

Lingnan University
Department of Political Science
POL3203 International Politics (Term 1, 2019-2020)

Lecture: W 2:30-4:30, LKK 105)

Tutorial (Thursday 12.30-1:30 in WYL 109) and 1.30-2:30 in WYL 105)

Instructor: Professor Shalendra Sharma

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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description and Aims:

The course introduces students to the core issues in the study of international relations, including the key theoretical and methodological approaches to understanding global politics. You will learn about how the various actors, forces and ideas have influenced and shaped both past and contemporary global events. The course will also examine some of the more significant features of the international system – such as how change occurs, the relations between politics and economics and the interconnections between individuals and governments. Illustration from particular case studies and issues is designed to assist you better appreciate the dynamic relations between policy-making in the international arena. This course serves as an introduction to other courses on international affairs being offered in the Social Sciences programme.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. describe and explain the role of key players in shaping the post-war international system, including its impact on contemporary global politics
2. apply fundamental political science theories, methods and concepts to the study of post war international order and current global affairs;
3. critically synthesize and evaluate the various media reports, official governmental and non-governmental organisations' policy statements, as well as the academic literature on international politics;
4. the linkages between politics and economics and how it has shaped globalization;
5. responsibilities and obligations as a global citizen for a more just world order

Assessment:

The Continuous Assessment (50%) is sub-divided into four components:

1. A tutorial presentation which demonstrates your ability to (i) research and organise content in a coherent and logical manner, (ii) present this content together with your own analysis in a clear manner, and (iii) defend your arguments during the discussion period.

Students will be arranged into groups of 2-3, so a collective group grade is given (10%). The lecturer reserves the right to lower a grade if there is clear evidence of a group member not pulling his/her weight. [Learning outcomes 1-4]

2. A term paper related to your tutorial presentation is discussed in a logical and clear manner. Weight is given to your research and analytical skills as demonstrated by the nature of the content and your critical analysis. You must include footnotes/citations and references list/bibliography. Its length must be between 2,500-3,000 words (20%).

Submission deadline is 2 December 2019 (Monday). 5 marks per day will be deducted if you hand your report on any of the three working days after the deadline. Late submission beyond three working days will receive zero mark for the work [Learning outcomes 1-3]

3. Participation in class discussions. Credit will be given to those who join in actively and regularly in class discussions. Your grade depends on the quality as well as the quantity of your contributions (5%). [Learning outcomes 1-4]

4. A Mid-term Test which will examine your knowledge and understanding of key concepts and factual information in the first part of the course (15%). This test will be held on 16 October 2019. [Learning outcomes 1-3]

The Final Exam will be held during the normal University exam period in December 2019. The exam will evaluate your knowledge and understanding of key concepts and factual information over the whole course (50%). [Learning outcomes 1-3]

Please Note:

(1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (3* hours of class contact and 6* hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.

(2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.

(3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.

(4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.

(5) No photography or recording is allowed in class. Please turn off your cell-phone during class and only use laptops if your activities are course related. Doing e-mail and non-course work during class and electronic recording of any class activity is prohibited. Instructor’s written permission to required record any portion of a class meeting.

Lectures		
Week	Date	Topics
1	4 Sept	Introduction – what is IR
2	11 Sept	International Relations in a Globalizing World
3	18 Sept	Concepts, Theories and Methods of IR
4	25 Sept	Concepts, Theories and Methods of IR
5	2 Oct	Making Foreign Policies
6	9 Oct	International Security: Conflict, Wars, Terrorism
7	16 Oct	International Security: Nuclear Weapons
8	23 Oct	International Organizations and UN system
9	30 Oct	International Law and Justice
10	6 Nov	International Political Economy
11	13 Nov	International Political Economy
12	20 Nov	IPE: case of Trump and China
13	27 Nov	Course Overview: Lessons from IR

Required Readings

(all required readings are in PDF – it will be made accessible to the class)

1. Introduction to course: IR, Hong Kong, China and the World
2. Pevehouse, Jon & Joshua Goldstein. 2017. International Relations, Chapter 1
3. Pevehouse, Jon & Joshua Goldstein. 2017. International Relations, Chapter 2
4. Jeffrey W. Meiser, 2018. “Liberalism in International Relations Theory”
5. John Ikenberry. 2015. “The Future of Multilateralism: Governing the World in a Post-Hegemonic Era,” *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, 16, pp. 399-413

Maher, Richard. 2018. “Bipolarity and the Future of U.S.-China Relations,” *Political Science Quarterly*, vol. 138, no. 3, pp. 497-525

6. Krueger, Alan. 2007, *What Makes a Terrorist?* Princeton University Press

Robert Art, 2016. “Creating a Disaster: NATO’s Open Door Policy,” *Political Science Quarterly*, Volume 131, Number 2

Joshua Shiffrinson. 2018. “Should the United States Fear China’s Rise?, *The Washington Quarterly*, vol. 41, no. 4, pp. 65-83

7. Juneau, Thomas. 2019. "The Enduring Constraints on Iran's Power after the Nuclear Deal," *Political Science Quarterly*, Vol. 134, no. 1, pp. 39-61.

