

1. Course Name and Number

Department of Political Science POL SCI 3203F, Section 001: **International Crises**

2. Day Offered

Tuesdays, Fall Term, Sept-December, 2018

3. Hours

3:30-5:30

4. Location of Lecture

Social Science Building (SSC) 2032

5. Prerequisite(s):

Open to International Relations Students

Open to Majors

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

6. Instructor Information

Instructor: Associate Professor Erika Simpson

E-mail: simpson@uwo.ca

Office Hours: **Thursdays, 2:30-3:30 pm** in my office in Room 4157 SSC or by appointment.

Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 85156

7. Course Syllabus

This interdisciplinary International Security course unpacks the history, theory, and practice of global security with emphasis on Cold War and post-Cold War crises. Students will be introduced to the main historical actors and problems that have shaped international security as well as participate in different interactive simulations. Students will develop diplomatic skills based on the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, a current UN crisis, and a possible future military crisis in the South China Sea.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe some key figures, events and trends in international security
- Identify and engage with different types of political theories in international security;
- Analyze and evaluate international issues and place them in their historical context
- Connect present-day problems to historical events and place them in a broader context

Methods of Evaluation:

Participation in 3 Simulations & 13 Lectures	3 Simulations, 12 Lectures & 1 Guest Lecture (TBC) = 10%	Earn points for attendance, contributions to in-class discussions up to a maximum of 10% (capped).	Total participation: 10%
Tests and Quizzes	Engagement with multiple-choice questions (for more info, see each weekly Lecture; total 80 questions, 40 before mid-term exam and 40 before final exam.	Correct answers on 80 multiple-choice questions (2 sets X 40 questions) which you must answer on-line before each exam;	Total participation: 10%
Short Essay: max. 2000 words including or not including endnotes or footnotes and including or not including the Bibliography for a maximum total of 3000 words = 20%	Marked by a TA (PhD candidate), and not by the professor. The TA marks 3000 words (including the Bibliography) but your wordcount for the actual essay's content should be approximately 2000 words (e.g. 7-10 pp. not including Bibliography).	1 final copy due 11:50 pm on Tuesday 11:50 pm December 10. The TA/Marker does not hold office hours. The Essay Question asks you to research whatever current (not historical) International Crisis interests you using a 'problem-solving approach'.	Total essays: 20% As the essay is worth less than 30% of your final mark, you could sign your own accommodation form and submit it 24 hours late without penalty. If you submit it more than 24 hours late, you incur a second penalty of -50%. See the information below.
Exams:	Mid-term exam poses 80 multiple choice questions in 2 hours = 30%. Mid-term exam is on Sunday Oct. 20, 2-4 pm, SSC 2050	Final exam poses 80 non-cumulative questions in 2 hours = 30% Final exam will be scheduled by Registrar's office in December.	Total exams: 60% You may not sign your own accommodation form to delay writing the exam as it is worth 30%

8. Course Materials

- No materials are required for the course, including no textbooks, course readers, manuals, laboratory or safety materials, and no specific electronic devices.
- All the instructor's PowerPoint Slides and the *Relevant Readings* (not required readings) are posted on OWL. You are responsible for viewing the PowerPoint Slides and listening to the audio on the Slides if you miss any lectures. Do not email the instructor if you miss a lecture or Simulation. You can 'make-up' for missed participation by contributing to the remaining in-class discussions and/or attending guest lectures that may be scheduled outside of regular class time.
- All the instructor's slides and multiple-choice questions are copyrighted by the instructor and remain the property of the instructor, not the University of Western Ontario. Professor Simpson updates statistics, numbers, maps and charts each term.
- The instructor's bank of multiple-choice questions changes from year-to-year so obtaining last year's correct answers on the multiple-choice questions means that studying last year's correct answers can't help you 'ace' the course. The instructor covers different issues depending on breaking news. If you have taken one or more of the instructor's other 3 classes, you will notice

some overlap on the Slides and information that is covered – but it is your responsibility to study the Slides that are covered in your current class, and not previous years' Slides for other classes.

