

# PSCI 150: INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL POLITICS

Winter, 2015

AL113, Tuesday 2:30-4:20 (Section 1) and Thursday 12:30-2:20 (Section 2)

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**Instructor:** Eric Helleiner

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**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 309

**Office Hours:** Thursday 2:30-4:30

**Instructor:** Veronica Kitchen

**Email:** [vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vkitchen@uwaterloo.ca)

**Office Location:** Hagey Hall 312

**Office Hours:** Tuesday, 10am-11:30am  
(after reading week only); Thursday 2:30-  
4:30pm

**Course Description:** Who's got power and wealth in the world? Why and with what political consequences? This course introduces students to the patterns of, explanations for, and consequences of the global distribution of power and wealth. Through lectures, case studies, simulations and class discussion, we focus on the actors, institutions, and processes of global governance and global politics.

**Pre-Requisites:** None.

## Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should:

- Have a broad understanding of the actors, institutions, and processes governing the globe;
- Identify and understand patterns and trends in different conceptions of world inequality, explanations of their causes, and debates about their political consequences.
- Identify and distinguish between different types of power and the consequences of having or not having it, and use these insights to analyse case studies;
- Be able to conduct basic research, evaluate scholarly work, and develop clear arguments.

**Contact Policy:** Email is the best way to get in touch with the professor or your TA outside of usually scheduled office hours. A few things to remember when emailing:

- Please use your official UW email account. To ensure your privacy, your professor/TA will not reply to emails sent from a non-UW account (such as Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, Sympatico, etc.)
- Please include a subject line starting with "PSCI 150" (i.e. "PSCI 150: clarification about the rubric")

- Please address your email to the professor or TA appropriately (i.e. Dear Dr. Kitchen, Dr. Helleiner, Professor, Aisha, Daniel, etc.).
- Please remember to sign your email with a first and last name and your student number.
- Please allow up to 48 hours for a response to your email.
- Please note that your professor and TA generally do not answer emails after 4:00pm on weekdays or on weekends (4:00pm Friday to 9:00am Monday).
- Email should be used for brief questions that can be answered quickly. If you want to discuss course material, assignments, or another matter in greater detail, please see the professor or TA during his or her office hours or make an appointment to meet at some other time convenient for both.

## Teaching Assistants:

### Nanyuan Chen

[n42chen@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:n42chen@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:00-11:00am

### Saba Husain

[s8husain@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:s8husain@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: Tuesday, 11:30-12:30pm

### Daniel Holmes

[dholmes@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:dholmes@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: 11:30am-12:30pm

### Zhenyu Li

[z442li@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:z442li@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: 4:30-5:30pm

### Alexis Shamess

[ashamess@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ashamess@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: 2:30-3:30pm

### Touseef Siraj

[tsiraj@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:tsiraj@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: Friday 10:30-11:30am

### Aisha Shibli

[ashibli@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ashibli@uwaterloo.ca)

Office Hours: 12-1:00pm

**Head TA:** PSCI 150 has a Head TA – Aisha Shibli. She will manage the administration of the course which will include, among other things, assignment extensions, the organization of marking among the TAs, grade appeals, maintaining the course website on LEARN, and ensuring tutorials run efficiently. If you have an issue in the course, your assigned TA is your first point of contact. If your TA is unable to resolve the situation, you should make an appointment to see Ms. Shibli who, in consultation with Dr. Kitchen or Dr. Helleiner will resolve the problem in the best way possible. Drs. Kitchen and Helleiner are also available to see students but, given the size of the course, are dependent on the Head TA and TAs to help the students in PSCI 150 as much as possible.

## University Regulations:

### 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](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) <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, [Student Petitions](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>. In addition, consult [Student Grievances](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes) <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, [Student Appeals](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>.

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** [Academic Integrity website](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html) [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** [Academic Integrity Office](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) <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 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.

## Texts:

Book for first half of the course: Chrystia Freeland, *Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super-Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else* (Anchor Canada, 2014). It can be purchased at the UW bookstore. All other texts are available on through the University library's website or are freely accessible on the internet. It is your responsibility to find these sources and read them as the instructor requires.

## Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

### Overview:

Assignment/exam	Due Date	Value
Op-ed paper	January 30, 2015	25%
Journal article comparison	March 23, 2015	25%
Tutorial Participation	Ongoing	10%
Final Exam	Exam Period	40%

**All written assignments must provide a full list of sources used and avoid plagiarism or other violations of academic integrity.**

1. Op-ed paper.

**Due: Friday January 30, 2015 at 4pm in the D2L dropbox.**

**Value: 25% of total course mark.**

“The rise of the 1 percent is a global phenomenon, and in a globalized world economy, the plutocrats are the most international of all, both in how they live their lives and in how they earn their fortunes” (C.Freeland, *Plutocrats*, p.xiv). For this assignment, you must pretend that you have been tasked by a media outlet (e.g. magazine, newspaper, web publication) to write an op-ed paper that addresses the following two questions: 1) What is the relative importance of the following three developments in explaining the rise of the new global “plutocrats” that Freeland identifies: neoliberalism, technological change, and economic globalization? 2) What are the most important political consequences of the rise of the global “plutocrats”? Your assignment is to answer these questions in 1500 -2000 words (longer or shorter papers will not be accepted). At the top of the first page of your op-ed paper, you must identify the media outlet for which your piece has been written. In order to capture the attention of your reader, **you must clearly explain your answers to the two questions in a one-paragraph summary at the start of your op-ed paper.** The paper should then elaborate upon and defend these answers. The paper must draw upon, and respond to, the material covered in course readings (using proper citations) and the lecture periods. There is no expectation that students will draw on other sources for the paper. Please see LEARN for details of the Assignment and Rubric.

## *2. Journal Article Comparison*

**Due: Monday, March 23, 2015 at 4pm in the D2L dropbox.**

**Value: 25% of total course mark.**

Students will choose two recent scholarly articles, and compare how they treat concepts of power. Please see LEARN for details of the Assignment and Rubric.

## *3. Tutorial Participation:*

**Due: Ongoing.**

**Value: 10%.**

Tutorial participation is marked on the basis of attendance and substantive participation in class activities and debates. Please see the rubric on D2L for full details.

## *4. Final examination*

There will be a final closed book exam (2.5 hours in length) scheduled during the normal examination period (**April 10-25**). The final exam will cover material from the entire course (the material covered by both Dr. Helleiner and Dr. Kitchen). The final examination is worth **40% of your final mark**.

**Please note: Student travel plans are not an acceptable reason for granting an alternative examination time.**

### **Extra Credit for missed tutorials:**

If you have missed more than one tutorial session, you may complete the extra credit assignment (a discussion piece based on a public lecture) worth up to 1%. There are no other ways of receiving extra credit. Please see D2L for details of the assignment.

### **Late Policy:**

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 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.

A waiver of this penalty will only be considered in the event of an officially documented extenuating circumstance. See "Accommodations & Extension Policy" below. Late assignments can be placed in the professor's drop box in the Department of Political Science. This is cleared out daily.

### *Final Submission Date for Assignments*

The final submission date for assignments is one week (7 days) after their due date (with the imposition of late penalties). The instructor WILL NOT accept the assignment for grading after one week has passed without a documented extenuating circumstance. If an extenuating circumstance may prevent you from submitting an assignment by its submission date, please contact the Head TA at the earliest possible convenience and be prepared to provide him or her with official documentation concerning your situation.

### *Accommodation & Extension Policy for Assignments*

If you are registered with AccessAbility, please consult with the Head TA regarding necessary accommodations to allow you to complete your assignments & exams. All other requests for assignment extensions must be directed to the Head TA. Your assigned TA does not have the authority to grant extensions. The Head TA will only consider granting an extension in the event of an officially documented extenuating circumstance (that is, serious personal illness, critical personal or family crisis, etc.) as documented by a Verification of Illness form or a letter from Counselling Services. If a situation arises that may prevent you from completing an assignment, contact the Head TA as early as possible, ideally before the assignment is due.

