



EFFECTIVE: MAY 2004 CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION** Effective Date: **MAY 2004**

B. Department / Program Area: **POLITICAL SCIENCE** Revision New Course
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **D,F,M,N,O,P,Q,R**
 Date of Previous Revision: May 1995
 Date of Current Revision: October 2003

C: **POLI 203** D: **CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES** E: **3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F: Calendar Description: This course examines conflict and collaboration in the international system and includes an analysis of some of the current issues in the areas of security, north-south relations, the global economy and the environment. The role of international organizations in the field of conflict resolution is also examined.		
G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings: Lecture Seminar Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor) Lecture: 2 hrs. per week / semester Seminar: 2 hrs. per week / semester Number of Weeks per Semester: 15	H: Course Prerequisites: POLI 103 or Permission of Instructor	
	I: Course Corequisites: NONE	
	J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite NONE	
	K: Maximum Class Size: 35	
L: PLEASE INDICATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Credit <input type="checkbox"/> College Credit Non-Transfer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Credit Transfer: SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bccat.bc.ca)		

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Understand the nature of conflict and collaboration in the current international system, various theories on the causes of conflict between and within states and different approaches to conflict resolution.
2. Apply their understanding of the causes of conflict and collaboration to an analysis of some of the current issues in the international system.
3. Apply their understanding of international politics to an analysis of current issues in the global economy, north-south relations and the environment.
4. Undertake further study of international politics.

N: Course Content:Unit One: Global Issues and International Relations Theory

- 1.1 Identification of global issues examined in the course
- 1.2 Discussion of current theoretical perspectives: realism, liberalism, idealism, international political economy, regime theory, complex interdependence, hegemonic stability theory, neo-mercantilism, Marxism, dependency theory, feminism, global governance and other post-modernist approaches

Unit Two: Managing, Resolving and Preventing Conflict:

- 2.1 Settlement patterns, diplomacy, negotiations, arms control
UN peacekeeping and peacemaking
- 2.2 NATO and regional security issues
- 2.3 Humanitarian Intervention

Unit Three: The Global Economy

- 3.1 Globalization, regionalization, interdependence, dependence
- 3.2 Trade, economic development, debt, and foreign aid

Unit Four: Human Security Issues and Human Rights:

- 4.1 The concept of human security
- 4.2 Human security issues: hunger, population growth, disease, poverty, demographic shifts, migration, and refugees
- 4.3 Concepts of human rights, the development and expansion of human rights agreements
- 4.4 The role of international organizations
- 4.5 Women's rights, the rights of children
- 4.6 Democratization, economic globalization and human rights

Unit Five: The Global Environment:

- 5.1 Perspectives on the environment
- 5.2 Global environmental issues: the limits to growth, the greenhouse effect, the ozone layer, pollution, biodiversity, oceans, deforestation, desertification, environmental scarcity--energy, raw materials, water resources
- 5.3 Environmental regimes: greenhouse gases
- 5.4 The relationship between the environment and conflict

<p>O: Methods of Instruction</p> <p>Presentation of the course will involve the use of formal lectures, structured group work by students, and in-class discussion of assigned research topics. Additional readings may be assigned for each unit of the course. Where appropriate, audio-visual materials and computer-based instruction will be used.</p>												
<p>P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students</p> <p>Texts and course readings will be selected by instructors after consultation with the department. Examples of texts to be used:</p> <p>Rourke, John T. (2001). <i>International Politics on the World Stage</i> (8th ed.). Guildford: McGraw Hill/Dushkin Publishing Group, Inc.</p> <p>Sens, Allen and Peter Stoett. (1999). <i>Global Politics: Origins, Currents, Directions</i>. Scarborough: Nelson Canada.</p> <p>Texts will be updated periodically.</p>												
<p>Q: Means of Assessment</p> <p>The course evaluation will be based on the course objectives and in accordance with Douglas College policy and the policies of the Political Science Department. A minimum of 50% of the student's grades will be assigned to the mid-term and end of term examinations. A minimum of 30% of the student's grades will be assigned to a formal research essay. A maximum of 20% of student's grade will be based upon a series of components, for example: quizzes, short essay, attendance, participation, class presentations. The specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.</p> <p>One example of an evaluation scheme:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Mid-term test</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Book Review</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research Essay</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Participation</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td><u>20%</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td> Total</td> <td> 100%</td> </tr> </table>	Mid-term test	20%	Book Review	20%	Research Essay	30%	Participation	10%	Final Exam	<u>20%</u>	 Total	 100%
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<p>R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR</p> <p>No.</p>												

Course Designer(s) : Shaun Tyakoff

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director

Registrar