

P0102: Politics Beyond Borders

Wilfrid Laurier University

Winter 2017

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnawbe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

Instructor: Dr. Yasmine Shamsie

Lecture: Section A Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 - 12:50 a.m.

Section B Tuesday and Thursday 2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Classroom: E1E

Email: yshamsie@wlu.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 11 a.m. (or by appointment)

Office: DAWB 4-112

*Students with disabilities or special needs are advised to contact Laurier's **Accessible Learning Office** (<https://www.wlu.ca/accessible-learning/index.html>) for information regarding its services and resources. Students are encouraged to review the Academic Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.*

Additional information on Foot Patrol, Counselling Services the WLUSU Food Bank can be found on the last page out this outline.

Course Material

Please note: The educational materials developed for this course, including, but not limited to, lecture notes and slides, handout materials, examinations and assignments, and any

materials posted to MyLearningSpace, are the intellectual property of the course instructor (Yasmine Shamsie). These materials have been developed for PO102 students enrolled in the Winter Term of 2017 only and they are not intended for wider dissemination and/or communication outside of a given course.

Posting or providing unauthorized audio, video, or textual material of lecture content to third-party websites violates an instructor's intellectual property rights, and the Canadian Copyright Act. Recording lectures in any way is prohibited in this course unless specific permission has been granted by the instructor. Failure to follow these instructions may be in contravention of the university's Code of Student Conduct and/or Code of Academic Conduct, and will result in appropriate penalties. Participation in this course constitutes an agreement by all parties to abide by the relevant University Policies, and to respect the intellectual property of others during and after their association with Wilfrid Laurier University.

Course Description

Politics is fundamental to all societies. Why? Because it's about how they manage disagreements, resolve problems, or simply get things done. At the local level, it's how the people of Toronto decide whether to build more subways or more highways. At the national level, it's how Canadians decide whether to assist civilians in war-torn Syria or not? At the global level, it's how we, as a global community, address grave problems like preserving the world's coral reefs, preventing child/human trafficking, and reducing global poverty. In this course, we will focus on the global.

We will examine the wide array individuals, international organizations and networks, as well as countries that come together (sometimes regularly, sometimes in a crisis) to solve global problems. We will explore why sometimes they are successful and other times they are not.

We begin by exploring the meaning of “politics” and how we govern at the national level as preparation for examining politics at the global level. The course then considers a range of global issues and problems – cyber crime, the spread of nuclear weapons, the problem of invasive species, and territorial conflicts, among others.

Course Objectives

This course will help you:

- to better understand what governing at the global level entails, how it is different from, and the same as, governing a country;
- to make you aware of, and help you understand, political events unfolding in the world, by linking these events to the core concepts and tools in political science;
- to build basic skills like creating a proper summary and identifying the arguments in a reading;
- to help you understand the fundamentals of good political analysis; and,
- to help you go beyond offering an opinion about global politics to building a case to support that opinion.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- identify the fundamentals of good political analysis and critique political argumentation;
- differentiate between coverage of politics in the popular media and academic analysis of political phenomena;

- identify core concepts, issues and themes that define politics beyond borders;
- become more informed about various global problems and the solutions that have been devised.

Course Requirements and Assessment Overview

Required Readings

Course Kit: PO 102: Politics Beyond Borders

All other readings are available online.

I suggest you read the course kit articles indicated in the syllabus prior to the lecture. Keep in mind that almost all the multiple choice questions on the two tests will be taken from the course readings.

A complete lecture schedule with assigned readings will be provided in the first week of class and posted on MLS under the heading: Lecture Agenda. Please keep checking this Lecture Agenda since some topics may change based on what is happening in global politics over the course of the term.

MLS (myls): All materials related to this course will be provided on MLS. You will also be receiving course announcements via [MyLearningSpace](#) (MLS). Readings for tutorial discussions will also be posted separately on MLS webpage. If you experience technical difficulties with MLS, you should get in touch with myLS@wlu.ca without delay.

Communication

I will only respond to emails sent from Laurier accounts, so please only use that email if you require a response.

I will do my best to respond to emails within 24-48 hours. But remember there are 600 students in this course. Please note that I do not usually respond to emails over the weekend so if you email after 5 pm Friday you may not receive a response until the following Monday.