Relevant Readings

- All the relevant readings are available online as journal articles or scholarly reports. All the *Relevant Readings* are drawn from free online sources such as Google Scholar, Scholarship@Western and YouTube.
- Trying to read some relevant readings or view some videos and internet sites before class will help you understand the lectures and possibly contribute more to class discussions. However, you do not need to read the *Relevant Readings* before class in order to understand the lectures and pass the exams.
- All the *Relevant Readings* are available in separate files on OWL relevant to each lecture topic. All the relevant readings are not attached to this course outline because they are not 'required readings' (and this course outline would be many pages long!). You will **not** be tested on the Relevant Readings – there are simply too many of them and there is too much information to study. You can use the Relevant Readings to get ready for Class Discussions, to stimulate your interest and to contribute more to the Simulations and Guest Lectures.
- Remember, you do not need to comment in the large classroom in order to earn a maximum of 20 participation points (= 20% of your final mark). Instead, you could contribute online to the Forum discussions. You could write a longer comment related to the lessons you learned from the Simulation. Alternatively, you could help Professor Simpson set up the Simulations to earn points.

Methods of Evaluation

Overview of Course Content and Relevant Readings

Important: The dates and topics of the following chart may change depending on schedules, illnesses, and other unforeseen events, like snow days. The chart below is included for illustrative purposes only, and may be updated on the class website available on OWL as the term unfolds.

Date	Session	Lecture Topics
Sept 10	Class 1	Course Overview; Rules & Regulations; What is International Politics? [hour #1] Terrorism Revisited on September 11 th (mini-lecture); Case Study of Peace in the Middle East (1 st In-Class Dialogue [hour #2];
Sept 17	Class 2	Introduction to Levels of Analysis, Paradigms and Theories [hour #1]; In-class introductions and Shaking Hands Exercise [hour #2]
Sept 24	Class 3	Balances of Power and World War I (WWI), Collective Security and WWII [hour #1]; If you love this planet film; Hiroshima/Nagasaki Discussion [hr#2]
Sept. 26	Guest lecture (optional)	Shakir Chambers, former Senior Advisor to Prime Minister Harper and the Department of Global Affairs, 12:30-2:30 pm SSC 3014 NOT ON EXAM
Oct. 1	Class 4	Deterrence and Containment: Explaining the Cold War; Next Week's First Simulation (your role and how to prepare for it) [hours #1 & 2]
Oct. 8	Class 5	1962 Cuban Missile Crisis Simulation #1 [hours 1 & 2 but you attend 1 hr. (simulation marks recorded today)] Group A [hour #1] Last names A-approximately M [to be announced] Group B [hour #2] Last names approximately N (TBA)-Z

Oct. 15	Class 6	Nuclear deterrence and nuclear arms control during the Cold War [hour #1]; Nuclear proliferation, the collapse of the NPT and nuclear modernization; Trump's new Space Force [hour #2]
Oct. 20	Mid-term Exam, 2-4 pm SSC 2050	Mid-term exam: 2-hour, multiple choice exam in Social Science Centre (SSC) Room 2050 on Sunday Oct. 20 from 2-4 pm. This exam is co-held with students in Simpson's other class, <i>Canada and the World, 2135A</i> . The make-up exam is 2 weeks later on Sunday Nov. 3, 2-4 pm, SSC 4105. You must have permission from your academic counsellor and the professor to write the make-up exam.
Oct. 22	Class 7	Introduction to the United Nations [hour #1]; Quiz and preparation for your role as an Ambassador to a country [hour #2]
Oct. 29	Class 8	Peacekeeping during the Cold War and Post-Cold War lecture [hour #1] UN simulation on how to solve peacekeeping problems [hour #2] -this UN Simulation focuses on UN resolutions regarding peacekeeping and expansion of the UN Security Council. The resolutions will be circulated beforehand and you need to decide on behalf of your country which ones to support, oppose or veto.
Nov 5		Fall Study Break: No lecture, readings or office hours.
Nov. 12	Class 9	Current Flashpoints: Eastern Europe, Ukraine, Syria and the Middle East [hours #1 and #2]; Essay Question and Essay Advice [hour #2]
Nov. 19	Class 10	Current Flashpoints: India, Pakistan, China and North Korea [hour #1] South China Crisis Simulation #3 [hour #2] (simulation marks recorded today)
Nov. 26	Class 11	Transnational Threats: biological weapons, cyberware, drones [hour #1] Pandemics and new threats from climate change [hour #2]
Nov. 12-28?	Guest lecture	Guest Lecture (To Be Confirmed (TBA) and To Be Announced (TBA))
Dec. 3	Class 12	What Can We Expect in the Future? The Clash of Civilizations? [hour #1] Global Jeopardy (sample multiple choice questions from classes 7-12). If not able to attend the final class, please play the game by yourself to help you study for the Final Exam and make certain to find study partners [hour #1]; Final copy of the essay due next Tuesday Dec. 11 at 11:50 pm In-class review of previous A-level sample essays and More Essay Tips [hour #2].
Final Short Essay Due	Submit to Turnitin & OWL by 11:50 pm or late penalties	Final copy of the essay due Tuesday Dec. 11 at 11:50 pm