Medical excuses must be presented on the UW Verification of Illness form, which can be found at: Health Services  
[www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health\\_Services/verification.html](http://www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html).

### **Computer Problems**

Students are expected to back up their written work and lecture notes (on a USB stick, by emailing them to yourself, by printing them out, by saving them on an app like DropBox, etc.). Extensions will NOT be granted for computer-related issues. Furthermore, students will be responsible for finding replacement lecture notes where they fail to back-up their files.

### **Grade Appeals:**

Any errors of addition may be raised immediately with your assigned TA.

If you are concerned that your assignment was not graded fairly, you should first meet with the TA who marked your work. To request a review of your assignment from your TA and, later, the Head TA if required, you must provide a 1 page explanation as to why you think your assignment was improperly graded (i.e. what do you think you did that should have been given more weight?). The explanation, the original assignment, and a clean copy of the assignment should be submitted to your tutorial leader no later than **2 weeks** after the assignment was made available for return. If you are unsatisfied after consulting and discussing the matter with your TA and Head TA, the assignment will be passed on to the Professor for final grading.

NOTE: Students must take responsibility for picking up their marked work in a timely manner. No appeals will be considered that have been initiated more than 2 weeks after the

assignment/exam was made available for return. **Grades may be either raised, stay the same, or lowered on appeal.**

Students who wish to appeal midterm grade should follow the same procedure noted above for assignments. Final exams are not usually returned. If you wish to review your final exam, please make arrangements with the instructor

## **Schedule:**

### **January 6/8: The global politics of who gets what: the view from Political Economy**

Required reading: C.Freeland, *Plutocrats*, Introduction and Chapter 1

***No tutorial this week***

### **January 13/15: Global trends in national inequality: why is it rising within so many countries across the world?**

Required reading: C.Freeland, *Plutocrats*, Chapters 2-3

***Tutorial:*** Of the three kinds of economic inequality identified in the first lecture (national, international, and global), which kind do you think has the most important political consequences?

### **January 20/22: Political consequences of the new global “plutocrats”?**

Required reading: C.Freeland, *Plutocrats*, Chapters 5-6 and Conclusion

Optional reading: C.Freeland, *Plutocrats*, Ch.4

***Tutorial:*** What is the relative importance of the following three developments in explaining the rise of the new global “plutocrats”: neoliberalism, technological change, and economic globalization? What are the most important political consequences of the rise of the global “plutocrats”?

**January 27/29: Rising international inequality since the 19<sup>th</sup> century: why and with what political consequences?**

Op-ed paper is due Friday January 30 at 4pm. There are no required readings or tutorials this week because you should be focusing on finishing your paper.

**February 3/5: Recent trends in the international inequality: what does the economic rise of China and other “emerging economies” mean for global politics?**

Required readings:

- D.Nayyar, “The West and the Rest in the world economy”, *Challenge* 57(2)(2014): 26-41
- J.Ikenberry, “The future of the liberal world order: internationalism after America”, *Foreign Affairs* 90(3)(May-June 2011): 56-68

**Tutorial:** Do international inequality trends have more important political consequences than national ones?

**February 10/12: Politics of global inequality between citizens of the world: growing political importance in an age of globalization?**

Required readings:

- B.Milanovic, “Global economic inequality in numbers: in history and now”, *Global Policy* 4(2)(2013): 198-208
- K.Nash, “Global citizenship as show business: the cultural politics of Make Poverty History”, *Media, Culture and Society* 30(2)(2008): 167-81

**Tutorial:** Are the political consequences of global inequality becoming more important?

**February 24/26: What do we mean by power?**

Joseph S. Nye. "Soft power." *Foreign policy* 80 (1990): 153-171.



William Ury, "The Walk from No to Yes" *TEDx Talk*. October 2010. Available online at: [http://www.ted.com/talks/william\\_ury?language=en#t-88039](http://www.ted.com/talks/william_ury?language=en#t-88039)

***No tutorial this week***

### **March 3/5: Can nuclear weapons prevent a war?**

John, Mearsheimer. "Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War." *Atlantic Monthly* 266 (2) (1990).