Course Assessment

Tutorials: 4 tutorials X 5% each = 20%

Assignment #1: Due Tuesday February 7 worth 10%

Assignment #2: Due Thursday March 9 and worth 20%

Test #1: Tuesday January 31 worth 15%

Test #2: Thursday March 23 worth 15%

Final Exam: worth 20% -- Scheduled by Registrar's Office during exam period

Tutorial Schedule (See Chart on MLS for day/place and time of your tutorial):

Tutorial #1: Weeks of January 17/26

Tutorial #2: Weeks of February 1/8

Tutorial #3: Weeks of March 1/8

Tutorial #4: Weeks of March 15/22

Tutorial Preparation / Participation

Tutorials are worth a large portion of your grade so do not minimize their importance.

Tutorials begin week 3. (They do not meet every week and there are only 4 tutorials over the course of the term.)

When you enrolled in this course, you were automatically placed in a tutorial. Check LORIS to find out which tutorial you are in, the location, and the time. If you go to the wrong tutorial or you miss a tutorial because you thought you were meeting a different week, you

will receive a “0”. *There are no make-ups granted for “wrong time” or “wrong week” errors, so carefully note when your tutorial meets!*

You will find on MLS, (under the tutorials heading) a schedule that tells you which weeks your tutorial will be meeting.

Readings for tutorials will also be posted on MLS, at least a week before the tutorial, if not earlier.

You will also find on MLS a document that details how tutorials will be graded. I encourage you to ask your TA how you are doing after tutorial #2.

Make sure you take note of your TA’s name, email, and your Tutorial number (ie: A5 or B2).

Note if you are unable to attend a tutorial, please email the head TA Abdi Issa [\[issa9420@mylaurier.ca\]](mailto:issa9420@mylaurier.ca) immediately (include your tutorial #, the time of your tutorial, and your TA’s name) in order to request a tutorial change. * A make-up tutorial will be granted for medical reasons (with medical documentation) or for extreme personal difficulties. If a make-up tutorial is not possible, you will be asked to respond to the tutorial questions during Professor Shamsie’s office hours.

Note: No laptops or tablets are allowed in tutorials. Bring notes about the articles you have read. Needless to say, no other communication devices should be used during tutorials.

Two Written Assignments

Students will be asked to complete two written assignments for this course. Detailed instructions will be provided on MLS.

Two in-class Tests

The two tests in this course will be multiple-choice. Questions will be based on lectures and course readings, as well as tutorial readings and guest lecture content. However, the bulk of the questions will come from course kit content.

Final Exam

All materials from the course will be on the exam: readings, lectures, tutorial readings, guest lectures and films.

Bonus Marks! (IClicker registration, participation and attendance)

You can earn bonus marks in this course, which will be added directly to your final calculated grade.

These bonus marks will be based on your 1) attendance and 2) participation in class. In other words, if the system indicates you attended all classes but did not answer clicker questions you will not be eligible for bonus grades. Bonus grades require high levels of attendance AND participation.

Participation will be measured using IClicker. IClicker is a classroom response system that allows immediate interactive feedback. I will be using it to take attendance every class; to allow you to share your views on global issues with classmates; and to assess your understanding of the course material.

Your attendance and all your responses will be recorded with the technology.

*Please be ready to use I-clicker during the second class (Thursday January 5th) since attendance will be taken from this day forward. Note that if you miss a class due to illness, a varsity team practice or game, car trouble, family issues, or any other reason, you have the opportunity to make it up (that is, get the attendance point you missed) by ensuring you attend **guest lectures**. Guest lectures will be worth two attendance points!*

I-Clicker Bonus marks will be assigned at the end of term, after the final exam, once your final grade is calculated, in the following way:

- If you attend 95% or more the classes and answer 90% of the questions asked in class you will receive 3% as a bonus. [This means that if your final grade is a 78

(B+), you could boost your grade to a 81 (A-) through attendance and clicker participation alone!]

- If you attend 90% to 94% of classes and answer 90% of the questions, you will receive 2%.
- If you attend 85% to 89% of classes and answer 90% of the questions, you will receive 1%.

IClicker Registration

You are responsible for purchasing your clicker from the Laurier Bookstore.

Register your clicker online via MyLearningSpace immediately or your participation will not be visible, hence bonus marks will not be awarded.

When you login to MyLearningSpace you will see a course called “Clicker Registration - Winter 2017”. To register your clicker, follow these steps:

1. Enter the “Clicker Registration - Winter 2017” course by clicking on the title
2. From the homepage, click on the “Click here to register your clicker” link
3. Enter your clicker serial Remote ID in the box provided.
4. Click on the ‘Register’ button.

