



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

INTP 377: Transnational Activism and Advocacy in Global Politics

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Study period: 19–23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Fridays 13:10-15:00

Venue: HMLT104

Workshops: Wednesdays 13:10-14:00

Venue: Hunter LT323

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Greta Snyder

Room No: MY510

Phone: 04 463 5972

Email: greta.snyder@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Monday 11:00 – 13:00

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding.

Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course focuses on the role of transnational advocacy networks and social movements in world politics. In addition to taking a social scientist's perspective on how such networks and movements affect international relations, we will look at the strategic dilemmas involved in transnational activism from an embedded actor's perspective.

Course content

- Week 1 (Lecture on 17 July, Workshop on 22 July): What are Transnational Advocacy Networks (TANs) and Social Movements (TNSMs)? Why study them?
- Week 2 (Lecture on 24 July, Workshop on 29 July): TANs/TNSMs in an evolving international context
- Week 3 (Lecture on 31 July, Workshop on 5 August): Network and movement emergence
- Week 4 (Lecture on 7 August, Workshop on 12 August): How do TANs/TNSMs exert influence? 1: Soft Power
- Week 5 (Lecture on 14 August, Workshop on 19 August): How do TANs/TNSMs exert influence? 2: Inter-actor Dynamics
- Week 6 (Lecture on 21 August, no Workshop): Mid-trimester
- Week 7 (Lecture on 11 September, Workshop on 16 September): Strategic Choices 1: Framing
- Week 8 (Lecture on 18 September, Workshop on 23 September): Strategic Choices 2: Tactics
- Week 9 (Lecture on 25 September, Workshop on 30 September): The relationship between TNSMs/TANs and the mainstream media
- Week 10 (Lecture on 2 October, Workshop on 7 October): TNSMs/TANs and the new media ecology
- Week 11 (Lecture on 9 October, Workshop on 14 October): Under what conditions are TNSMs/TANs likely to be successful?
- Week 12 (Lecture on 16 October, no Workshop): How successful have TNSMs/TANs been in democratising world politics? What does the future hold for TNSMs/TANs?

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing the course should be able to:

1. demonstrate their knowledge of key features of world politics, like international and intergovernmental organisations, and key concepts in the study of international relations, like soft power, framing and tactics
2. identify TANs/TNSMs and explain their significance in world politics
3. understand the strategic choices that advocates and activists must make and critically assess these choices
4. analyse multiple kinds of texts.

Teaching format

This course is taught in 1 hour 50 minute lectures per week. The lectures involve a substantial discussion component. Students are also required to attend at least two 50 minute workshops during the course of the trimester, though they are invited and encouraged to attend more.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. attend at least two workshops during the course of the trimester
2. sit the examination.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

The suggested workload outlined below assumes an average native English-speaking student. Some students will take longer while others will take less time (in terms of absolute number of hours) when completing different activities.

Per week (average)

Lecture attendance: 2 hours

Completing required reading: 5 hours

Completing assignments/studying for the examination: 9.6 hours (note: amount of time spent on assignments/studying will vary from week to week)

Total: 16.6 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Participation (5.7 hours)	5	1,2,3	Varies
2	Closed-book, in-class test (20.8 hours)	30	1,2,3	21 August
3	2,200 to 2,500-word research essay (32.7 hours)	25	1,2,3,4	16 October, 17:00
4	3 hour final examination (41.6 hours)	40	1,2,3	23 October to 14 November 2015

Participation (worth 5% of the final mark). To ensure that the course is responsive to student interests and needs, students are required to “lead” one workshop over the course of the trimester. Each student must commit to leading one of the 10 workshops by 20:00 on 17 July via a Google docs sign-up sheet that will be made available to the whole class. You should collaborate with others signed up for the same week to determine how best to use the workshop time, whether that be revision, relating recent events to the course’s content, engaged in a relevant activity, etc. A workshop plan – including any discussion questions, links to any relevant resources (i.e. news stories, blog posts, etc.), and/or descriptions of activities to be engaged during the workshop (i.e. analysing video clips, etc.) -- should be submitted on the “Weekly Workshop” page of the course’s Blackboard site by 17:00 PM on the Monday prior to the Wednesday workshop so that all students can see what the workshop will involve and prepare accordingly. Students will be assessed on the quality of the group’s workshop plan as well as the quantity and quality of their personal involvement in workshop discussion. This assessment furthers CLOs 1 and 2.

Mid-trimester In-class Test (worth 30% of the final mark). The 1 hour, 50 minute closed-book in-class test scheduled during the lecture period on 21 August. The test composition will be discussed in week 4 of the course. This assessment furthers CLOs 1, 2 and 3.

Research Essay (worth 25% of the final mark). To further CLOs 1, 2, 3 and 4, Students must submit a 2,200-2,500 word essay in response to the following prompt: “Analyse one aspect of the novel *State of Fear* using material learned in this class.” The essay is due on 16 October by 17:00 and must be submitted via TurnItIn on Blackboard. The Political Science/International Relations Essay Writing Guide and a rubric that outlines the characteristics of essays of differing quality levels are available under the “Assessment Resources” section on Blackboard.

Final Examination (worth 40% of the final mark). The **3 hour final examination** will be held during the examination period which is held from 23 October to 14 November 2015. This cumulative examination will consist of a mix of short- and long-answer essay questions. It furthers CLOs 1, 2 and 3.

Submission and return of work

Final essays and workshop plans should be submitted via Blackboard. Assignments will be returned at times to be advised. If students are unable to attend these times, they may collect their assignments from the School Office (Murphy 518) between 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Late submission of **assignments** will **not be accepted** unless the student makes an appointment as soon as practically possible with the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted). The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.

(See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **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 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary. Extensions on deadlines for written work will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.

Set texts

Students must have access to the following book for the essay assignment:

- Crichton, Michael. 2009. *State of Fear*. New York: Harper.

It can be purchased at most local bookstores.

Other required readings for INTP 377 are available on Blackboard, and can be printed on demand at Vic Books.

Recommended reading

Recommended reading for this course will be listed in a document posted to Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

The topics chosen and structure of assessments reflect student feedback; changes in course delivery made in response to student feedback will be noted during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz