

MA IR COLLOQUIUM
POLSCI 775
Term 3, Fall / Winter 2018-2019

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Seminar: Wednesdays, 11:30-2:20pm
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Course Description

The MA IR Colloquium is a required part of the MA in International Relations degree program. Its principal aim is to give students an opportunity for collegium-building both among one another and with the International Relations faculty. It provides a somewhat less formal setting in which to interact with faculty members. Structured as a series of seminars, the format will be open discussion following informal presentations by faculty members on their research. Other sessions will include career advice from a former graduate as well as several dedicated to addressing preparation of the MRP as well as other matters likely to confront students as they complete the program.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- [first course objective here]

Required Materials and Texts

- n/a

Class Format

Structured as a series of seminars, the format will be open discussion following informal presentations by each week's presenter(s).

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Assignments
2. Attendance
3. Participation

Course Evaluation – Details

Assignment #1: 1-2 page critique, due March 13th

There are some specific assignments.

Assignment #2: MRP outline presentation, due March 27th

Attendance, mandatory

Attendance is mandatory.

Participation, ongoing

Students will be evaluated according to their participation in the Colloquium.

Note: This is a draft schedule. While the dates will likely remain the same, the precise content will change as the schedule is still being finalized.

Course Schedule, Fall 2018

Week 1 (Sep 12) The Program & Course Selection

Course enrollment worksheets are due September 12th

Week 2 (Sep 26) Research Library Orientation

Topic: Overview and Resources

Olga Perkovic, Research and Advanced Studies Librarian
Mills Library, Wong e-Classroom, L107

<https://library.mcmaster.ca/spaces/mills>

Week 3 (Oct 17) Faculty Round Table I

Topic: Global Politics

Marshall Beier - Subjects, Resilience, and Responsibility
Lana Wylie - Foreign Policy and IR
Peter Nyers - IR and Citizenship

Week 4 (Oct 31) Faculty Round Table II

Topic: Global Political Economy

Stephen McBride - Austerity and Crisis of Globalization
Robert O'Brien - Social Movements and Global Governance
Tony Porter - New Forms of Non-State Governance

Week 5 (Nov 14) Faculty Round Table III

Topic: IR and Political Science

Michelle Dion - Comparative Politics
Inder Marwah - Political Theory
Peter Graefe - Canadian Politics / Public Policy

Week 6 (Nov 28) MRP Preparation

Topic: Q & A

We will review the MRP process and initial questions.

Course Schedule, Winter 2019

Week 7 (Jan 9) MRP Initial Topics

Topic: Open Discussion

This will be an open discussion about possible topics

Week 8 (Jan 23) Research Ethics

Topic: What are they? - Greg Flynn

This session will be hosted by Professor Greg Flynn who sits on the McMaster Research Ethics Board. He will talk about the importance and content of research ethics.

Week 9 (Feb 6) Community Engaged Research

Topic: Insight on Community Engagement

This session you will be introduced to Dave Heidebrecht, the Director of the Office of Community Engagement and will provide insight on opportunities to conduct research on local community based research projects.

Week 10 (Feb 27) Preparing for Life after the MA

Topic: Employment Strategies - Henry Jacek

This session will be hosted by Professor Henry Jacek. Dr. Jacek has a long history of dealing with employers and will provide advice on employment strategies and possibilities.

Week 11 (Mar 13) Graduate Student Conference

Topic: Mapping the Global Dimensions of Policy 8, March 8-9, 2019

Students will discuss their views of the panels they attended at the Graduate Conference. Students will also attend a session of their choice of the Graduate Students Conference and write a 1-2 page critique of the session. These will be discussed in class.

Week 12 (Mar 27) MRP Outline Presentation

Students will present brief outlines of their MRP topic / research question / research plan.

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

Any written assignments will be submitted in hard copy on the assigned due date.

Grades

The grade for the Colloquium is assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due on the date indicated. If you are unable to do so please contact the instructor.

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

Regular attendance is expected of all graduate students. Please contact the instructor in advance (or as soon as possible) via email if you are going to be absent.

University Policies

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail

sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Course Modification

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.