10. *EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE

The Mid-term and Final Exams (30% each): [Regulations, what to study, and advice on taking notes](#)

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following

limitations:

- A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given**). **This condition must be outlined clearly in the course syllabus.**
***the interpretation of “due warning” would be a personal email prior to reaching the specified threshold of absences*
- On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

You may not miss the mid-term (30%) or final exam (30%) and/or the make-up exams or you will automatically fail the course.

The mid-term and final exams are constructed exactly similarly:

There will be 80 questions on each multiple-choice exam. The exam questions will range between ‘very easy’ to very difficult to ‘very challenging’. There are no written parts of the exam—it is entirely based on multiple-choice questions. The professor uses Scantron to mark the exams.

Exam questions are composed by the Professor; multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system (‘Scantron’)

Special exams may be different in content, structure and format than the regularly scheduled exam. Specific exam formats will be announced and explained by the Professor, but the exams will be multiple choice in most cases. If you miss the mid-term or final exams, for any reason, you may have to write a multiple choice combined with an essay-type of exam and your answers may be essay-style, not multiple choice. For example, if you miss the second make-up for the mid-term exam, the third-make-up exam will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is because the professor’s large exam bank will never be large enough to pose enough multiple-choice questions for so many different make-up exams.

Notably, it will take some fast readers much less than 2 hours to finish writing the exams, but other students will remain in the exam room, rechecking their answers, for the entire two-hour time period.

As soon as the professor knows when the final exam is scheduled, the final exam date schedule will be posted on OWL. The university does not accommodate if you make plans to travel out of the country before or after the final exam schedule is revealed. Moreover, you must have documented reasons for writing the make-up exam,

How should I study for the exams?

It is highly recommended when preparing for the exams that you consider forming small study groups so that you can share notes and discuss the lecture material. There is nothing wrong with a collective effort in terms of studying for all your classes. After all, that is what the classroom is about—all of us working together for fun and learning.

The two-hour, multiple-choice exams in October and December will test you on the lecture material, including all the posted slides [**not** the Relevant Readings]. The October exam tests you on classes 1-6 including the guest lectures and/or Simulations, and the December exam tests you on classes 7-12 including the guest lectures and/or Simulations and the sample questions posed during class 12 in the ‘Global Jeopardy game’.

The In-Class Dialogues explore and reinforce ideas and concepts covered by the professor in the lectures,

slides and/or raised during the Simulations. The ideas and concepts raised in individual students' comments are not examined. The non-cumulative exams will **not** test you on what you and other students say in class because comments differ from week-to-week and year-to-year depending on students' various interests.

The exams do not test you on the "individualized" (information for a specific person or role) roleplaying material for any of the simulations. Instead you will earn plenty of participation marks from lesson tools as well as participation marks for participating in the simulations.

The exams do not test you on the detailed information conveyed by the guest lecturer if s/he does not use slides and/or the exact wording of any UN resolutions - unless the guest speaker provides slides and/or a UN Resolution passed the UN General Assembly and was not vetoed. In that case, the resolution will be posted on Slides, reexamined during class time, and it will be tested.

To summarize, the non-cumulative exams test you on everything you learned from the lecture slides, from the spoken lectures including guest lectures and the assigned readings. You should always try to come to class—even if you have not had a chance to review the slides beforehand. During the lectures and simulations, your task is to think about and question the materials, and not be a 'medieval scribe'.

While I appreciate many students want to reinforce the lecture material by writing handwritten or typewritten notes, you do not need to take handwritten or typed notes during class unless this is your preferred learning style. The professor's preference is to see you thinking about the slides' content and participating in class discussions and simulations rather than seeing heads bent down, hurriedly scribbling for two hours! Why get writer's cramp? All the slides are posted so if we do not get to the end of the slides that were posted before the class began, then the professor deletes those we did not cover so you do not need to study them.