Kim, Inhan. 2018. "No More Sunshine: The Limits of Engagement with North Korea," *The Washington Quarterly*, vol. 40, no. 4, pp. 165-81.

- 8/9. Thomas Weiss, 2015. "The United Nations: before, during and after 1945" *International Affairs*, vol. 91, no. 6, pp. 1221-1235

Ramesh Thakur, 2013. "R2P after Libya and Syria: Engaging Emerging Powers," *The Washington Quarterly*, vol. 36, no. 2 pp. 61-76.

Menon, Rajan. 2017. "Why Humanitarian Intervention Still Isn't a Global Norm," *Current History*,

United Nations. 2019. "International Law and Justice"

2016. "Marine Entitlements in the South China Sea: The Arbitration between the Philippines and China," *The American Journal of International Law*

- 10/11 Radelet, Steven. 2015. "The Rise of the World's Poorest Countries," *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 26, No. 4, October, pp. 5-19

MacDonald, Paul. 2018. "America First? Explaining Continuity and Change in Trump's Foreign Policy," *Political Science Quarterly*, vol. 133, no. 3, pp. 401-34.

Gill, Amandeep Singh. 2019. "Artificial Intelligence and International Security: The Long View," *Ethics & International Affairs*, vol. 33, no. 2, pp. 169-79.

13. Wrap-Up

Supplementary Reading:

Karen Mingst and Ivan Arreguin-Toft. (2010). *Essentials of International Relations* (5th edition). New York: W.W.Norton & Co.

Robert Art and Robert Jervis, 2010. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* (10th edition). New York: Pearson

John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens, eds, 2008. *The Globalization of World Politics* (4th edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Joshua Goldstein and Jon Pevehouse, 2012, *International Relations* (10th edition). Boston: Longman.

Charles Kegley Jr., 2010. *World Politics: Trend and Transformation* (12th edition). Boston: Thomson Wadsworth.

Richard Mansbach and Kirsten Rafferty, 2011. *Introduction to Global Politics* (2nd edition). London: Routledge.

Joseph S. Nye Jr., 2010. *Understanding International Conflicts: An Introduction to Theory and History* (8h edition). New York: Pearson.

First Tutorial	5 September 2019
Second Tutorial	12 September 2019
Third Tutorial	19 September 2019
Fourth Tutorial	26 September 2019
Fifth Tutorial	3 October 2019
Sixth Tutorial	10 October 2019
Seventh Tutorial	17 October 2019
Eighth Tutorial	24 October 2019
Ninth Tutorial	31 October 2019
Tenth Tutorial	7 November 2019
Eleventh Tutorial	14 November 2019
Twelfth Tutorial (Last)	28 November 2019

Assessment rubrics

Participation (5%)

Criteria	Excellent	Fair	Below Standard
Class attendance and participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class attendance is regular and the student speaks up regularly and enthusiastically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class attendance is quite regular but the student participates only when asked by the instructor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class attendance is erratic and participation is nil or almost nil
3%	3 marks	1-2 marks	0 mark
Articulateness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expression of ideas or opinions were consistently factually accurate, logical and clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expression of ideas or opinions were generally factually accurate, logical and clear, but with a number of minor lapses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideas or opinions were not expressed logically, and were characterized by significant factual inaccuracies and lack of clarity
2%	2 marks	1 marks	0 mark

Presentation (10%)

Category	Excellent	Fair	Below Standard
Conceptual understanding of subject matter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover a good range of relevant concepts/theories Important ideas pertinent to the topic are skillfully applied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts/theories and important ideas pertinent to the topic are accurately used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts/theories and important ideas pertinent to the topic are not accurately used
3%	3 marks	2 marks	0-1 mark

