PSCI 282: Comparative Foreign Policy: Between Self-help and Global Governance

Winter, 2015
RCH 105 Mondays 12:30-2:20pm

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**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 305  
**Office Hours:** Monday: 3:30-4:30pm

**Course Description:** This course examines the comparative foreign policy of big, middle and small countries. In many respects the course follows the route of a generic course on comparative foreign policy, with a focus on internal/domestic as well as external determinants. Where it is different is in its focus on how a range of countries perceive and operate their foreign policy choices between a self-help orientation and an orientation that privileges global governance in the way of globally oriented rules of the game. The focus in general will be on the multilateral focus of these countries. What is their approach to universal (UN) multilateralism versus selective club (G20/IFIs/WTO) multilateralism? Do certain values inform multilateralism or is it simply interest based? Can the countries be categorized as stabilizers, hedgers, or transformers? Are they flexible or rigid on issues of sovereignty? Do they have a tight state-based approach or is there space for non-state activity? Is there a sense of rise or fall in setting the rules of the international system? Does the neighborhood countries are located shape their perception and operation of the system?

**University Regulations:**

**Cross-listed course:**  
Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

**Academic Integrity:**  
**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.
Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (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. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, Student Discipline [link].

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, Student Petitions [link]. In addition, consult Student Grievances [link] for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, Student Appeals [link].

Academic Integrity website (Arts): Academic Integrity [link]
Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): Academic Integrity Office [link]

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
Note for students with disabilities: The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, 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 Office at the beginning of each academic term.

If you are using Turnitin in your course:

Turnitin.com: Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. See Turnitin [link] for more information.
Texts:


Supplementary readings come from various forms of articles. Some of these can be accessed via the University of Waterloo’s library system. Please use the links outlined below and search using the journal title.

Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

Two tests, with short questions identifying and giving significance of specific terms in different thematic/country components of the course - 25% each – 50%

Participation in Discussion Groups (including verbal presentation of one of the papers as below) – 20%

2 Papers: Two papers between 5-6 pages (12 point font 1.5 lines) – 30%
One of these papers will be presented in the Discussion groups (and sent electronically by 8:00 pm the night before). The other paper will be handed in March 23.
One paper will be done from topics in the first half of the course, the other from the second half of the course.

Week 1 – January 5

Overview of the Course
A focus on the major questions: Concepts of Realism and Global governance in the context of Comparative Foreign Policy

Debates on Realism/Self Help and Global Governance

Lawrence Finkelstein, “What is Global Governance” *

Overview of John Mearsheimer’s Great Power Politics
<Mearsheimer http://mearsheimer.uchicago.edu/pdfs/StructuralRealism.pdf> (see also for Week 3)

The US as the pivotal actor
A declining hegemon? The pull of domestic politics – parochialism/isolationalism
The return to multilateralism? Institutions/clubs of necessity and choice


Week 2 – January 12

The US in comparative perspective


Rachman, Gideon, “Liberal Leviathan” <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/2/8990e32e-7766-11e0-824c-00144feabdc0.html#axzz1gQV8V7c9>

The European Union: a normative/material force in global governance; constraints from national interests and inter-governmentalism; the impact of economic vulnerability; consolidation or fragmentation

Moravcsik, Andrew (2010) In Alexandroff and Cooper, Rising States, Rising Institutions, 151-176


Week 3 – January 19

BRICS and other acronyms of the changing global order

Cooper, Andrew (2010) “Labels Matter” in Alexandroff and Cooper, Rising States, Rising Institutions, 63-82*
Week 4 – January 26

China
From outsider to pivotal country Stabilizer, hedger, or transformer? The New Prussia?
Nationalism and/or Interdependence? Party and collective leadership as domestic determinants


Does China possess a unique/exceptional status among the BRICS?


Week 5 – February 2

Brazil - The country of the future? Multi-identities Lula to Dilma; Domestic/regional constraints Status issues – UNSC Too big for its neighborhood?


India - “Decoding Modi’s Foreign Policy”

Week 6 – February 9

First Test *

Week 7– February 16 - READING WEEK

Week 8– February 23
Australia

Picking Niches The importance of leadership style
< Article http://www.aspistrategist.org.au/is-australia-a-pivotal-power/>

Comparing Australia with Canada

Week 9 – March 2

South Africa - A new Middle?

South Africa Isolation to Global Icon Cultural and economic constraints South African soft power


Turkey: a Middle State or in the Middle?

“A Muslim Tiger? Turkey’s rising power and influence,” < Article http://www.oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/?p=12591 >

“Turkey’s Neo-Ottomanianism: Engaging the Pivotal Middle-Power” < Article http://www.hscentre.org/policy-unit/turkeys-neo-ottomanism-engaging-pivitol-middle-power/>

Week 10 – March 9

Are there other Rising Middle Powers?

South Korea/Indonesia

Parello-Piesner, J (2009) 'KIA – Asia’s middle powers on the rise”
< Article http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2009/08/10/kia-asias-middle-powers-on-the-rise/ >

MIKTA: Where Middle Powers Proudly Meet
Mexico - constitutional and neighborhood constraints; between North America, the Americas and the world Status seeking and domestic constraints

“Bersin: Mexico, not China, the Rising Star”

Week 11 – March 16

Small states in crisis Self-reliance or reliance on the system. The decline of collective solidarity; responses to global stresses


Qatar: a Case of Small State Resilience?

Cooper and Momani, “Qatar and expanded contours of Small State Diplomacy” *

“Qatar’s Changing Foreign Policy”
<Article http://carnegieendowment.org/sada/2014/04/08/qatar-s-changing-foreign-policy/h7gf>

Week 12– March 23

Vulnerability and/or Resilience in the Caribbean: coping with geo-political and economic dilemmas; using innovation as a tool in global governance


Antigua: A case of Small State Vulnerability or Resilience/?


**Singapore and small island states**


**Week 13 – March 30**

**Second Test**