In the event that OWL collapses or is unavailable, we will cancel the class and the relevant slides for that day will be removed from OWL, so you do not need to study them.

Tests and Quizzes (10%)

To reinforce the material and to help you prepare less stressfully for the two exams, the Tests and Quizzes are worth 10%. Each weekly lecture and simulation poses 3 multiple-choice questions which you can answer immediately after the lecture or anytime online before the exam. There will be 80 multiple choice questions posed (just like each exam) but you must answer 40 questions before each exam. You answer 40 before the mid-term exam and then 40 before the final exam. You earn marks for answering the question correctly, not for randomly choosing an answer! Most students answer the questions after they have finished studying for each exam. But some students answer some questions every week to measure their understanding and progress.

10. Short Essay (20%) due by 11:50 pm Tuesday December 11. What is the late policy? If it is less than 24 hours late, you could submit your own signed accommodation to your Academic Counsellor and it will not be docked -25% late marks but it will be marked as 'on time'. If you do not have accommodation, it will be docked -25% late marks if it is submitted before 11:50 pm Wed December 12.

Late Marks: We consider the time and date you submitted your paper to Turnitin and OWL to be the time and date that it was submitted. Some students find it difficult to figure out Turnitin on time. Remember, we do not want to receive a hard copy by the deadline—the TA will mark your essay online using Word's Track Changes function. The professor will return it to you as soon as possible once she has checked the marking and checked Turnitin. You should expect to receive your marked paper through OWL once all the students' papers are marked, not before. Professor Simpson emails the entire class that the essays are all returned at

the same time – the TA should be done by December 31st (end of contract) and then she checks everything.

If you submit your essay after the deadline, there are varying Late Marks. If you submit it less than 24 hours after the due date/time - without submitting any accommodation form including your own signed accommodation - then you will incur -25% in penalties on the essay itself. If you submit it between 1-6 days after the due-date and time, you will incur -50% in penalties on the essay itself. If you submit it more than 7 days after the due date and time, you must obtain permission from an academic counsellor to submit and the penalty (unless you have academic accommodation from the counsellor covering the entire period before the due date and after) will be approximately -75% depending on your circumstances.

You must submit an essay to pass the course – you cannot forego submitting the essay (worth 20%) and pass the course. You must submit your own written work to a 3rd year course in all circumstances.

If you submit your essay late [e.g. past Dec. 31], the professor, not the TA will mark your late paper.

Short Essay Question: For this short essay, you should review 2-3 scholarly papers that discuss **one** current International Crisis that is of concern to you. For instance, you may be concerned about whether the war in the Gaza Strip poses a threat to peace and security in the Middle East. Or you may be interested in the international implications of clandestine prisons and the secret torture of high-profile terrorist suspects...You must choose a topic that interests **you**. You need not obtain permission from the instructor (or TA) to pursue the topic that interests you but you could meet with the prof during office hours to discuss how to narrow down or broaden your research focus.

You should overview and assess some recent literature – published after 2014 - concerning this issue. **What do the authors argue? Which facts and empirical data do you think are most helpful, and why? Which experts in your opinion provide a good synopsis of the crisis? Which papers redefine the problem or offer new and original solutions?** You should assess 2-3 journal articles, refereed papers or book chapters for their content level, relevance, and appropriateness.

In your essay, you must answer each of the following questions **in the same order they are presented below** and **using the same numbers and sub-headings as below**. Rather than write a typical essay, you need to answer each question below in the order that it is posed. How much space (*e.g.* how many words) you accord to each section is up to you.

I. PROBLEM DEFINITION

In this section, you can answer questions like this: In your assessment, what is the problem pertaining to this aspect of International Security? What is the nature and extent of this international crisis? What are other experts and analysts saying pertaining to this problem? Why is it a crisis today? Try to define the problem by narrowing it down as much as possible.

II. POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES

In this section, write about what might happen if little or nothing is done to alleviate the present situation? In your opinion and the opinion of other international experts, what might be the consequences for the world (and possibly Canada) if this crisis gets worse? In your opinion and the opinion of other international experts, what might be the consequences for the world if this crisis is not solved?

III. PROBABLE CAUSES

In this section, ask yourself and consult experts about what are the roots of this problem? What short- and long-term factors caused this situation? According to the recent literature, what international, domestic and individual-level factors may have brought about this international crisis?