Analysis of Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly interpret and evaluate the information • Comprehensively analyze and synthesize the issues from multiple perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information with some interpretation/evaluation • Basic analysis or synthesis from two perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List information without interpretation/evaluation • Superficially analyze or synthesize the issue • Single perspective is discussed
3%	3 marks	2 marks	0-1 mark
Integration of sources and evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical evidence or information (explanations, examples, illustrations, statistics, analogies, quotations from relevant authorities) is highly relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical evidence or information (explanations, examples, illustrations, statistics, analogies, quotations from relevant authorities) is generally relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much of Information included is not relevant and inadequate to support the topic. Some information is inaccurate or unverifiable
2%	2 marks	1 mark	0 mark
Appropriate time allocation and pace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocated time appropriately and managed time effectively • Appropriate pace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marginally long or marginally short but uses time reasonably effectively • Reasonable pace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significantly too short or too long and did not use time effectively • Pace is significantly too fast or too slow
2%	2 marks	1 mark	0 mark

Term-paper (20%)

Category	Excellent	Proficient	Meets Minimum Standard	Below Standard
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Argument	Arguments both well supported and genuinely compared to conflicting explanations	Main arguments valid, systematic, and well supported	Some arguments valid and well supported, some not	Weak, invalid, or no argument, perhaps a simple assertion
7%	6-7 marks	4-5 marks	2-3 marks	0-1 marks
Use of Data or Evidence	Fully exploits the richness of the data/evidence/ideas, and is sufficiently persuasive	Feasible evidence appropriately selected and not over-interpreted	Some appropriate use of evidence but uneven	Draws on little or no evidence, mostly relies on assertions or opinions, or evidence not clearly presented
7%	6-7 marks	4-5 marks	2-3 marks	0-1 mark
Organization and Writing	Structure enhances the argument, strong sections and seamless flow. Virtually no English error.	Structure supports the argument, clearly ordered sections fit together well. Some minor English errors.	Structure is of inconsistent quality, may have redundancies or disconnections. Frequent English errors.	Needs significant reorganization. English errors significantly impair readability.
6%	6 marks	4-5 marks	2-3 marks	0-1 mark

Mid-term Test (15%)

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Meets Minimum Standard	Below Standard
Comprehension of all the relevant aspects about the question	Demonstrates a deep insightful level of understanding	Demonstrates a good surface level of understanding	Demonstrates an adequate level of surface understanding	Demonstrates an inadequate level of understanding
5%	4-5 marks	3 marks	2 marks	0-1 mark
Application of concepts to the problem posed	Appropriate concepts are all applied correctly	Appropriate concepts are correctly applied	Some concepts are applied at too general a level or misapplied but the central ones are applied correctly and specifically	Most concepts are applied at too general a level or misapplied
4%	4 marks	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark
Extent to which ideas are expressed logically, accurately and clearly	Expression of ideas were consistently accurate, logical and clear	Expression of ideas is generally accurate, logical and clear with some minor lapses	Expression of ideas is comprehensible but there are some major lapses	Largely incomprehensible with some major inconsistencies and errors
3%	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 mark
Quality of English	English is consistently excellent	English is proficient with no major errors	English conveys the essential meaning but contains a number of errors	English is below acceptable university standard
3%	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 mark

Exam (50%)

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Meets Minimum Standard	Below Standard
Comprehension of all the relevant aspects about the question	Demonstrates a deep insightful level of understanding	Demonstrates a good surface level of understanding	Demonstrates an adequate level of surface understanding	Demonstrates an inadequate level of understanding
15%	12-15 marks	8-11 marks	4-7 marks	0-3 marks
Application of concepts to the problem posed	Appropriate concepts are all applied correctly	Appropriate concepts are correctly applied	Some concepts are applied at too general a level or misapplied but the central ones are applied correctly and specifically	Most concepts are applied at too general a level or misapplied
15%	12-15 marks	8-11 marks	4-7 marks	0-3 marks
Extent to which ideas are expressed logically, accurately and clearly	Expression of ideas were consistently accurate, logical and clear	Expression of ideas is generally accurate, logical and clear with some minor lapses	Expression of ideas is comprehensible but there are some major lapses	Largely incomprehensible with some major inconsistencies and errors
10%	8-10 marks	5-7 marks	3-4 marks	0-2 marks
Quality of English	English is consistently excellent	English is proficient with no major errors	English conveys the essential meaning but contains a number of errors	English is below acceptable university standard
10%	8-10 marks	5-7 marks	3-4 marks	0-2 marks

Mark Ranges	Grade
85 -100	A
80-84	A-
75-79	B+
70-74	B
65-69	B-
60-64	C+
55-59	C
50-54	C-
45-49	D+
40-44	D
0-39	F