# POLS 2683 N5: Global Politics



## Syllabus - web page

### Course Overview

This course provides an introduction to the academic discipline of International Relations, in which scholars (and practitioners) attempt to understand and transform global politics. As part of the course, we will cover: Classical Liberalism, Classical Realism, neo-liberalism, neo-realism, historical materialism, social constructivism, feminism, green theory as key theoretical insights into International Relations, as well as introducing key concepts such as states, rational choice, anarchy, power, epistemology, and ontology.

We will seek to answer questions like the following:

- How can we understand the politics of international events?
- How do governments decide on their foreign policies?
- What are government objectives and what factors guide them?
- Do material or ideational factors shape international politics?
- How do states find a balance between politics of security, and politics of economics?
- What is the authority or influence of non-state actors in international politics?
- What factors contribute to the divisions and gaps between the East, West, North and South?
- What is the role of ideas and culture in global politics?

**Key Questions about International Relations**

1. How does the academic (sub-)discipline of International Relations (IR) engage with and construct global politics?
2. What are some of the key concepts in IR?
3. How do different IR Theories help us understand key issues in world politics?

**Learning Outcomes**

Following the successful completion of this course, you will:

1. Gain an understanding of theoretical insights into global politics.
2. Learn current academic debates in International Relations.
3. Become familiar with major concepts in International Relations.
4. Gain an advanced understanding of university-level academic research and writing.

### Instructor

Contact Information:

Dr. Can (Djan) Mutlu
Department of Politics
Acadia University
Wolfville, Nova Scotia
CANADA B4P 2R6

Office: BAC 216
Phone: (902) 585-1293
E-mail: can.mutlu@acadiau.ca

**About me**

I was born in Istanbul Turkey and have lived in Portland Oregon, Victoria BC, and Ottawa Ontario. I have a BA and MA from University of Victoria and a PhD from the University of Ottawa. I am currently an assistant Professor in the Acadia Politics Department. Areas of research include security, technology and mobility. I love to play bass guitar, watch films, play board games and listen to music. I LOVE sci-fi.

## Course Materials

Textbook: Felix Berenskoetter "Concepts in World Politics," Sage, 2017, ISBN: 9781446294284

See the student handbook for ordering information.

To access Library Articles and Journals from off-campus use VPN web service link for direct access.

## Evaluation

| | |
|---|---|
| Essay Assignments (6) | 60% |
| Final Exam | 40% |
| Total | 100% |

- Essay assignments allow me to assess your comprehension of key debates in contemporary International Relations and analytical thinking/researching/writing skills. My approach to evaluation is based on transparency and feedback. This course is built around 2 major grading components. These components are the assignment essays and the final exam. Six essay assignments (500-750 words): Modules 2-10 on ACORN have a corresponding essay question. Feel free to chose any six modules to write the essay questions. (6x10=60pts).
- Final exam (2 essay questions). Students will write the exam upon completing all the modules. (2x20=40 pts.)

The assignments are delivered to the instructor via assignment drop-boxes. Please remember to put your name, student number, course number, and assignment number on the assignment and keep a copy in the event the original is lost.

The last assignment should be received at least 4 weeks prior to the date you wish to write the exam. This will allow adequate processing time for the request, and for setting the exam.

### Grading

| Letter Grade | Percentage range | GPA value | Description |
|---|---|---|---|
| A+ | 94-100% | 4.0 | Exceptional |
| A | 87-93% | 4.0 | Excellent |
| A- | 80-86% | 3.67 | |
| B+ | 77-79% | 3.33 | Good |
| B | 73-76% | 3.0 | |
| B- | 70-72% | 2.67 | |
| C+ | 67-69% | 2.33 | Average/Satisfactory |
| C | 63-66% | 2.0 | |
| C- | 60-62% | 1.67 | |
| D+ | 57-59% | 1.33 | Pass |
| D | 53-56% | 1.0 | |
| D- | 50-52% | 0.67 | |
| F | 0-49% | 0 | Unsatisfactory |
| W | | | Withdrew |
| S | | | Awaiting grade from Special Exams |

## Campus Resources

**Library Services**

Books and journal articles from the library can improve your assignments, labs, and papers. Visit the library at http://library.acadiau.ca. View resources specifically selected for your course at http://libguides.acadiau.ca/politics and contact the Politics Librarian Mike Beazley at mike.beazley@acadiau.ca for research help.

**Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre offers free help to all students wishing to improve their writing skills. You can sign up online today. To book a one-to-one appointment with a writing tutor: writingcentre.acadiau.ca/writing-tutorials.html. To see which helpful presentations and workshops you can attend this year: http://writingcentre.acadiau.ca/workshops-and-presentations.html.

**Accessibility Services**

Students with Disabilities - If you are a student with a documented disability who anticipates needing supports or accommodations, please contact Accessible Learning Services at 902-585-1291, or 902-585-1823, or email disability.access@acadiau.ca. Accessible Learning Services is located in Rhodes Hall.

**The Student Resource Center**

The Student Resource Center offers counselling, academic, and accessibility supports that meet the diverse needs of the Acadia student population. We provide a client – centered, professional and confidential environment that values the whole student post-secondary experience. Within our counselling and psychotherapy services we work with students to develop and improve overall

wellbeing as it relates to emotional, psychological, spiritual, and social health. Some of the issues that we work with include depression, anxiety, relationship, and stress. We also offer services related to career exploration and decision making. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please email: counselling@acadiau.ca or call 902-585-1246.

## Exam

How to apply: Complete the Application for Examination

### Proctored at Acadia

- The final exam in an online course must be passed to successfully pass the course unless otherwise stated in the assessment section of the course syllabus. There are no rewrites or supplemental examinations at Acadia University.
- Examination requests must be received one month prior to the date you wish to write your examination.
- Course requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of your instructor.
- ***Graduating Students Note:*** If you are graduating in Spring Convocation you must write by April 15th. If you are graduating in the Fall you must write by September 15th.

### Proctored at Another Location

If it isn't practical to take your exam at Acadia, off-campus exams can be written at another university or college. Arrangements for an examination may be made through the Registrar's Office or the Continuing Education office of most universities and colleges. If it is not possible to write your exam at an approved institution, please contact us for assistance.

- ***All fees associated with examinations written at other locations are your responsibility.***
- Some courses may require specific software or internet accessibility at the off-campus examination location.

## Student Handbook

You are responsible for becoming familiar with the contents of the Student Handbook. It contains important information about scheduling examinations (if applicable), applying for extensions, withdrawing from your course, ordering books, and computer and library services available to you. If you have questions about the policies outlined in the handbook, contact:

Open Acadia
21 University Avenue (Rhodes Hall)
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
Phone: 1-800-565-6568
Fax: 902-585-1068
Email: openacadia@acadiau.ca

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity demands responsible use of the work of other scholars. It is compromised by academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism. A student who is uncertain whether or not a course of action might constitute cheating or plagiarism should seek in advance the advice of the instructor involved.

- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

**Academic fraud is neither accepted, nor tolerated by Dr. Mutlu and/or Acadia University.** Anyone caught committing academic fraud is liable to severe academic sanctions as determined by the University administration. You can learn more about plagiarism by visiting: http://library.acadiau.ca/sites/default/files/library/tutorials/plagiarism/

**IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO NOT PLAGIARIZE OR COMMIT OTHER FORMS OF ACADEMIC FRAUD:**

Here are a few examples of academic fraud:

- Engaging in any form of plagiarism (stealing other peoples ideas/words) or cheating;
- Presenting falsified research data;
- Handing in an assignment that was not authored, in whole or in part, by the student;
- Submitting the same assignment in more than one course during the course of your studies, without the written consent of the professors concerned.

In recent years, the development of the Internet has made it much easier to identify academic plagiarism. The tools available to your professors allow them to trace the exact origin of a text on the Web, using just a few words. **In cases where students are unsure whether they are committing academic fraud, it is their responsibility to consult the Acadia University Academic Integrity Policy, which can be found on pg. 53, of the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar. Same information is also available online at:** https://library.acadiau.ca/studentPlag#aupolicy

Persons who have committed or attempted to commit (or have been accomplices to) academic fraud will receive a failing grade of 0 for the assignment in which they have cheated or plagiarized.

To avoid plagiarism and/or academic fraud charges: **Students must follow the correct, academic form of citation and cite accurately and consistently**. In this course, students are required to use the Politics Department's preferred citation style: Chicago/Turabian. You can learn more about the Chicago/Turabian citation style on the Acadia University's library website. (https://library.acadiau.ca/sites/default/files/library/pdf/Chicago.pdf).

Academic sources are texts written by academics (who hold a position at a university) in academic journals (that you would not find on your local newsstand, i.e. Newsweek, Time, the Economist) or academic books (that you would not easily find at Chapters). Academic sources have:

- Clear author(s),
- Footnotes, bibliography or works cited,
- Peer-reviewed (often a toggle switch on article databases),
- Found in specialized or subject database, rather than the Internet or a general database.

## Course Schedule

**Click to download the suggested schedule for this course: POLS 2683 - Suggested Schedule**

Print out this schedule and fill in your start date to use the recommended timeline to plan out when you will do readings and assignments. This is a tool to help you plan and time manage this course. If you get off-track, make sure to revisit your schedule and re-evaluate the dates you've set for yourself.

You have 6 months to complete this course. You may set your own schedule, but if you intend to complete the course in less than 3 months, you should let me know so that we can arrange a schedule.

Please do not leave all of your course work until a few weeks before your completion date. Although I will make every effort to accommodate your schedule within reason, I need time to grade assignments and mark exams.

Click here to return to the Module

Last modified: Friday, 29 March 2019, 10:21 AM