IV. POLICY OPTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

In your estimate and the estimate of others, what options and alternatives do we have? What might be the costs and benefits associated with making the policy changes that you and other experts recommend? If you cannot find concrete empirical information about potential costs and benefits, consider the implications of the recommendations instead.

Presentation: Your essay must be no longer than approximately 2000 words and a maximum of 3000 words including the footnotes/endnotes and Bibliography/Works Cited. The TA will check the word count with and without the footnotes/endnotes/bibliography/works cited pages. If the essay itself is approximately 200 words over 2000 words, this is entirely acceptable and will not affect your final mark. But if it is more than 250 words over the 3000 word count, you will be docked marks (approximately -10 to -50% depending on each individual's situation).

The Bibliography/Works Cited may include scholarly articles that were written by legitimate authors or

representatives of research organizations before 2014. But most of the scholarly articles that you ultimately choose to focus upon must have been published (or 'forthcoming') between 2014-2020.

A maximum of 2000 words including/not including the notes/footnotes and including/not including the bibliography/works cited means each section (see the Roman Numbers 1-IV above) could be 500 words. But you do not have to abide by such strict rules for each section. Often Sections III-IV are long and Section I is one paragraph long. Additional analysis beyond 3000 words will be neither read nor marked by the TA (who is a PhD candidate).

Please ensure that you identify all quotations, references, and other people's ideas in the notes/footnotes (see all the regulations on Plagiarism below) and that you submit a title page with your name and a comprehensive bibliography/works in the same document with your main text.

You may use any style guide you wish (*e.g.* Chicago, MLA, APA or Medical styles). Most students will use Chicago style. You are expected to consult a stylebook. You cannot make up your own style or use the D.B. Weldon short guide (which is a mix of two styles). You must consistently construct your footnotes and/or endnotes and your Bibliography and/or Works Cited, otherwise you will be docked -10 to -25% on the final mark.

The final copy must be submitted to Turnitin and OWL's dropbox by the 11:50 pm deadline. It must be submitted as a MS Word document. **It definitely cannot be a PDF copy or RTF file. The instructor and the TA must be able to "track changes" and mark up your essay using MS Word.** Please do not submit a PDF and expect to submit the Word version late as you will be docked late marks.

Deterring Plagiarism: If there is no copy on Turnitin or the copy on Turnitin is different from the copy you submitted, then you will receive a final mark of 0% in the class. The Turnitin link is on the official class website.

More on the Late penalty or non-submission of paper: See the policy on Academic Accommodation attached to this course outline.

11. How Can You Earn Participation Marks (10%)?

Participation marks are designed to reward participation, enhance the class's activities, and increase high-quality attendance. Participation marks are earned through participation in lectures, specifically:

1) The Cuban Missile Crisis simulation = 1-3 participation points for speaking in your 'role' during this simulation. No matter how long your spoken contribution lasts, I will award you 1 participation point for somehow contributing in your role's behalf. Speaking publicly may require some advance preparation for your particular role, especially if you are assigned a prominent role, like President John Kennedy or Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. But in most cases, you should be able to earn 1-3 points during this simulation simply by reading the 'individualized' materials for your role and speaking up a few times.

2) The current UN crisis simulation so just as in the Cuban missile crisis simulation, **you will earn 1 participation point for attending in your role and speaking up once. You will be randomly assigned a country to represent, like China** - and even if you are Vanuatu, the UN's smallest country - you will have opportunities to speak up and so earn up to 3 participation points. If you sign a resolution, you will not necessarily earn a participation point - do not hurriedly sign resolutions you have not read to earn participation points. You must be prepared to speak up on behalf of the resolution you signed.

3) The Ballistic Missile simulation so just as in the CMC and UN simulations, you will earn 1-3 participation points for speaking. No matter how long your spoken contribution lasts, you will earn one participation point for contributing, which may require some advance preparation for your particular role,

especially if you are assigned a prominent role, like Kim Jong Un or a less prominent role, like Tariq Rauf from the IAEA. Most students earn 2 participation points and some more avid participants earn 3 points.

4) **Class Dialogues and Guest Lectures.** If you ask a question of the professor during classtime or submit a high-quality online forum commentary or you help the professor to set up a Simulation for longer than 5 minutes, then check with the professor to confirm your participation and you could earn 1 point. You must remind the professor that you spoke up either immediately after doing so, during the coffee break, after class or during that day's office hours in order to earn a point. Students that claim they spoke up, much later, will not earn points. There will be plenty of opportunity to earn points including online forums.