Note: Failure to register your clicker in this way will result in loss of clicker marks. You **MUST** complete the registration to have your clicker marks assigned to you. If you registered your clicker in Fall 2016, you may not need to register again, but please CONFIRM that your clicker is registered in the registration area in MyLearningSpace. If you registered your clicker in previous years, you **MUST** register it again for this term.

Please direct any questions about this process or about clickers in general to clickers@wlu.ca.

Plagiarism

Wilfrid Laurier University uses software that can check for plagiarism. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form and have it checked for plagiarism.

According to the Academic Calendar (2016-17), plagiarism “involves using the thoughts, ideas, or writings of another person and passing them off as your own (adapted from the Oxford English Dictionary definition). It can involve taking credit for ideas that were not your own or using the words of others without properly citing them.” Further information can be found at <https://students.wlu.ca/academics/academic-integrity/index.html>. Should you have any questions about these issues please feel free to discuss them with me.

Lecture Dates

Week 1: Jan 3 and 5

Week 2: 10 and 12

Week 3: 17 and 19

Week 4: 24 and 26

Week 5: 31 and Feb 2 (Test #1)

Week 6: 7 and 9 (Assignment #1)

Week 7: 14 and 16

Reading Week

Week 8: 28 and March 2

Week 9: 7 and 9 (Assignment #2)

Week 10: 14 and 16

Week 11: 21 and 23 (Test #2)

Week 12 28 and 30

Tentative Lecture Schedule (Check “Lecture Agenda” for the most up to date schedule. The “Lecture Agenda” is posted on MLS. Check it often since order of topics could change!)

Week 1

Jan 3 Lecture 1: Introduction to Course: Understanding Politics

Jan 5 Lecture 2: Introduction: Understanding Politics continued

Week 2

Jan 10 Lecture 1: The Nation State and Globalization

Jan 12 Lecture 2: The Nation State and Globalization

Week 3

Jan 17 Lecture - spotlight on policy: Assessing Performance: Governance

Jan 19 Lecture: Is there such a thing as the “International Community”?

Week 4

Jan 24 Lecture 1: Who governs the world? How do we solve global problems?

Jan 26 Lecture 2: Who governs the world? How do we solve global problems?

Week 5

January 31 Test #1

February 2 - Lecture 1: International Law

Week 6

February 7 – Lecture 2: International Law (Assignment #1 due)

February 9 – Lecture 1: Global Trade: Why so controversial?

Week 7

February 14 - Lecture 2: Global Trade: Why so controversial?

February 16 Guest Lecture

READING WEEK (20-24)

Week 8

February 28 – Lecture 1: Governing the Environment

March 2 - Lecture 2: Governing the Environment

Week 9

March 7 – Guest Lecture

March 9 – TBA (Assignment #2 Due)

Week 10

March 14 Lecture: International Law Case Study: Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea

March 16 – Guest Lecture

Week 11

March 21 -- Lecture Humanitarian Intervention: A challenge to sovereignty

March 23 Test #2: Will cover material from all the lectures, tutorials, and readings since the last test

Week 12

March 28 - Lecture 1 Global Security: Understanding global terrorism

March 30 - Lecture 2 Global Security: Understanding global terrorism

Catch up and discussion of the exam format

Email Etiquette

When you are communicating with the Professor or TAs using email:

- 1) make sure the subject line of your message identifies the course number and the nature of your query (for example: P0102A Assignment Question);

2) also, make sure you tell us your name, student number, your TA's name, and your tutorial number; and

3) finally, you should use *only* your Laurier email account when corresponding with your TAs or a professor.

On behalf of WLUSU (wlusu.com)

Foot Patrol Walk Home Service

1.519.886.FOOT x3668

Foot Patrol is a volunteer operated walk-home service, available daily during evening hours. Male-female, radio-dispatched teams trained in Emergency First Aid are available on request to escort students to and from campus as well as to off-campus destinations, either by foot or by van.

Counselling Services and Peer Help Line

1.886.281.PEER x7337

Counselling Services are available to help students deal with emotional, psychological and social challenges of university. Counselling, consultation or referrals are available at the Student Wellness Centre. Peer Help Line, a confidential listening, referral, information and support line, is available during evening hours to provide support.

Student Food bank

All Laurier students are eligible to use the Student Food Bank. Anonymous requests can be made online at wlusu.com under the Services tab. All dietary restrictions are accommodated, and food hampers typically last up to a week.