimer, John J. 2007. "Structural Realism." In *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*, 77-94. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Thursday, January 27 – Liberalism

- Reading: Ray, James Lee. 1998. "Does Democracy Cause Peace?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 1: 27-46.

WEEK 3

Tuesday, February 1 – Neoliberal Institutionalism

- Reading: Keohane, Robert O. 1988. "International Institutions: Two Approaches." *International Studies Quarterly* 32 (4): 379-396 (discusses both neoliberal institutionalism and constructivism).

Thursday, February 3 – Constructivism and Critical Theory

- Reading: Freeman, Bianca, D. G. Kim, and David A. Lake. 2022. "Race in International Relations: Beyond the "Norm Against Noticing." *Annual Review of Political Science* 25.
<https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-051820-120746>.

WEEK 4

Tuesday, February 8 – Review of Theories (Discussion)

Thursday, February 10 – Environment and Tragedy of the Commons

- Reading: Hardin, Garrett. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162 (3859): 1243-1248.

WEEK 5

Tuesday, February 15 – Foreign Policy

Thursday, February 17 – Public Opinion

- Reading: Aldrich, John H., Christopher Gelpi, Peter Feaver, Jason Reifler, and Kristin Thompson Shar. 2006. “Foreign Policy and the Electoral Connection.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 9: 477-502.

WEEK 6

Tuesday, February 22 – TEST #1 (Covers material up to and including February 17)

Thursday, February 24 – Militaries and Use of Force

- Reading: “Horowitz, Michael C. 2020. “Do Emerging Military Technologies Matter for International Politics.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 23: 385-400.

WEEK 7

Tuesday, March 1 – Reading Week (NO CLASS)

Thursday, March 3 – Reading Week (NO CLASS)

WEEK 8

Tuesday, March 8 – Power and Uses of Forces

- Reading: Sagan, Scott, Kenneth Waltz, and Richard K. Betts. 2007. “A Nuclear Iran: Promoting Stability or Courting Disaster?” *Journal of International Affairs* 60 (2): 135-150.

Thursday, March 10 – Nuclear Weapons (Class Discussion)

- Assignment: RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE

WEEK 9

Tuesday, March 15 – International Conflict

- Levy, Jack S. 1998. “The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 1: 139-165.

Thursday, March 17 – Civil War

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

WEEK 10

Tuesday, March 22 – International Organizations

- Reading: Barnett, Michael N. 1997. “The UN Security Council, Indifference, and Genocide in Rwanda.” *Cultural Anthropology* 12 (4): 551-578.

Thursday, March 24 – International Organizations (continued)

WEEK 11

Tuesday, March 29 – TEST #2 (Covers material from February 24 up to and including March 24)

Thursday, March 31 – International Law

WEEK 12

Tuesday, April 5 – International Law

Thursday, April 7 – Terrorism

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

WEEK 13

Tuesday, April 12 – **Friday Schedule**

Thursday, April 14 – **Paper Writing Day (No Class)**

WEEK 14

Tuesday, April 19 – Trade

- Reading: Mutz, Diana C. 2021. “How Americans Think about Trade.” *Foreign Affairs*.
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2021-07-30/howamericans-think-about-trade>.

Thursday, April 21 –Terrorism and Terrorism Class Discussion

WEEK 15

Tuesday, April 26 – Money and Business

- Reading: Friedman, Thomas L. 1999. “DOScapital.” *Foreign Policy* 116: 110-116.

Thursday, April 28 – Development

- Reading: Kacowicz, Arie M. 2007. “Globalization, Poverty and the North-South Divide.” *International Studies Review* 9 (4): 565-580.
- Assignment: **RESEARCH PAPER**

WEEK 16

Tuesday, May 3 – Development (continued)

Thursday, May 6 – Health and Biosecurity

- Reading: Koblentz, Gregory D. 2010. “Biosecurity Reconsidered: Calibrating Biological Threats and Responses.” *International Security* 34 (4): 96-132.

WEEK 17

Tuesday, May 10 – TEST #3 (Covers material from March 31 up to and including May 6)

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. Note: Any meetings or discussions on Zoom are to be treated as if taking place in a classroom.

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.