5) **Certificate of 100% Participation** Once you earn a maximum of 10 points = 10% of your final mark, you will receive an email from the professor congratulating you on 100% participation and you do not need to attend any more simulations or contribute to any more in-class dialogues or online forums. Most students, nevertheless, continue to attend the in-class activities and contribute to simulations and dialogues because that they want to learn more and do better on the exams. The professor's overarching goal, each term, is for each registered student to learn to participate in all sorts of activities including helping to set up simulations. If you are shy, you could contribute to the online forum more. Our goal is that the entire class earns 100% on Participation so be sure to share classtime with others.

12. Non-medical and medical accommodation

"A clear indication of how non-medical absences from midterms, tutorials, laboratory experiments, or late essays or assignments, will be dealt with must be provided. The course outline must direct the student to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness available here":

Medical Illness

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

In addition, instructors must state how they will be dealing with accommodation for medical illness of work worth less than 10% of the total course grade, and whether or not medical documentation for such accommodation will be required. If documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

Even if you have non-medical or medical accommodation, the multiple choice questions posed to you on the mid-term or final exams cannot be changed to suit you. If you miss lectures for any reason (documented or not) you are responsible for meeting other students to discuss the Slides and the lecture information you missed. Professor Simpson cannot meet with you individually to discuss the lecture or simulation you missed. You may ask other students to audio-tape the lectures but in general Professor Simpson re-records the lecture during the week after it is delivered (without the benefit of the Class Discussion due to student confidentiality). You do not need the professor's permission to ask another student to record the lecture including the Class Discussion. The Professor may ask multiple choice questions based on the Class Discussion's main themes and the Simulations, in addition to the PowerPoint Slides that were delivered, so it is important to regularly attend classes.

If you must miss any simulation or lectures, for any reason, do not email the professor explaining why (due to student confidentiality reasons, do not email the professor). You can 'make up' the missed participation mark by earning more participation marks during lectures, simulations and in online forums.

If you miss many or all the lectures, and you cannot possibly 'make up' the missed participation marks, then you must meet with your Academic Counsellor to discuss your situation. Most students will earn 100% in terms of their participation marks over the entire term. Many students will earn 100% by Class 9.

Therefore, you must meet with your Academic Counsellor to deal with accommodation for medical or non-medical absences worth more (or less) than 10% of the course grade.

13. Will I know my mid-term exam and Participation Mark before the drop-date and/or before I write the final exam?

To summarize the participation marks, you can easily raise your Final Mark by earning 100% on participation points. I will update your participation marks before the final exam so you know all your marks - except the final exam mark - when you go into the exam. But I do not update the participation marks on a weekly basis before or after the official drop-date.

14. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

15. Statement on Academic Offences

The statement: "Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

16. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Will I know my marks before I write the final exam?

The Professor posts all your marks before the final exam, so you know all your marks except the final exam mark when you enter the exam room.

How should I study for the multiple-choice exams? When do I write the exams?

The Mid-term exam in Oct. and the Final Exam in Dec will test you on the lecture material and the simulations including all the posted slides. The separate Tests and Quizzes (worth 10%) are multiple-choice questions that reflect exactly the same type of multiple-choice questions you will be posed on the exam. There is a mix of 'easy', 'difficult' and 'very challenging' questions.

The Final Exam is **non-cumulative** so you will not be tested on the information you learned before the Mid-term Exam. The exams will **not** test you on what you or other students write online and submit to the Online Forum. The exam does **not** test you on the exact wording of any UN resolution unless a particular UN Resolution is passed by the UN General Assembly. Because this is so unusual, that particular resolution is prominently featured on Slides in a subsequent class so you read it over again.

Should I study the timelines and other dates?

The exams do **not** test you on the detailed time-lines that accompany some slides during the simulations. Those timelines are clearly marked: DO NOT STUDY. But the exams do test you on maps, charts and other dates that relate to what happened, where and when, that we cover in class lectures. You are expected to memorize many dates and numbers and remember basic maps. Some students find it useful to maintain a separate list of dates and numbers to study a few days before the Mid-term and Final Exams.

Can I arrange to write an exam early?

As soon as the final exams are scheduled by the Registrar's office, the exam schedule will be posted on OWL. You cannot make plans to travel out of the country until the exam schedule is officially posted, and you may not write any exams early.

