INTST101: Introduction to International Studies
Spring, 2019
RCH 301, Mondays 2:30-5:20

Instructor: Tracey Wagner-Rizvi
Email Address: twagnerrizvi@uwaterloo.ca
Office Location: Hagey Hall 340
Office Hours: TBA (Drop-in, no appointment necessary; if you are unable to meet during these times, alternative arrangements can be made.)

Course Description: The course will examine international studies in the context of globalization, and the ideas, actors and institutions involved in attempts to resolve the many challenges associated with interdependence. We will explore the history of the international system, and through a survey of some the world’s most important organizational challenges, examine the effects of globalization on both domestic and international public policy making.

Pre-Requisites: None.

Course Objectives:
Upon completing this course, you should have:

I. Greater understanding of the international system
II. A fundamental literacy about a range of international subjects including but not limited to: historical contexts; population and environment; comparative culture; foreign policy, international law and organization; international trade, finance and business; armed conflict (causes, outbreak, methods and aftermaths); human rights; global public health; international aid and development.

III. A greater appreciation of contemporary global challenges and the reasons underlying their existence and, in many cases, persistence.

IV. A greater awareness of the ideas informing the management of international/global problems; the actors that are formulating the strategies upon which so many lives depend; and what impact these are having on the problems under scrutiny.

V. The capacity to think analytically and creatively within and across disciplines.

VI. A willingness to consider new ways of conceptualizing issues under scrutiny.

VII. Improved your ability to read selectively and construct concise written arguments.
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, http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71.

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, http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70. In addition, consult http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes 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, http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72.

Academic Integrity website (Arts): http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Note for students with disabilities: The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, 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.
Required course textbook:

Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

Summary:
Attendance & Participation: 10%
Reflection papers: 40% (4 X 10%)
Presentation: 10%
Midterm: 20%
Essay: 20%

Attendance & Participation:
Although the course is not designed as a seminar, informed and respectful participation is encouraged. Needless to say, poor attendance may have significant effects on your final mark in terms of both the attendance and participation component, as well as other components of your mark. Participation includes discussion of current events at the beginning of each class and other in-class discussions and activities.

Assignments:
All written assignments should be double-spaced, have one-inch margins, and be written using 12-point Garamond or Times New Roman. Any ideas that are not your own should be properly cited using a formal citation style (i.e. MLA, Chicago, APA) of your choice, but be consistent throughout the assignment and include a bibliography/works cited/references page (depending citation style).

Current Events Reflection Papers – 40% (4 X 10%)
Bring to four classes of your choice a two-page, double-spaced summary of a current world event (ongoing or within, say, the previous six months) that is relevant to the topic for that week. In not more than half a page, briefly outline or describe the event. In the remainder of the paper, clearly link the event to the reading for that week (engage with the reading); in the last paragraph, identify two questions that the world event or week’s reading raised for you. The questions should be about more than simply factual matters. No additional research (beyond understanding the current event) is necessary for this assignment.

Due: At the start of class, any four weeks of your choice until July 22; late papers will not be accepted. You may submit one extra reflection paper if you wish to have your lowest mark dropped.

Presentation 10%
Prepare a 6-8-minute presentation about one aspect of the week’s reading. There will be 3-4 presentations per week. Students will sign up on Week 2 for the week on which they will make their presentation. Students who volunteer on the first day of class to present on Week 2 will receive a bonus mark.
Final Essay 20%
Write a Final Essay of 5-6 pages on a topic relevant the course. If you have questions about whether your topic is suitable, please ask! In addition to the course material, the essay must cite at least 5 outside sources, at least two of which must be academic sources.
Due: At the start of class on July 29 (the final day of classes). A late penalty of 2% will be deducted each day, including weekends and holidays.

Schedule:

Part I - Setting the World Stage

Week 1 (May 6) – Introductions
Introduction to the Instructor, Classmates and Course, Core Concepts and Historical Contexts
Read: Chapter 1

Week 2 (May 13) – Population and Environment
Read: Chapter 2

**May 20 – NO CLASSES THIS WEEK DUE TO VICTORIA DAY**

Week 3 (May 27) – Comparative Culture
Reading: Chapter 3

Part II - Core Dynamics: Nation versus World

Week 4 (June 3) – Foreign Policy and International Politics
Read: Chapter 4

Week 5 (June 10) – International Law and Organization
Read: Chapter 5

Week 6 (June 17) – MIDTERM – In class

Part III - Traditional Issues of Hard Power: Bucks and Bullets

Week 7 (June 24) – International Trade, Finance, and Business
Read: Chapter 6

Week 8 (TUESDAY July 2) – Armed Conflict: Causes and Outbreak & Methods and Aftermaths
Reading: Chapter 7 (pages 226-240 & 244) and Chapter 8 (Omit “Studies in Technology” (pages 263-265) and “Canadian Insights” (277-278))
**Part IV – Newer Issues of Soft Power: Improving Well-Being**

**Week 9 (July 8) – Human Rights**
Read: Chapter 9

**Week 10 (July 15) – Global Public Health**
Read: Chapter 10

**Week 11 (July 22) – International Aid and Development**
Reading: Chapter 11

**Week 12 (July 29) – Conclusion**
Reading: Chapter 12

**FINAL ESSAYS DUE IN CLASS**