

PPE 3032 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: THEORY AND PRACTICE

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1. FACULTY DETAILS

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| Email: | herman.salton@auw.edu.bd |
| Office: | H607 |
| Office Hours: | Mon & Wed, 9-11am (Please stick to these days and times. If you really cannot make them, please email me in advance to arrange an appointment. Thank you). |
| Classes: | Mon & Wed, 11am-12.20pm in Room H402 |
| Qualifications: | LLB Law (Trento), MPhil IR (Oxford), PhD Law (Auckland), PhD IR (Wales) |
| Areas of Expertise: | International Relations United Nations International and Diplomatic History Human Rights (especially racial and religious discrimination) International Law (especially international organization) |
| Profile: | I was educated at the universities of Trento, Oxford, Auckland and Wales. Formerly a Senior Fellow at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, City University of New York, I was also a visiting scholar at Sciences-Po, Paris (France) and TUJ, Tokyo (Japan); an officer at the Icelandic Human Rights Centre, Reykjavík (Iceland); and an Associate with the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, New York City (USA). I have published in various areas of international politics, international law, global history and human rights. I am fluent in English, French, Italian and Spanish, and I joined AUW in Fall 2013. |

2. DESCRIPTION

This course reviews some of the concepts, themes, problems, and facts of contemporary international relations (IR). It looks at how state and non-state actors confront contemporary problems in today's globalized world. It also introduces students to the subfields of IR, including international security, international political economy, foreign policy, international relations theory, international organizations, and international law. A number of case studies will be considered, ranging in span from the Syrian war, to cyber conflict, to the Israeli-Palestinian divide, to human rights and humanitarian intervention. An overview of regional IR—including, time permitting, those of Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia—will also be provided.

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the historical development of modern and contemporary IR
- Demonstrate a knowledge of the academic discipline of IR
- Understand the main traits of IR since 1945
- Critically assess the different theoretical approaches to IR
- Evaluate common criticisms of the discipline of IR
- Analyse the validity of claims made in defence of the discipline
- Demonstrate a knowledge of contemporary issues in IR
- Critically evaluate the relationship between different players in IR
- Discuss the contemporary significance of the discipline of IR

4. CLASS FORMAT

The course will involve a mixture of lectures, presentations and seminar-style discussions. All classes will be highly interactive: in my view, the role of the teacher is not to provide the right answers but to ask the right questions (and I will ask many). As a result, it is not enough for you to come to class: you will need to be proactive and participate in the discussions. Naturally some of you will be shyer than others, which is fine (the best students are not necessarily the most talkative). However, you *will* need to interact with your peers and with your teacher.

5. READINGS

a) John Baylis et al

The Globalization of World Politics

Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013

Arguably the most widely used and commercially successful IR textbook currently in existence.

b) Evan Luard

Basic Texts in International Relations

Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave, 1992

A compendium of the most celebrated texts by leading IR scholars of the past and the present.

6. COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1. INTRODUCING THE COURSE

Mon 9 January—Introduction: Teacher, Students and Aims

Questions: Why *me*? Why *you*? Why *here*?

Readings: None

Wed 11 January—Introducing IR: What, Why and How to Learn?

Questions: What is the best approach to this course?

Readings: TBC

WEEK 2. GLOBALIZATION & IR

Mon 16 January—Theories of World Politics

Questions: Why do we need theories? What are the main theories of IR?

Required Reading: Baylis, Introduction (pp. 2-13)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 18 January—Globalization & Global Politics

Questions: What is Globalization? Is it here to stay?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 1 (pp. 16-31)

Recommended Reading: TBC

PART ONE:
THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT

WEEK 3. THE CREATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Mon 23 January—The Evolution of International Society

Question: When, how and why did an international society emerge?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 2 (pp. 34-49)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 25 January—International History, 1900-2017

Question: What are the most important events of contemporary world history?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 3 & 4 (pp. 50-80)

Recommended Reading: TBC

PART TWO:
THEORIES OF WORLD POLITICS

WEEK 4. REALISM & LIBERALISM

Mon 30 January—Realism

Question: What does a 'realist' conception of the world look like?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 5 (pp. 84-99)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 1 February—Liberalism

Question: What does a 'liberalist' conception of the world look like?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 6 (pp. 100-113)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 5. MARXIST THEORIES & POST-COLONIALISM

Mon 6 February—Marxist Theories of IR

Question: Are Marxist theories of IR convincing? Why?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 8 (pp. 130-147)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 8 February—Post-Colonial Theories of IR

Question: Are post-colonial approaches to IR outmoded?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 11 (pp. 182-195)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 6. SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIVISM & INTERNATIONAL ETHICS

Mon 13 February—Social Constructivism

Question: What is social constructivism and what are its main precepts?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 9 (pp. 148-165)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 15 February—International Ethics

Question: Does international ethics exist? And should it?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 12 (pp. 196-211)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 7. REVISIONS

Mon 20 February—Revisions (i)

Wed 22 February—Revisions (ii)

PART THREE: STRUCTURES & PROCESSES IN IR

WEEK 8. WAR & SECURITY IN IR

Mon 27 February—The Changing Character of War

Question: How has war changed through the years?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 13 (pp. 214-229)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 1 March—International & Global Security

Question: What are the main challenges to global security?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 14 (pp. 230-245)

Recommended Reading: TBC

[5-9 MARCH:
SPRING BREAK]

WEEK 9. ECONOMY & GENDER IN IR

Mon 13 March—International Political Economy

Question: What is the relationship between IR and political economy?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 15 (pp. 246-261)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 15 March—Gender in IR