Will software be used to detect cheating?

Since computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams are given, software might be used to check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating therefore: *"Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."*

Does the make-up exam pose different multiple-choice questions?

Due to unforeseen events, some students may write make-up exams a few weeks or months later in which case they will write exams based on different multiple-choice questions drawn from the Professor's large 'Exam Bank' of possible multiple-choice questions.

Do you accept multiple-choice questions written by students in the class?

The Professor often changes the PowerPoint slides and writes new multiple-choice questions. If you would like to email the professor some possible questions for the Exam Bank, then your suggestions are very welcome! As well, if you submit high-quality multiple choice questions – which the professor could consider this year or in future years - this effort could contribute to your Participation points worth 10%.

What do you mean by Relevant (not Required) Readings?

To summarize, the two exams test you on everything you learned from the slides and simulations and guest lectures, not from the *Relevant Readings*. There is no textbook and the *Relevant Readings* are **not** Required Readings. The *Relevant Readings* are used by you in order to contribute to class discussions and simulations. Please do not read the Relevant Readings unless you would like to know more. We hope the Slides stimulate your interest in learning more about particular issues or roles, however, most students do not consult the Relevant Readings due to their own heavy course loads.

Should I take notes on the lecture slides?

You should always download or print the Slides, and take some notes on the Slides. As you view the Slides, your task is to think about and question the materials, not to be a medieval scribe. While many students do want to reinforce the lecture material by taking many handwritten or typewritten notes, you do not need to take many handwritten or typed notes because all the Slides are posted on OWL.

Perhaps during lectures you could think about the slides' content and how you could participate in the class dialogue rather than take copious notes? Also why get writer's cramp?

Are there additional Class Notes or Lecture Notes?

There are no additional notes of any kind that can be made available by the instructor for students that plan to miss a lecture or that missed lectures. If you miss a lecture, you should view the Slides and possibly listen to the audio on your own time, keeping in mind you missed the relevant Class Dialogue and/or the amazing Simulation.

What are the regulations concerning course re-evaluation, absences and the evaluation of international students?

- You are **not** allowed to re-write any exams or assignments, once they have been handed-in for marking, unless due to exceptional circumstances as assessed by the Dean's office.
- If you submit the "wrong answer" to an exam or assignment (but you think it is the right answer for a variety of reasons), you are **not** normally entitled to submit the "right version" or get credit for being 'right' somehow. You must speak to the Professor, who will decide the fairest option.
- In the event that you miss many classes or all of them, you may not have your mark 'reweighted' to cover your absences unless you have written permission from your Academic Counsellor in your Faculty. You must see your Academic Counsellor, not the Professor in order to make different arrangements regarding course re-evaluation and absences.
- If you are an international student, your exams and your contributions to in-class dialogues and Simulations [as well as to the Dropbox if you have permission to do so from your Academic Counsellor] will be graded according to Canadian University standards.

What are the regulations concerning non-medical and medical absences?

- Please see the student services and the information below entitled “Appendix B – Procedures for Requesting Academic Consideration” for the updated Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and Student Medical Certificate. If you have medical illness or other documentation, you **must** take it to the Dean’s Office or an Academic Counselor in your Faculty, who will then confirm whether you can possibly be granted accommodation. Any medical absence must **be** documented as instructed by Student Services, Dean’s Office or your Academic Counselor. Academic Counseling will advise the Professor about accommodation and the final decisions about due dates, re-weighting and/or transfer weighting will be made in consultation with you and your Academic Counselor, not with the Professor. **Do not meet with the professor to discuss the reasons for accommodation for medical or non-medical grounds.**
- For course **work that is worth less than 10%** (as per Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness) non-documentable absences will not be given accommodation except in the circumstances described below in Appendix B. Allowances, like easy-to-earn participation marks for contributions to class dialogues, simulations and helping set up and take away the simulations, have already been included for more incidental absences.

NEW IN 2019 Appendix B - Procedures for Requesting Academic Consideration

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

- Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
- For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in order to be eligible for academic consideration. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Counselling unit to clarify what documentation is appropriate.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- **are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (upset stomach) or upsets (argument with a friend) are **not** an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;**
- must communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence.

