



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

**POLI 283 Lecture 01**  
**Issues & Trends in World Politics**  
**Winter 2022**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Machacek

**OFFICE:** SS 721

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Virtual office hours using Zoom (D2L) Monday 4:00 – 5:00 or by appointment

**COURSE DAY/TIME:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:00 – 12:50 pm

**DELIVERY METHOD:** In-person

**COURSE LOCATION:** ST 148

**COURSE PRE-REQUISITES:** None

**WEBSITE:** <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of this lecture-based course is to introduce students to the core concepts, theories, issues and trends in World - or '*global*' - Politics. The course provides a general overview of the inter-state system, including the role of non-state actors, the importance of international institutions and its relation to the global economy. It also highlights critical transnational issues – such as conflict, human rights violations and the global pandemic - and the unilateral and multilateral responses taken by state and non-state actors.

The course will begin with an introduction to fundamental concepts and theories used to make sense of the complex world of World Politics. The second part of the course outlines the inter-state system, detailing the roles of states, non-state actors and international organizations and the institutions of international law and the global economy. The remainder of the course will critically engage in prominent issues and trends in the study and practice of World Politics, including violent conflict and insecurities, human rights, climate change and the global Covid-19 pandemic.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The objectives of this course are to:

- Introduce students to the core concepts, theories, issues and trends in the study of World Politics;
- Develop a general knowledgebase of the primary actors, institutions and processes involved in world politics and global governance;
- Facilitate theoretically-informed discussions and analysis of pressing issues in today's

- globalized world;
- Strengthen skills in analysis, research and academic writing

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Engage in informed discussions on real-world issues occurring at the international level;
- Understand the complexity of global politics and critically analyse current events;
- Apply various theoretical perspectives to global issues;
- Conduct effective research and writing

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)**

Boyer, Mark, Butler, Michael & Hudson, Natalie (2019) *Global Politics: Applying Theory to a Complex World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Hard copies of the textbook are available and the University of Calgary Bookstore. E-text versions can be purchased using this link: <https://redshelf.com/app/ecom/book/1317198/global-politics-1317198-9780190655587-mark-a-boyer-natalie-f-hudson-michael-j-butler>

**COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES**

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
<b>Mid-Term Exam I</b>	25%	February 11 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Research Paper</b>	25%	March 11 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Mid-Term Exam II</b>	25%	March 18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Final Exam</b>	25%	Scheduled by the Registrar (April 19 – 29)
Total	100%	

*If a student misses a required course component, please get in touch the instructor as soon as possible.*

**COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS**

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
<b>INTRODUCING WORLD POLITICS: CONCEPTS &amp; THEORIES</b>		
<b>Week 1</b> Jan. 10, 12, 14	<b>Introducing World Politics</b> -Introduction to the course, overview of the syllabus and an introduction to the basic concepts used for understanding world politics	Required: -Textbook Chapters 1 & 3
<b>Week 2</b> Jan. 17, 19, 21	<b>Theories of World Politics I</b> -Introducing and discussing the main theories used to	Required: -Textbook Chapter 2, pages 22-36, 40-44

	make sense of world politics: realism, liberalism and constructivism	
<b>Week 3</b> Jan. 24, 26	<b>Theories of World Politics II</b> -Introducing and discussing critical theories of world politics	Required: -Textbook Chapter 2, pages 36-40, 44-48
Jan. 28	<b>Paper Assignment Prep</b>	
<b>'GLOBAL' POLITICS: THE INTER-STATE SYSTEM</b>		
<b>Week 4</b> Jan. 31, Feb. 2, 4	<b>Globalization &amp; the State in World Politics</b> -Considering the past, present and future of the state and inter-state system	Required: -Textbook Chapters 4 & 5
<b>Week 5</b> Feb. 7, 9	<b>International Organizations</b> -Discussing the role of intergovernmental organizations in world politics, including the United Nations	Required: -Textbook Chapter 6
11	<b>Mid-Term Exam I</b>	
<b>Week 6</b> Feb. 14, 16, 18	<b>International Law</b> -Overviewing the content and limitations of international law	Required: -Textbook Chapter 9
<b>Week 7</b> Feb. 20-26	<b>READING WEEK</b> <b>No class</b>	
<b>Week 8</b> Feb. 28 Mar. 2, 4	<b>The Global Political Economy</b> -Interrogating the relationship between the economics and political power	Required: -Textbook Chapters 11 & 12
<b>ISSUES IN WORLD POLITICS</b>		
<b>Week 9</b> Mar. 7, 9, 11	<b>Conflict</b> -Discussing the changing nature of armed conflict	Required -Textbook Chapters 7
Mar. 11	<b>Paper Assignment Due</b>	
<b>Week 10</b> Mar. 14, 16	<b>(In)Security</b> -Identifying state responses to international security threats	Required -Textbook Chapter 8