Kenneth M. Pollack. "Osiraq Redux: A Crisis Simulation of an Israeli Strike on the Iranian Nuclear Program." *Middle East Memo* 15. Brookings Institution. (2010). Available online here : [Reports  
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/reports/2010/2/iran%20israel%20strike%20pollack/02\\_iran\\_israel\\_strike\\_pollack.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/reports/2010/2/iran%20israel%20strike%20pollack/02_iran_israel_strike_pollack.pdf)

BBC, "Iran Nuclear Crisis: Can Talks Succeed?" 25 November 2014. Available online here: [News http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-11709428](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-11709428)

***Tutorial : How to read a journal article***

### **March 10/12: Can a tweet change the world?**

Sheldon Himmelfarb and Sean Aday, "Media That Moves Millions" *Foreign Policy* 17 January 2014. Available online at: [Foreign Policy  
http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/01/17/media-that-moves-millions/](http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/01/17/media-that-moves-millions/)

Laura Seay, "Does Slacktivism Work?" *The Monkey Cage* [blog]. 12 March 2014. Available online at: [Washingtonpost  
http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/03/12/does-slacktivism-work/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/03/12/does-slacktivism-work/)

Joshua Tucker, "Tweeting Ferguson: how social media can (and cannot) facilitate protest" *The Monkey Cage* [blog]. 25 November 2014. Available online at: [Washingtonpost http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/11/25/tweeting-ferguson-how-social-media-can-and-can-not-facilitate-protest/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/11/25/tweeting-ferguson-how-social-media-can-and-can-not-facilitate-protest/)

***Tutorial:*** Negotiation Game

## March 17/19: Does international law matter?

Kenneth Roth, "the Court the US doesn't want" *New York Review of Books* (1998), November 19. This article is a bit hard to find:

- 1) Go to the library "Resources for Research" and click " e-journal titles"
- 2) Search for & select New York Review of Books
- 3) It will take you to a screen that looks like you're just at the webpage of of the NYRB. Click on Print Archive > 1990s > 1998 and from there you should be able to click on the November 1998 issue.

Fuzhi Cheng. Case Study #9-4, "The WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism and Developing Countries: The Brazil- U.S. Cotton Case". In: Per Pinstrup-Andersen and Fuzhi Cheng (editors), "Food Policy for Developing Countries: Case Studies." 13 pp. URL: [Case Studies http://cip.cornell.edu/dns.gfs/1200428196](http://cip.cornell.edu/dns.gfs/1200428196) (2007)

**Tutorial:** Negotiation Game Debrief

## March 24/26: Which violence counts?

Johan Galtung. "Violence, peace, and peace research." *Journal of Peace Research* 6.3 (1969): 167-191.

Megan MacKenzie, "Not Surprised is Not Good Enough: what soldier atrocities in Iraq and Afghanistan can teach us about Ferguson" *Duck of Minerva* [blog]. 3 December 2014. Available online at: [Blog http://www.whiteoliphaunt.com/duckofminerva/2014/12/not-surprised-is-not-good-enough-what-soldier-atrocities-in-iraq-and-afghanistan-can-teach-us-about-ferguson.html](http://www.whiteoliphaunt.com/duckofminerva/2014/12/not-surprised-is-not-good-enough-what-soldier-atrocities-in-iraq-and-afghanistan-can-teach-us-about-ferguson.html)

**No tutorial this week**

## **March 31/ April 2: How do you fight an asymmetric war?**

Jonathan Powell, "How to Talk to Terrorists" *The Guardian*. 7 October 2014.

Available online here: [The Guardian](#)

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/oct/07/-sp-how-to-talk-to-terrorists-isis-al-qaida>

Benjamin Wallace Wells, "Drones and Everything After" *New York Magazine* 5

October 2014. Available online at:

<http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2014/10/drones-the-next-smartphone.html>

**Tutorial:** Exam Review