

POLI 283 (L01) Issues and Trends in World Politics**Pre/Co-Requisites:** None**Instructor:** Chris W. J. Roberts**Lecture Location:** SB 103**Phone:** (403) 870-9241**Lecture Days/Time:** M-W-F 12:00-12:50pm**Email:** christopher.roberts@ucalgary.ca**Profile:** <https://profiles.ucalgary.ca/chris-w-j-roberts>**Office:** SS 702**Office Hours:** Mon 3-4pm / Thur 1200-1pm or by appt.**Instructor Email Policy:**

Please ensure to always put Poli 283 in the subject line or your email will not be answered. If you have not received a reply within 24 hours, please resend.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How do we start to make sense of the complexity of world politics?

On one hand, globalization seems to have reduced the relevance of the nation-state while improving the prospects for humanity: the proportion of extreme poor across the planet is lower than ever and, through transportation and communication technologies, nearly everyone can be in contact with everyone else. On the other hand, we face acute global challenges including armed conflict, economic uncertainty, climate change and environmental degradation, nuclear and other WMD proliferation, terrorism, massive refugee flows, pandemic disease, cyber vulnerabilities and autonomous weapon systems. And, rather than coming together, it seems as if countries and societies are increasingly decoupling or pulling apart, cloistering around revived nationalisms or more virulent xenophobia (i.e., fear of outsiders).

These global tensions between cooperation and fragmentation are hardly unique to our era, and yet our era faces some unique challenges. This course is designed to help you better understand the historical structures, continuities, and changes that have produced and continue to shape contemporary world politics, and then to delve more deeply into some of the key issues, actors, and trends that will influence our world in the coming months and years. Along the way, you'll firm-up your global history and political geography as well as conceptual and analytical tools to help you make sense of this complexity, either as an end in itself or in preparation for more advanced courses in international relations and the social sciences.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES***Course Objectives:***

- To introduce students to the historical foundations and forces that produced our contemporary world of states, including the major tensions that drive world politics (power versus justice, empire versus self-determination, human rights versus national sovereignty, free trade versus mercantilism, etc.)
- To cultivate comprehensive understanding about the major issues and trends driving world

politics in the 20th and 21st Centuries, and in particular our current decade

- To develop analytical and critical skills geared towards the social scientific and humanistic study of world politics

Learning Outcomes: *Students will develop the knowledge and/or skills to ...*

- differentiate and identify the broad contours of global political geography and its historical evolution
- differentiate and identify the main actors within contemporary global politics (from states and international organizations to transnational corporations, NGOs, and criminal networks)
- identify, understand, distinguish, apply, and critique different key concepts, theoretical perspectives, and dominant narratives that attempt to explain and analyze various aspects of world politics
- develop critical reading, thinking, research, and analytical skills to apply towards the complexities of contemporary global politics and its major substantive issues and trends

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Mark Boyer, Micheal Butler, and Natalie Hudson (2019), *Global Politics: Applying Theory to a Complex World* (New York: Oxford University Press). Available via the UCalgary Bookstore and other sources in both hard copy and digital versions. Used copies may also be available.

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Participation via TopHat	10%	Throughout
Global Complexity Short Paper (GCSP)	20%	Various deadlines
Mid-Term 1	20%	Friday, Feb. 3 rd
Mid-term 2	20%	Monday, March 20 th
Registrar Scheduled Final Exam (Two hours)	30%	TBA (between Apr 15-26)
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
Week 1 Jan 9-13	Course Introduction Syllabus, Assignments, Expectations D2L & TopHat usage Theme: How can we make (sometimes overwhelming) global complexity intelligible, and why should we?	Chapter 1 “Global Politics Matters”
You should start using the World Map learning tool at http://lizardpoint.com/geography/world-countries-magnifier-quiz.php?qid=1806 to learn and test your knowledge of global political geography.		
Week 2	Theme: How did we get here, that is,	Chapter 4 “Nations and States:

Jan 16-20	what are the historical foundations of contemporary international society)?	Past, Present, and Future"
Week 3 Jan 23-27	Theme: Are we coming together (cooperation, integration, globalization) and/or falling apart (rivalry, fragmentation, disintegration)?	Chapter 5 "Globalization and Transnationalism: Forces of Integration and Disintegration"
Week 4 Jan 30 – Feb 3	Theme: Filling in the blanks of post-Second World War 20 th and 21 st Century history (from the Cold War to Covid19) Friday, Feb. 3 rd – Mid-Term 1	CFR, "Essential Events Since 1945": https://world101.cfr.org/historical-context/global-era/essential-events-1945
Week 5 Feb 6-10	Mon, Feb. 6 th : GCSP guidelines, topics, and variable deadlines Thinking analytically and theoretically about global politics	Chapters 2 & 3
Week 6 Feb 13-17	Thinking analytically and theoretically about global politics (con't)	Chapters 2 & 3 (con't)
Week 7 Feb 20-24	READING BREAK (No classes)	
Week 8 Feb 27 – Mar 3	War, Terrorism, & Security	Chapters 7-8
Week 9 Mar 6-10	War, Terrorism, & Security (con't)	Chapters 7-8 (con't)
Week 10 Mar 13-17	Global Governance (not government)	Chapter 6 "International Organization: The Evolving Quest for Global Governance"
Week 11 Mar 20-24	Monday, March 20 th – Mid-Term 2 Law, Justice, and Human Rights in Global Politics	Chapters 9 & 12
Week 12 Mar 27-31	Law, Justice, and Human Rights in Global Politics (con't) GPE 1: Global Political Ecology	Chapters 9 & 12 (con't) Chapter 13 & Alice Hill, "COP27 Didn't Make Enough Progress to Prevent Climate Catastrophe," CFR (21 Nov 2022): https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/cop27-didnt-make-enough-progress-prevent-climate-catastrophe
Week 13 Apr 3 & 5	GPE 2: Global Institutions GPE 3: Global Equity	Chapter 11 Chapter 12

