

POL SCI 1AB3: POLITICS AND POWER IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD

Summer 2020

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Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30
PM – 9:30 PM

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Course Description

This course introduces students to the study of global politics and international relations. It will explore the global structures, actors and power relations that give shape to the international politics. We will examine theories that try to explain the dominant patterns in international relations, principles that animate long-established and emerging actors with a sense of political direction, as well as the issues and challenges that citizens and political actors face in our globalizing world politics. Among the topics we will study are the most pressing international challenges of our time: terrorism, human rights violations, global poverty, migrant crises, the perils of authoritarianism, and the adequacy of existing international frameworks in dealing with these challenges, as well as the ethical debates surrounding them.

Required Materials and Texts

All required readings will be available electronically through Avenue-to-Learn. Please note that students are expected to read the readings from the online reading list on Avenue-to-Learn. In the event of any conflict between the course outline and the reading list on the Avenue-to-Learn, the latter shall prevail.

Class Format

This course will include online (pre-recorded) lectures and discussion boards. Students are expected to participate actively in the discussion boards. The instructor's role is to lead discussions, to pose questions, to evaluate the strengths of the arguments and to provide additional information and guidance when required.

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. First discussion board – due on July 2 at 11:59 pm – 10%
2. First Quiz – due on July 7 at 11:59 pm – 15%
3. Second discussion board – due on July 14 at 11:59 pm – 10%
4. Second Quiz – due on July 21 at 11:59 pm – 15%
5. Third Quiz – due on August 4 at 11:59 pm – 15%
6. Policy Memo – due on August 7 at 11:59 pm – 35%

Course Evaluation – Details

First discussion board (10%)

I will moderate this online discussion board on A2L. For this discussion board, you will have to write one original post (a response to my post) and respond to two of your peer's posts. All three of these responses (one original post and two peer responses) should engage with the course material. Make sure to submit your original within the

first three days of the discussion board's going online to allow the class more time to engage with your post.

First Quiz (15%)

Will take place on A2L. You will have 24 hours to complete the quiz. The deadline is 11:59 pm on July 21. Will include multiple choice and short answer questions on the material from the first four classes.

Second discussion board (10%)

Identical in format and requirements to the first discussion board. You have to submit your three posts by 11:59 pm on July 14.

Second Quiz (15%)

Will take place on A2L. You will have 24 hours to complete the quiz. The deadline is 11:59 pm on July 7. Will include multiple choice and short answer questions on the material from the classes 5 through 8.

Third Quiz (15%)

Will take place on A2L. You will have 24 hours to complete the quiz. The deadline is 11:59 pm on August 4. Will include multiple choice and short answer questions on the material from the classes 9 through 12.

Policy Memo (35%)

I will introduce the Policy Memo assignment by class #4. The writing assignment will be marked on the (1) quality of analysis, exposition, and argument, (2) clarity and quality of writing, and (3) proper use of referencing and citation to document your work. The instructor requires the use of the Chicago System of In-text Citations and References (16th Edition). A web-link to the full and quick guides for the Chicago style will be made available through the course page on the learning portal at the beginning of the term. For other writing-related advice please refer to the instructor's writing hand-out that will be posted on the learning portal.

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Class 1 (June 23)

Topic: Introduction to the course

Readings:

- (1) Tilly, Charles. 1985. "War and State-Building as Organized Crime."
- (2) Scholte, "Defining Globalization."

Class 2 (June 25)

Topic: Realism and Liberalism

Readings:

- (1) Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand, Stephanie Lawson, and David B. MacDonald. *Introduction to Politics*. 2nd Canadian Edition. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2017. Chapter 15.
- (2) Walt, Stephen M., "International Relations: One World, Many Theories."

Class 3 (June 30)

Topic: Critical Theories: Marxism, Post-Colonialism, and Feminism

Readings:

- (1) Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand, Stephanie Lawson, and David B. MacDonald. *Introduction to Politics*. 2nd Canadian Edition. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2017. Chapter 16.

Class 4 (July 2)

Topic: Institutions – United Nations and International Organizations

Readings:

- (1) Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand, Stephanie Lawson, and David B. MacDonald. *Introduction to Politics*. 2nd Canadian Edition. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2017. Chapter 19.

Class 5 (July 7)

Topic: Unipolarity, Bipolarity, and Multipolarity

Readings:

- (1) Brooks et al., "Don't Come Home, America: The Case against Retrenchment."
- (2) Robert Pape, "Soft Balancing against the United States."

Class 6 (July 9)

Topic: War and Armed Resistance

Readings:

- (1) Pevenhouse and Goldstein, *International Relations*, Chapters 5 and 6.
- (2) Fearon and Laitin, "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War."

Class 7 (July 14)

Topic: Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention

Readings:

- (1) *The Globalization of World Politics*, Chapters 31 and 32.

Class 8 (July 16)

Topic: Security (Terrorism and WMDs)

Readings:

- (1) *The Globalization of World Politics*, Chapters 25 and 26.

Classes 9 and 10 (July 21 & July 23)

Topic: Democracy vs. Authoritarianism

Readings:

- (1) Sen, "Democracy as a Universal Value."
- (2) Larry Diamond, "Toward Democratic Consolidation."
- (3) Larry Diamond, "Thinking About Hybrid Regimes."
- (4) Larry Diamond, "Democracy in Decline."
- (5) Fukuyama, "The End of History?"

Class 11 (July 28)

Topic: Global Justice vs. Human Security

Readings:

- (1) *The Globalization of World Politics*, Chapters 29 and 30.
- (2) Fraser, Nancy. 2009. "Reframing Justice in a Globalizing World."

Class 12 (July 30)

Topic: The Politics of Welfare in the United Kingdom

Readings:

- (1) Joseph Carens, "Aliens and Citizens: The Case for Open Borders"
- (2) David Miller, "Immigration: The Case for Limits"

Class 13 (August 4)

Notes: No readings for this week. The final quiz will take place.

Course Policies

Submission of Assignments

All assignments except the weekly reading responses are due electronically via the assignment submission folders on Avenue-to-Learn.

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

Late assignments will be subject to a **late penalty** of 2% per day (including weekends) of the total marks for the assignment. Assignments handed in AFTER the work has been returned to the class cannot be marked for credit. Accommodations due to late registration into the course will NOT be approved.

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available

information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Turnitin.com

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via Avenue to Learn (A2L) plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work through A2L and/or Turnitin.com must still submit an electronic and/or hardcopy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com or A2L. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more information please refer to the [Turnitin.com Policy](#).

Copyright and Recording

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour 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 behaviour 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](#).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty

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

Conduct Expectations

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

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.

Extreme Circumstances

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.