Question: What's the role of gender in world politics?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 16 (pp. 262-277)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 10. INTERNATIONAL LAW & THE UNITED NATIONS

Mon 20 March—International Law

Question: Why do states usually follow IL?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 17 (pp. 278-293)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 22 March—The United Nations

Question: Does the UN matter?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 19 (pp. 310-325)

Recommended Reading: TBC

PART FOUR: INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

WEEK 11. TERRORISM & NATIONALISM

Mon 27 March—Terrorism in IR

Question: Is terrorism a new phenomenon?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 22 (pp. 364-381)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 29 March—Nationalism in IR

Question: Is nationalism a problem for IR?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 24 (pp. 398-413)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 12. CULTURE & GLOBAL TRADE/FINANCE

Mon 3 April—Culture in IR

Question: Does culture matter in global politics?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 25 (pp. 414-427)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 5 April—Global Trade & Finance in IR

Question: Does global trade bring peace?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 27 (pp. 444-457)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 13. HUMAN RIGHTS & HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION

Mon 10 April—Human Rights

Question: Are human rights universal?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 30 (pp. 494-509)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 12 April—Humanitarian Intervention

Question: Do you support humanitarian intervention?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 31 (pp.510-525)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 14. THE FUTURE OF IR

Mon 17 April—The Transformation of IR

Question: How are IR changing?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 32 (pp. 528-543)

Recommended Reading: TBC

Wed 19 April—The Future of IR

Question: What's the future of IR?

Required Reading: Baylis, Chapter 33 (pp. 544-558)

Recommended Reading: TBC

WEEK 15. REVISIONS & FINAL ESSAY

Mon 24 April—Revisions

Wed 26 April—Final Essay

7. ASSESSMENT METHODS

- 1) Participation (10%): Your participation grade will depend on the regularity of your attendance, your punctuality, and your contribution to our debates (such as engaging with me and with your colleagues when we discuss a certain issue). Unjustified absences will result in penalties as per

AUW's policy. Late arrivals are extremely disruptive and will be penalized. Although your participation will be monitored from Day 1, your grade will be given to you by the end of the semester.

2) Presentation (20%): You will be randomly assigned a topic at the beginning of the semester and you will present it to the class, emphasizing how globalization has impacted on it. Presentations will start in Week 3 and both schedule and guidance will follow. Depending on final student numbers, there will be at least one presentation per topic.

3) Essay (30%): You are required to write a 1000-word essay on any of the topics covered in the course, at your choice. Guidance for the preparation and info about the requirements will be given closer to the date.

Due Date: Wed, 1 March 2017

4) Final Essay (40%) This in-class essay will test the breadth of your knowledge. Your abilities to comprehend and analyse a number of IR-related issues will be assessed. This is a pre-seen essay: ten essay questions will be sent to you exactly 24 hrs before the event, so as to give you time to choose two and to structure your final essay.

Due Date: Mon, 26 April 2016

8. GRADING SCALE

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|----------------|------|----------------|------|----------------|------|----------------|--------|
| 96.68 to 100 | = A+ | 86.68 to 89.99 | = B+ | 76.78 to 79.99 | = C+ | 66.78-69.99 | = D+ |
| 93.33 to 96.67 | = A | 83.33 to 86.67 | = B | 73.33 to 76.67 | = C | 63.33 to 66.67 | = D |
| 90 to 93.32 | = A- | 80 to 83.32 | = B- | 70 to 73.32 | = C- | 60 to 63.32 | = D- |
| | | | | | | < 59.99 | = Fail |

Please Note: In this course, factual knowledge is insufficient to perform well; critical thinking is what will make the difference not only in terms of marks but also—and more importantly—in terms of your development. Consequently, the mere memorization of facts will not take you far—only their critical assessment will. What I am interested in is *your* approach to a problem. However, you will only be able to acquire this analytical capacity if you come to class, read and participate in the debates and discussions. Analytical reasoning without facts is impossible, but facts without any analytical framework are useless! Both are needed and will be required.

9. KEY DATES

Presentations: From Week 3

Spring Break: 5-9 March

Essay: 1 March 2017

Final Essay: 26 April 2017

10. PLAGIARISM

Academic honesty is critically important and is expected of all AUW students at all times. For your information, definitions of and policies regarding academic honesty are detailed in the AUW Hand-out. Please read *carefully* the section on academic integrity on pages 13-16. Violations of academic honesty will result in failing grades for assignments and/or the entire course.

11. CLASS BEHAVIOUR

My assumption is that each student in this class is motivated, intelligent and considerate of the opinions of others, and my expectations of you reflect this assumption. I would like to ask you to please come to class exactly on time and participate while you are here. In rare cases, circumstances beyond your control may prevent your timely arrival—in these cases, please enter quietly and sit by the door. If you need to leave early, please sit by the door and leave quietly. If you will frequently need to arrive late or leave early, please speak to me about it. I am committed to starting and ending every class exactly on time, so please do not prepare to leave before I have ended class. It is disrupting to your colleagues and to myself. Also, please ensure that you do not read or sleep in class, use your mobile, or talk to students around you without good reason. Please also be sure to turn off all phones and beepers. It is not appropriate to leave class to answer a call: if you feel that you have extenuating circumstances (e.g., a family emergency), please see me before class to discuss it. I strongly encourage you to stop me during class if you have a question or relevant comment. If you feel uncomfortable talking during class, please approach me after class. It is my job to help you understand the material and I will do whatever I can to make sure that you do.

13. RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

‘Global Governance’,
‘International Organization’
‘International Relations’
‘Foreign Affairs’
‘The Economist’