



Department of Political Science
Faculty of Arts

POLI 283-L01
Issues & Trends in World Politics
Fall 2019

Instructor: Dr. Kim-Lee Tuxhorn

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Office: SS742 (Social Science Building)

Office hours: T/TH 12:30-2:00 or by appointment

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Course Day/Time: T/TH 11:00 - 12:15

Course Location: SB 103

Course Prerequisites: No prerequisites.

Course website with additional materials: This syllabus, course slides, and all supplemental reading material can be found on the course's D2L page <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/>.

Teaching Assistant: Raj Lakhan, Office: SS715, Email: neeraj.lakhan1@ucalgary.ca

Teaching Assistant: Robert Clifton, Office: SS703, Email: robert.clifton1@ucalgary.ca

Course Description

This course introduces students to a wide breadth of issues in world politics. Taking this course will prepare you to take advanced and specialized courses in international relations with a better grasp of concepts, theories and enduring research questions. While the course assumes no prior background in the study of international relations, I expect everyone to engage all the course material with enthusiasm and effort.

The course broadly consists of three modules. The first module will cover issues related to war and peace in the international system as well as some basic concepts of world politics. The second module cover trends in globalization including international trade and investment. The last module surveys some of the biggest issues in world politics today and include international development and environmental policy. An exam will be given after module.

Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes

The course has three main goals:

1. to familiarize students with enduring questions and analytical concepts and arguments in the study of international politics. The course will focus on war and peace, economic closure and openness, and broader conflicts and cooperation over human rights and the global environment;
2. to prepare students to think systematically about explaining outcomes in international politics. The course will introduce students to how to think like social scientists, who devise theories and evaluate them against evidence to better understand the world; and
3. to encourage students to consider ethical concerns about international politics in conjunction with but separate from the scientific analysis of international politics.

Required Textbooks

You are required to attend and be an active participant in class. The reading will be essential to doing well in this course. The following textbook will be used throughout the course:

1. Frieden, Lake, Shultz. 2019. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. 4th Edition* W.W. Norton & Company. This book is available at the University Bookstore and is marked [FLS] on the reading schedule.

Course Component Weights and Due Dates

<i>Component</i>	<i>Weighting</i>	<i>Date</i>
Exam 1	30%	10/3
Exam 2	30%	11/7
Final Exam	30%	Registrar Scheduled
Class participation	10%	
Total	100%	

Assignments

The weekly assigned readings should be read in advance of class, and students should be prepared to engage the material on the day that they are assigned.

No make-up exams will be permitted without 1) a documented medical emergency or 2) some advanced notification that you will miss the exam on the scheduled date and the instructor has granted permission.

Three Exams (30% each) There will be three in-class, closed-book exams given during the term. Exam 1 and 2 are non-cumulative and will focus on the specific module preceding the exam. The Final Exam is cumulative and will contain questions covering the entire course. All three exams will focus on the concepts and theories in the required readings and class slides. All exams will follow the same format and include a multiple choice section, a short answer section (two-sentence responses) and a long answer section (10-15 sentences). For exam one and two, students must complete the exam within the 75-minute class period. Students will be given 90 minutes to complete the final exam. Additional details of the exams will be given in class. Since the exams contain a writing component, please be sure to read the writing statement found below.

Top Hat - Attendance and Participation (10%) I expect class-preparation, which means taking notes on/thinking about the readings ahead of time. Discussion of concepts and applications will be an important part of this course, and thus participation counts for a sizable portion of your final grade. To aid discussion in the class, we will be using *Tophat*. I will also use *Tophat* to track participation and attendance. All students are required to download *Tophat* by the end of the first week. For more information on downloading and using *Tophat* please visit the website at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/top-hat/>.

NOTE: Students are responsible for properly registering, using, and logging into their Tophat accounts.

Class Schedule

Reading assignments are to be done *before* the class on the assigned dates.¹

Class Schedule

Week	Date		Assigned Readings	Topic
	Tuesdays	Thursdays		
Week 1		9/5		Introduction
Week 2	9/10	9/12	FLS Ch 1, Ch 2	Basic Concepts and Historical Trends
Week 3	9/17	9/19	FLS Ch 3	Interstate Conflict
Week 4	9/24	9/26	FLS Ch 4	Domestic Politics & Conflict
Week 5	10/1	10/3		Review & Exam 1
Week 6	10/8	10/10	FLS Ch 11	International Law
Week 7	10/15	10/17	FLS Ch 7	International Trade
Week 8	10/22	10/24	FLS Ch 8	International Finance
Week 9	10/29	10/31	FLS Ch 10	International Development
Week 10	11/5	11/7		Review & Exam 2
Week 11	Term Break, no classes			
Week 12	11/19	11/21	FLS Ch 6	Violence by Non-state actors
Week 13	11/26	11/28	FLS Ch 12	Human Rights
Week 14	12/3	12/5	FLS Ch 13	Global Environment

Grading

- The following is the general guidelines on the percentage breakdowns for determining your final letter grade in the course: 100-97 A+, 96-93 A, 92-90 A-, 89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-, 79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-, 69-67 D+, 66-60 D, 59 and lower F. There are no extra credit projects available in the course. Your final grade will be solely based on the assignments/components laid out above.

Writing Statement: Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

¹Reading assignments are to be done *before* the class on the assigned dates. Class schedule and assigned readings may be subject to change.

Important Departmental, Faculty and University Information

Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration:

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioners for Oaths, visit <https://ucalgary.ca/registrar/>).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.

Absence From the Mid-term Examination: Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of the Final Examination: Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrollment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrollment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals: If you think that your assignment has been graded unfairly, we can talk about it during office hours (but not in the classroom during or right after class). However, before we meet in my office to talk about your grade, you must submit in writing an explanation detailing where (e.g. what question) and why you think that you received insufficient credit for your answer. Be forewarned: I will not accept explanations arguing that because you studied really hard for the test, your overall grade was just not high enough. You need to be able to show specific grading errors on my part. If the meeting does not resolve the matter, the student can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

University Regulations: Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Student Accommodations: Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct: Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Copyright Legislation: As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, “students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.” <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP): FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by

instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Policy on Recording Lectures: Except for accommodation purposes, students may not record any portion of a lecture, class discussion or course-related learning activity without the prior and explicit written permission of the course instructor.

Evacuation Assembly Points: In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources: For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising> for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives
Phone: 403-220-6551
Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association
Phone: 403-220-5997
Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca
URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman
Phone: 403-220-6420
Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>
Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>