Mar. 18	<b>Mid-Term Exam II</b>	
<b>Week 11</b> Mar. 21, 23, 25	<b>Human Rights</b> -Introducing the international human rights system	Required -Textbook Chapter 12
<b>Week 12</b> Mar. 28, 30 Apr. 1	<b>Climate Change &amp; Environmental Protection</b> -Identifying state responses to climate change and environmental sustainability	Required -Textbook Chapter 13
<b>Week 13</b> Apr. 4, 6, 8	<b>Global Health Governance</b> -Considering the present and future of global health governance in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic	Required -Gostin et al (2020) Reimagining Global Health Governance in the Age of COVID-19. <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> , 110(11): 1615-1619 [online TFDL]
<b>Week 14</b> Apr. 11	<b>Course Review &amp; Final Exam Prep</b>	-No required readings

*Please note that the above schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.*

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION I** (25%)

This timed assessment will be available on D2L at the beginning of class on **Friday February 11th** and will be available for 24 hours. When you access the assessment, you will have the length of the class (50 minutes) to complete and submit it. This assessment will consist of **multiple-choice questions**. If you experience an issue that affects your ability to complete the assessment, which can include (but is not limited to) issues with technology, caregiving responsibilities, or distractions within your test-taking environment, you will need to contact your instructor as soon as possible to arrange an alternate or (in the case of technical issues) extended time to write the assessment

Further information regarding the content of the mid-term will be provided in class on **Friday February 4<sup>th</sup>**.

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION II** (25%)

The second **multiple-choice exam** will be cumulative, consisting of all the reading and lecture material covered up to the exam period. Students will have the full 50 mins of class on **Friday March 18<sup>th</sup>** to complete the exam. The exam will be closed book, with no study aids or notes permitted during the exam. Further information for the mid-term will be provided in class on **Friday March 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT** (25%)

Students are expected to conduct research and write a **6-7 page paper** (double-spaced, 12-point font) on an issue in world politics (i.e. terrorism, the Covid-19 pandemic, weapons of mass

destruction) that identifies both unilateral and multilateral state responses to the issue. The paper must also include a consideration of the issue from one of the theoretical perspective discussed in class. Students should consult with the instructor regarding their issue of choice by February 18<sup>th</sup> (not mandatory, but strongly recommended for the student's benefit).

Students are expected to collect relevant information for their paper through research of at least 10 sources (i.e. academic journals, books, reports, news articles). At least 5 of these sources must be academic journals or books/chapters. Papers are to be submitted in the D2L Dropbox (Word document) no later than **11:59 on Friday March 11<sup>th</sup>**.

The paper will be graded according to the student's demonstrated research, understanding of the chosen issue and proper application of a theoretical perspective. The paper will also be graded according to the student's writing proficiency, the paper's organization and proper citation.

Further information for the paper will be provided in class by **Friday January 28<sup>th</sup>**.

### **FINAL EXAMINATION** (25%)

The cumulative final examination will be 2 hours long and will be scheduled by the Registrar. It will consist of **4-5 short answer questions**. All the material covered in the required readings and lectures throughout the course is eligible to be on the exam. Further information for the final exam will be provided in class on Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **WRITING STATEMENT**

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, 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 by contacting them at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

**GRADING SCALE:** The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

### **LATE PENALTIES**

For the written assignment, late submissions will receive a grade penalty of 5% for each day they are late. The 5% per day penalty will also be applied to weekend days.

### **INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES**

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of

answering student questions. If you cannot make office hours, please request a one on one meeting outside of these hours.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND 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](http://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 [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://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>

### **Absence From a 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 a 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 Enrolment 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 Enrolment Services website at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### **Reappraisals**

The University Calendar states that for reappraisals of graded term work:

“A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work reappraised as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor **within ten business days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall take the matter to the head of the department offering the course **within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor**, who will arrange for a reappraisal of the work **within the next ten business days**. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

The University Calendar states that for reappraisal of academic assessments (final grades):

“A student may request a reappraisal of a final grade. The only element that will be considered is the final assessment(s) that makes up the final mark (e.g., final examination, final project, and final paper). The exception is when a grade for a piece of graded term work is made available to students after the last day of classes for the term in which the course is scheduled; that grade may also be considered in a reappraisal of the final grade.”

“A student seeking a reappraisal of a final grade should first attempt to review the final assessment with the department or faculty offering the course. After which the student shall obtain a Reappraisal of Final Grade form from [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar) (under Student Forms). The student must indicate exactly what error was made in marking the final assessment and/or in computing the final grade. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” More information is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **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](http://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/](http://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 <http://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.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

## **Required Access to Technology**

Please see the University's resource page at

[https://ucalgary.service-ow.com/it?id=kb\\_article&sys\\_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afb2e144b031](https://ucalgary.service-ow.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afb2e144b031)

## **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>

## **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

## **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.

## **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](http://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](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](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 Tower, MT 116..

### **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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)  
Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)  
URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

### **Campus Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

*Student Wellness Services:*  
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website:* <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.