

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
TRIMESTER 3 2009**

16 November 2009 to 21 February 2010

**INTP/POLS 359: Directed Individual Study
CRN 8316 / CRN 13552**

Course Coordinator: Professor Stephen Levine
Room: MY534, Phone: 463 6099
Email: stephen.levine@vuw.ac.nz

In-term work: Research project

Assessment: Research project (5,000-7,000 words) 100%

Work Guidelines: Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 16 hours per week to INTP/POLS 359.

Mandatory Course Requirements:

Submission of research paper by **4.30 pm, Friday 12 February 2010** by hand and electronically.

Research Project:

This should be approximately 5,000-7,000 words in total. Following admission to the course (see below), a written research project proposal, including a statement of the topic and a list of appropriate sources to be consulted, should be submitted (electronically) by **11 December 2009**. Students are encouraged to discuss possible research projects with the course organiser before settling upon a topic. The research project must be submitted no later than **4.30 pm, Friday 12 February 2010**. It is the obligation of students to keep in touch over the summer and to report regularly on progress.

Aim and Course Objectives:

This is a supervised programme of research and study on selected themes in Political Science and International Relations. This directed individual study is for those who have already studied intensively in Political Science or International Relations, but who need a course to finish their POLS or INTP major and/or their degree, and wish to complete a research project in the POLS or INTP area. This course takes place only in the summer trimester.

Note: Enrolment in INTP 359 or POLS 359 is provisional – ‘decision pending’ – until final approval has been given by the course coordinator for the student’s research project.

Each student seeking to enrol in POLS 359 or INTP 359 needs to complete a [POLS 359 / INTP 359 Expression of Interest Form](#) (available on the website of the VUW Political Science and International Relations Programme). The form requires the prospective student to describe as fully as possible their proposed research topic and their reason for wishing to undertake it. It is essential for students to formulate a viable research topic and gain the agreement of the course coordinator in order for enrolment to proceed. The purpose of the ‘expression of interest’ form is to assist in determining the appropriateness and suitability of the topic for a summer trimester research project. Such decisions

also reflect assessments of the capacity of students to undertake the proposed topic (including access to appropriate resources) in the time available.

The form should be submitted to the course coordinator, Professor Stephen Levine, via email – to stephen.levine@vuw.ac.nz. Professor Levine will liaise with applicants in considering their research proposals.

Penalties:

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays—a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g., illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx