

**University of Waterloo**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**PSCI 281**  
**World Politics**  
**Winter 2017**  
**2:30-4:20 Friday, RCH 305**  
**Tutorials: 1:30-2:20 Wednesday RCH 208; 4:30-5:20 Wednesday RCH 208; 3:30-4:20 Thursday RCH 208**

*This syllabus is subject to revision up to the first class meeting.*

### **Instructor and T.A. Information**

Instructor: Dr. Veronica Kitchen  
Office: HH312  
Office Hours: Friday 9am-11am or by appointment.  
Email: vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca

I am best contacted by email; I do not reliably pick up phone messages. I endeavour to reply to all emails within 48 hours on business days; I expect you to do the same. I expect you to check your @uwaterloo.ca email address on a daily basis, or forward it to another account that you check daily.

T.A.	T.A. 1 Name
Email	T.A. 1 Email
Office	HH346
Office Hours	T.A. 1 Hours

### **Course Description**

This course provides an introduction to the question, concepts, theories and ideas that inform the discipline of international relations. We make extensive use of case studies, current events, and simulations to study what motivates states, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and even individuals to behave the way they do in the international arena. We use the themes of power, ethics, identity, and conflict to help understand world politics, and touch on issue areas including war, colonialism, trade, religion, protest, and the environment.

Pre-Requisites: PSCI 101, 110, or 150

### **Course Goals and Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Describe theories and concepts used to study international relations, explain their strengths and weaknesses, and apply them to real-world situations
- B. Describe the structures, interests, and processes of various governmental and non-governmental groups in world politics, including the ability to:
  - Name and locate states and their capitals on a map of the world
  - Discuss significant case studies in global politics
- C. Write persuasively for an academic and a non-academic audience by:
  - Using plain language to convey complex concepts in political science
  - Developing an argument and supporting it with evidence
- D. Work effectively in a group, demonstrating that you can
  - Set and meet goals, share the burden, and resolve conflicts civilly
  - Produce high-quality group deliverables

## **Social Media**

The class hashtag (which you are welcome to use) is #PSCI281. I will not usually answer questions on twitter, since the 140-character limit does not lend itself to explanation. Come see me. I will never distribute class-relevant information on twitter (or instagram) that was not also announced in class or on the D2L website.

### **Twitter**

If you are a twitter user, consider following the following accounts:

@PSCIuWaterloo: the Political Science department account. Tweets about speakers, events, faculty / students in the media, and other news.

@PSSA\_UW: the Political Science Students Association account. Tweets about their events & activities.

If you aren't a twitter user, the class hashtag (#PSCI281) is displayed on the D2L website.

### **Instagram**

The class instagram hashtag is #PSCI281. As described later, you may receive bonus marks for taking pictures related to world politics. Search the hashtag for examples.

## **The Fine Print**

### **Academic Integrity**

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity Webpage \(https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the [Arts Academic Integrity Office Webpage \(http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/current-undergraduates/academic-responsibility\)](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/current-undergraduates/academic-responsibility) for more information.

### **Grievance**

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>). When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

### **Discipline**

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing academic offenses and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71, Student Discipline](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm) (<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm) (<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm>).

### **Appeals**

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm) (<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>).

### **Note for Students with Disabilities**

The AccessAbility Services Office (AS), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS at the beginning of each academic term.

## **Other Resources**

You may wish to access the following resources on campus:

*The Student Success Office* can help you if you are having trouble with time management, study skills, or similar academic problems: [Student Success Office](https://uwaterloo.ca/student-success/) <https://uwaterloo.ca/student-success/>

*Counselling Services* can help you if you are in crisis or distress. [Counselling Services](https://uwaterloo.ca/counselling-services/node/1) <https://uwaterloo.ca/counselling-services/node/1>

*The Centre for Career Action* can provide advice on job preparation – I highly recommend working through the Career Development eManual. [Career Action](https://uwaterloo.ca/career-action/) <https://uwaterloo.ca/career-action/>

*AccessAbility* can help you if you require accommodations for permanent or temporary disabilities.

### **The Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre works across all faculties to help students clarify their ideas, develop their voices, and communicate in the style appropriate to their disciplines. Writing Centre staff offer one-on-one support in planning assignments, using and documenting research, organizing papers and reports, designing presentations and e-portfolios, and revising for clarity and coherence.

You can make multiple appointments throughout the term, or drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit [Writing Centre](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre) [www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre). Group appointments for team-based projects, presentations, and papers are also available.

**Please note** that communication specialists guide you to see your work as readers would. They can teach you revising skills and strategies, but will not change or correct your work for you. Please bring hard copies of your assignment instructions and any notes or drafts to your appointment.

## Course Requirements and Assessment

Information on course requirements and assessments.

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Memo	5 February 2017	15%
Group Project Outline & Self/Peer Evaluations	20 February 2017	10%
Group Final Project, Annotated Bibliography, & Self/Peer Evaluations	26 March 2017	15%
Simulation Reflection	Ongoing up to 2 April 2017	15%
Class Participation	Ongoing	20%
Final Exam	TBD	25%
Extra Credit	Ongoing	Up to X%
Total		100%

Please see the Assignments and Rubrics documents for details of all Assessments.

### Late Work

Extensions are granted at the discretion of the instructor and generally with appropriate documentation from the OPD or Counselling Services, or with the Verification of Illness Form. That said: Talk to me if you are having a problem! I definitely can't help you if I don't know you're having difficulty.

No extensions will be granted on group assignments.

Where late assignments are accepted, they are penalized at the rate of 1% of the weighted final grade per day, including weekends (astute students will notice that this is equivalent to 1% of your final mark in the course). For example: If a student receives 40/50 on an assignment worth 20%, the weighted final grade is 16/20, and if the student hands in the assignment 1 day late, she would receive a mark of 15/20.

An assignment is considered one day late if you submit it to D2L or to the Instructor's drop box after the time it is due on the due date. If you submit it the next day, it is also considered one day late. Two days after the due date is two days late, etc.

No late assignments are accepted more than one week (7 days) late without documentation.

### **Information on Plagiarism Detection (adapted from David Welch)**

The memo and reflection assignments will be submitted using Turnitin software. The University requires that the following statement be listed on the syllabus of all courses using Turnitin software:

Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that the use of all materials and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

#### *Why use Turnitin?*

While I do use Turnitin to monitor plagiarism (your paper is likely to get a second read-through if you have a particularly high percentage of duplicated sentences – but note that a high score does not necessarily mean plagiarism), the more important reason is to allow you to check your citations before you submit a paper. Turnitin generates an “originality report” which compares your paper to a database which includes published material and other student papers. Incorrect citation is the single biggest Academic Integrity problem I run into, and using Turnitin helps to combat that *before* you hand in the paper so you don’t lose marks and you aren’t accused of plagiarism. If you hand in papers with incorrect citations, you are likely to get an invitation to a friendly citation lesson from your T.A.

#### *Legal & Ethical Considerations*

**If you choose not to use Turnitin:** the instructor or your TA will administer a 15-minute oral examination based on your paper. The oral exam must be scheduled *before* the due date of the assignment, but will be held at the instructor’s convenience. If you choose not to use Turnitin, your assignments must be submitted to Dr. Kitchen’s dropbox by the time indicated on the assignment. If you submit a paper on the due date but after the due time, it will usually be marked as submitted the following morning. If you submit an assignment on a weekend, email me a copy of the assignment and at the same time, put a copy in my drop box. *If and only if* I find a copy in my box Monday morning, *and* it corresponds exactly to the emailed copy, I will mark the assignment as submitted at the time and day I receive the email. For assignments submitted by email or on D2L, you are responsible for ensuring that files are uncorrupted and submitted as a .pdf document.

#### **Here are some things you might consider when making your decision:**

1. Turnitin’s servers reside in Montreal, which means retrieval of information held on them is subject to Canadian law, but not American law (i.e., the Patriot Act).
2. You retain copyright of your assignments.
3. Your assignments are added to a database *internal to the University of Waterloo*. That means your paper is kept indefinitely, but *only other UW papers will be compared to it*. For

instance, Turnitin will be able to check next year's PSCI 281 assignments against this year's assignments, but professors teaching courses at other universities will not be able to compare their student papers to your paper.

4. Turnitin is a for-profit enterprise that makes money by maintaining a large database of published and student papers and charging a fee to Universities to use the plagiarism detection service. You don't get a royalty for submitting your written work to their database. However, you do get the benefit of the citation-checking service.

### **Extra Credit**

Up to **X%** is available in extra credit marks in this course. No other mechanisms are available for making up low marks. Please see the assignments document for details.

## **Course Content**

### **Content Alert:**

At times this semester we will be discussing events that may be disturbing, even traumatizing, to some students. If you ever feel the need to step outside during one of these discussions, either for a short time or for the rest of the class session, you may always do so without academic penalty. (You will, however, be responsible for the content you miss. If you do leave the room for a significant time, or if you are concerned about gaps in your knowledge for assignments and exams, please come see me so we can discuss how you can access what you need to know in a non-triggering way.)

If you ever wish to discuss your personal reactions to this material, either with the class or with me afterwards, I welcome such discussion as an appropriate part of our coursework.

### **Required Texts**

All readings should be completed before the class or tutorial for which they are assigned. Bring your readings to class and be ready to discuss them. Your class participation mark will depend largely on your preparation.

**John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens. 2013. The Globalization of World Politics. 6th Edition. Oxford.**

This textbook is available in the Bookstore and on reserve in the Dana Porter Library. **Used copies are readily available. Please make sure you purchase the 6th edition.** Students pursuing further courses in international relations will find this textbook is a useful reference work.

## **Steve McGlinchey. 2016. International Relations. E-IR.**

This textbook is available on Amazon and also as a **free download** at <http://www.e-ir.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/International-Relations-E-IR.pdf>

The reading by Lencioni for the first week of class is available on eReserve.

I do not post lecture slides, but a handout with key definitions, concepts, and learning goals will be posted on the LEARN website in the section for that week's session.

Any other readings will be freely available on the internet.

**Supplementary readings are never mandatory**, but may be useful if you are having trouble understanding a concept, if you wish to write a paper / do a group project on the topic, or for studying for the exam.

**Weekly Readings & Activities [Note: see syllabus on D2L for updated list of readings to be posted by Thursday, January 8]**

### **Week of Jan 2**

**No tutorial**

#### **Classroom Session 1: Jan 6: What is world politics? The Global and the Local**

Baylis, Owen & Smith, Introduction

McGlinchey, Chapter 4

Video: Global / Local Tour of Kitchener-Waterloo (D2L)

*Supplementary:* if you don't have a basic grasp of 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> century world history, review Chapters 3, 4, & 5.

*Class Participation Activity:* No points available

**The first bonus points are available this week. See the Assignments document for details.**

### **Week of Jan 9**

**No tutorial**

Spend your tutorial time this week on the following mandatory readings:

Patrick Lencioni. 2002. The Five Dysfunctions of a Team. P. 187-220. (eR)  
Dealing with Hitchhikers & Couch Potatoes (D2L)

### **Classroom Session 2: 13 Jan: Who are the Actors in global politics?**

McGlinchey, Chapter 1

McGlinchey, Chapter 7

McGlinchey, Chapter 14

#### *Supplementary*

Baylis, Owen & Smith Ch 20 & 21

*Class Participation Activity:* No points available.

## **Week of 16 January**

### **Tutorial 1: Memo Writing Workshop**

Plain Language Tutorial: Available on web at:

<http://www.plainlanguagenetwork.org/plaintrain/index.html> (Please complete before coming to class)

*Deliverable: None*

### **Classroom Session 3: 20 January: Interlude**

**No readings for today**, but you should fill out and bring **hard copies** of the following worksheets for the class participation activity. They are on D2L under the section for Classroom session 3:

- a) Availability for Group work
- b) Topic Brainstorming

Dr. Kitchen is at a conference today. A number of important in-class activities will happen in my absence:

1. Jane Forgay, the Political Science librarian, will deliver a session on writing research memos
2. The first map quiz
3. You will form groups for your Group Projects, and begin to decide Project Topics & Group Expectations

#### *Class Participation Activity:*

Availability for Group Work (Worksheet) (hard copy)

Topic Brainstorming (Worksheet) (hard copy)

Map Quiz: North America

*Note that there are extra class participation points available in this session, so don't use my absence as an excuse to skip!*

**Last date to drop a class without penalty: January 23**

**Week of January 23**

**No tutorial**

**Classroom Session 4: 27 January: What shapes how Actors interact? POWER!**

*Simulation:* Rock Paper Scissors

*Class Participation Activity:* One Minute Simulation Reflection

*Note: This is the first opportunity to get your simulation reflection assignment out of the way, well before the end-of-term crunch!*

**Week of January 30**

**No tutorial**

**Classroom Session 5: February 3: What shapes how Actors interact? INTERESTS!**

*Simulation:* Oil Game

*Class Participation Activity:* One-Minute Simulation Reflection

**Due: Memo Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, to the LEARN Dropbox. Dropbox closes 11:59pm.**

**Week of February 6**

**Tutorial 2: Making Shapes Simulation**

*Deliverable:* One-Minute Simulation Reflection (per usual instructions)

**Classroom Session 6: 13 February: Interests and Power: International Trade**

*Class Participation Activity:* Map Quiz – South America

**Week of February 13**

**Tutorial 3: Special Status Zones: Good or Bad?**

**Classroom Session 7: 17 February: What shapes how Actors interact? STRUCTURES!**

*Class Participation Activity: Map Quiz: Asia*

## **February 20-24 is Reading Week**

**Due: Group Project Outline & Self/Peer Evaluations. Monday, February 20. One copy per group to the LEARN Dropbox. Dropbox closes at 11:59pm.**

## **Week of February 27**

**No tutorial**

*But, your group should be working on identifying appropriate evidence for each part of your argument*

**Classroom Session 8: 3 March: What shapes how Actors interact? IDEAS!**

*Class Participation Activity: Map Quiz -Oceania*

## **Week of March 6**

**No tutorial**

**Classroom Session 9: 10 March: IDEAS! Nationalism and Populism in Global Politics**

*Class Participation Activity: Map Quiz: Europe*

## **Week of March 13**

**Tutorial 4: Chinazambia-Boliviafranca Simulation**

*Deliverable: One-Minute Simulation Reflection (per usual instructions)*

**Classroom Session 10: March 17: IDEAS! Human Rights, Human Security, and R2P**

*Class Participation Activity: Map Quiz – Caribbean*

## **Week of March 20**

**No tutorial**

*But you should be finalizing your group project*

**Classroom Session 11: March 24: POWER! INTERESTS! STRUCTURES! IDEAS! Global Environment**

*Class Participation Activity:* Group Puzzle (5 participation points available)

**Due: Group Final Project & Annotated Bibliography [one copy per group], and Self/Peer Evaluations Sunday, March 26 to LEARN Dropbox (Evaluations to be completed at online link). Dropbox closes 11:59pm.**

## **Week of March 24**

### **Tutorial 5: Exam Question Drafting: Part I**

*Deliverable:* Worksheet: What makes a good essay question + essay question ideas

### **Classroom Session 12: 31 March: Loose Ends + Exam Question Drafting, Part 2**

Assessment 1 Description

*Class Participation Activity:* Map Quiz - Africa

**Due: Simulation Reflection: Sunday, April 2 to LEARN Dropbox. Dropbox closes at 11:59pm.**