Academic consideration **is not** normally intended for the following circumstances:

- Students who require academic accommodation based on an ongoing physical or mental illness (recurring or chronic) or an existing disability. These students are expected to seek and arrange reasonable accommodations with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible in accordance with the Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disability.
- **Students who experience high levels of stress related to academic performance (including completing assignments, taking part in presentations, or writing tests or examinations). These students should access support through Student Health and Wellness and Learning Skills Services in order to deal with this stress in a proactive and constructive manner.**

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the **online Self-Reported Absence portal**. This

option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities **within 48 hours or less**.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

Students will be allowed:

- a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April;

- a maximum of one self-reported absence between May and August.

Any absences in excess of the number designated above, regardless of duration, will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities.

- The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self- Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;

- The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (write a test, submit a paper) during that time;

- The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30 am on the day following the last day of classes each semester regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;

- Self-reported absences **will not be** allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period;

- Self-reporting **may not be** used for assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.

- students must be in touch with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

Students seeking academic consideration for a medical absence not covered by existing Student Accessibility Services (SAS) accommodation, will be required to provide documentation in person to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in the form of a completed, signed Student Medical Certificate (SMC) where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Non-Medical Absence

Students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence will be required to provide appropriate documentation to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.

Can I use electronics, like my cell phone during the exams?

No electronic devices are permitted to be used during any exam including cellphones, personal computers, and/or electronic dictionaries.

What is Scantron? Is it always used?

Exam questions are composed by the Professors, not TAs or students, and multiple-choice questions are marked by university-approved multiple-choice computer-marking system ('Scantron')

Special exams may be different in content, structure and format than the regularly scheduled exam. Specific exam formats will be announced and explained by the Professor, but the exams will be multiple choice in most cases. If you miss the second make-up for the mid-term or final exams, for any reason, you may have to write a multiple choice combined with an essay-type of exam and your answers may be essay-style, not multiple choice. For example, if you miss the second make-up for the mid-term exam, the third-make-up exam will consist of essay-style (not multiple choice) questions. This is because the professor's large exam bank will never be large enough to pose enough multiple-choice questions for so many different make-up exams.

What do I do if I have a concern about my Mid-Term or Final Exam Grade and/or Participation Grade?

- See the professor during office hours or set up an appointment via email. Professor Simpson can look at your Scantron and your original exam to check you filled out the bullets correctly.
- You can meet with Professor Simpson in her office to review your answers to your exam but you may not take away, photograph or photocopy the original exam question sheets.
- Appeals to change an exam (or essay) grade must be received during that term of instruction (*e.g.* the Course Lecturer does not handle appeals after the term ends – you must appeal through Dean's office).

What happens if there are other changes to the Official Course Outline?

- Due to certain circumstances and/or situations, changes to course outlines and other course documents are necessary. In such cases, you will be informed through all available channels of communication as soon as possible.
- The dates and topics of the lectures, simulations and exams may be changed depending on schedules, illnesses, and other unforeseen events. The dates in this course outline are included for illustrative purposes only and may be updated on the class website as the term unfolds.

What about a reference letter?

- If you need a reference, please email professors individually for more information. Professor Simpson's firm policy is **not** to write references for law school and/or graduate school based on your standing in a second-year class because such a reference – compared to a 3rd-year or 4th-year reference is not useful – and would do you a **disservice**, not a service.
- If you take more than two courses from Professor Simpson, she may consider acting as your referee for jobs and for professional programs like internships – but keep in mind that obtaining a reference from a 3rd or 4th year instructor is preferable.

What other classes can I take if I become more interested in the general topic?

For more information about the other classes Professor Simpson teaches (2135A, 2141B, 2191B, 3203F) and the field of IR, see the [Department of Political Science](#).

APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

Essay course requirements

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

Security and Confidentiality of Student Work (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar*

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>

"Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

Duplication of work

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

Grade adjustments

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

Academic Offences

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

EXAMINATIONS/ATTENDANCE (Sen. Min. Feb.4/49, May 23/58, S.94, S.3538, S.3632, S.04-097) A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations: 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year. 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Medical Policy, Late Assignments, etc.

Students registered in Social Science should refer to

https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)."

Multiple-choice tests/exams: "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html

PLAGIARISM*

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

Accessibility at Western: Please contact poliscie@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

SUPPORT SERVICES

- The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at www.registrar.uwo.ca
- Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here) can be reached at: <https://westernusc.ca/your-services/>
- Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://sdc.uwo.ca/>
- Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Procedures for Requesting Academic Consideration

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