	Apr 7th: Good Friday (No Class)	
Week 14 Apr 12	Apr 10th: Easter Monday (No Class) Wed, Apr. 12th: Last Class / Final Exam Review	
Final Exam (Between April 15-26)	Registrar Scheduled Final Exam (2 hours) Date & Time TBA	

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

PARTICIPATION: TOPHAT (10%)

TopHat is an online response application available for free for all University of Calgary students. Using a laptop, desktop, tablet, or smart phone, students can answer questions in real-time in class or as homework outside of class. Some questions generate participation points only (e.g., surveys), while most questions also generate points for correct answers. There will be some use of TopHat in class plus some homework questions to be done as you read and review chapters and lecture notes outside of class. If by the end of the term your TopHat average is 92% or greater, you will receive 10/10 weighted points. This takes into account technical glitches and the occasional missed question. If you miss any questions there is no opportunity to go back and do them, so please do not send an email to reopen questions once they are in "review" mode.

GLOBAL COMPLEXITY SHORT PAPER (GCSP) (20%)

Each student will write one short, formal paper, using a proper citation format, following guidelines and topics provided in the class after the first mid-term. This will be a maximum of four double-spaced pages, excluding title page and reference list. Topics will be released on a rolling basis and will be due three weeks later, uploaded on D2L Dropbox. You can choose which topic interests you or what fits best in your schedule. There is a 5%/day penalty after each respective deadline, but no extensions. You can complete and submit as many papers as you want and only the highest grade will be counted, but you only have to submit one GCSP.

Rubric for GCSP:

Research:	5 – Good mix of primary and secondary sources, properly cited & referenced
Execution:	4 – Covers style, spelling, grammar, punctuation, & attn to detail (proofread!)
Structure:	3 – Title page with great title; complete introduction and logical structure
Thinking:	8 – How well have you answered/investigated your chosen global puzzle?

20% of final grade

MID-TERM EXAMINATIONS (20% x 2 = 40%)

There will be two 50 minute mid-terms. These will be in-class, closed-book exams written on Friday, Feb. 3rd and Monday, March 20th. They will comprise a mix of multiple choice, true-false, map, and matching questions worth approx. 40-50 points, within the 50 minute time limit. Answers will be completed on Scantron sheets and computer scored.

FINAL EXAMINATION (30%)

The Registrar-scheduled, two-hour, closed-book final exam will be cumulative for the course but heavily weighted to the readings and topics after the second mid-term. This will be a mix of multiple choice, true-false, map, and matching questions, completed on Scantron sheets and computer scored. The exam will be worth approx. 90 points and weighted to 30% of the course.

Final Exam	Yes
Format	Registrar scheduled between April 15-26
Modality	Registrar scheduled exam in-person
Type	Multiple choice, true-false, matching (computer scored)
Duration	120 minutes
Aids	Closed book

Note: Students must submit at least one GCSP, take at least one mid-term, and sit the final exam to be eligible to pass the course. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to use a second GCSP as a substitution for one of the mid-term or final exam grades. Only the highest GCSP grade will be counted.

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

There is a 5% per day (0.5 points/day) penalty after each respective deadline for the Global Complexity Short Paper (PDSP), but no extensions without penalty.

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Poli 283 requires reading, research, and map study outside the classroom. Students are advised that they will be examined on all lectures as well as on all required reading from the textbook and any additional required reading that the instructor has assigned for the course. Because lectures do not repeat the required readings verbatim and because students will be examined on whatever is discussed in class, students are advised that regular attendance in class is highly recommended.

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. Given the volume of emails received from various courses, **always put POLI 283 in the subject line or your email will not be answered.** If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, please resend. It is

imperative that students regularly check their UCalgary email accounts and D2L for course related information and announcements.

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. At times, students will be asked to close down their technology in class. Recording of lectures is permitted for accommodation purposes and should be discussed in the first week of class with the instructor. Both the student and the instructor must sign the appropriate form(s) to facilitate recording lectures. Any other use of recording constitutes Academic Misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

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.

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at: https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

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>.

Reappraisal of Grades:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing

academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

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.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Academic 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. 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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

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) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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.

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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

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

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Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: 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/>.