



## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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

#### POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

### **INTP 451: SPECIAL TOPIC: CHALLENGES TO INTERNATIONAL ORDER** **30 POINTS** **TRIMESTER 2 2016**

#### **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 11 July to 13 November 2016

**Teaching dates:** 11 July to 16 October 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 22 August to 4 September 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

#### **Class times and locations**

Lectures: Mondays 16.10-19.00

Venue: Alan MacDiarmid Building LT105

#### **Names and contact details**

Course Coordinator: Dr Carol Atkinson

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Office hours: Tuesdays 12.00-14.00 and by appt

Course Coordinator: Dr Giacomo Chiozza

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Office hours: TBA

#### **Communication of additional information**

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that your account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and/or posted on the INTP451 Blackboard site.

#### **Prescription**

This course uses theoretical and historical approaches to examine how international order is

created and maintained, why past orders have collapsed and the implications for future world order. Part I of the course focuses on the emergence of the state system after the Peace of Westphalia, and how the great powers (UK, US, and Russia) shaped our current world order. Part II looks at alternative concepts of world order from Central Asian, Confucian and Islamic civilizations. Part III looks at how technological transformations, non-state agents, emerging powers, and environmental degradation will impact world order in the 21st Century. 100% internal assessment.

## Course content

This course is intended for honours- and Masters-level students who seek to understand one of the critical issues of our time: how international orders come about, change over time by overcoming challenges, or succumb to challenges to give rise to new orders. The course develops the analytic tools that are useful to understand how rules, practices, and institutions interact with power and politics in shaping the international environment. The course combines an overview of the major theoretical issues underlying the problem of order and illustrates how the tensions between power and institutions shape the political dynamics across historical contexts. A detailed session-by-session outline is available on Blackboard.

The course seeks to inspire students' research as well as to hone their writing skills. As we learn about international order, we will also learn about how to write college-level essays. We will focus on the mechanics of writing (e.g., style, structure, citations) as well as on how to present arguments supported by logic and evidence. As is the case with sports or playing musical instruments, writing requires practice. While talent or class discussions might help students write quality pieces, good writing only comes through the practice of writing and re-writing.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. critically assess theories and arguments about international order;
2. acquire expertise about how international orders have formed and operated over history;
3. engage in scholarly and informed discussion of academic literature in international relations;
4. devise a research project in which they identify a research puzzle, conduct independent research, evaluate competing theories, and assess evidence to answer their research puzzle; and
5. develop their writing skills to present clearly and effectively their research projects.

## Teaching format

The course is organized in weekly 3-hour seminars. Each seminar will be divided in two parts: the first part will be centred on lectures by the course instructors; the second part will be centred on class discussion.

The lectures will ground the class readings in a broader theoretical and historical context; they are meant to complement, not to substitute for, the weekly readings. The lectures will also engage matters of research design and inquiry to provide students guidance as they work on their research projects.

The discussions will foster a stronger and deeper grasp of the materials by critically engaging the readings, evaluating the logic and quality of the arguments, teasing out their implications for our understanding of international order. The goal is to give students theories and facts that will enable them to elaborate informed positions on the logic and dynamics of international order.

Given that the second part of each seminar will be spent discussing and analysing the readings assigned for that lesson, attendance, critical reading of the assigned materials, and informed participation in the discussions is essential. Students are expected to critically engage the

readings, to raise questions, to make connections between the readings and their own substantive interests in international relations.

Throughout the course, students will work on an original research project that will culminate in a 7000-word research essay. Therefore, the class discussion will also serve as a springboard to think creatively about what new research topics are inspired by the readings. Time will also be allocated for the discussion of students' research topics.

To ensure that everyone has a fair chance to contribute, the instructor may call on students at times.

## Mandatory course requirements

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

- sit the in-class final test; this is mandatory in order to demonstrate your attainment of Course Learning Objectives 1 and 2;
- submit the research essay, as described below; this is mandatory in order to demonstrate your attainment of Course Learning Objectives 1, 2, 4, and 5;

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

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 300 hours to INTP 451 during the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks. The following breakdown of the expected workload should serve as a general template. The actual time a student will spend on the course may vary depending upon the student's background and circumstances.

Component	Hours
Attending seminars	36
Readings and preparation for class	48
Analytical essay	20
Research proposal	20
Research essay	96
In-class 2-hr mid-trimester test	40
In-class 2-hr final test	40
<b>Total hours estimated</b>	<b>300</b>

To consider when planning your time:

- Preparation for seminar participation requires careful reading of assigned texts for meaning and argument. It may also entail note-taking as well preparation of questions for class

discussion. 'Budget' for at least one hour per reading, including additional internet research to help understand the historic and/or historiographical context of readings.

- Essays and other written assignments require time to locate, retrieve and read a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft are necessary before writing a final version. Begin assignments early.

## Assessment

Assessment items		Weight in Final grade (%)	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Seminar participation including presentation of analytical essays to the class	10%	1, 2, 3	Each class meeting
2	One analytical essay (1000 to 1500 words)	10%	1, 2, 5	TBA
3	Research proposal (750 to 1000 words)	10%	1, 2, 4, 5	8 August
4	In-class 2-hr Mid-trimester test	20%	1, 2, 5	5 September
5	Research essay (7000 to 7500 words)	30%	1, 2, 4, 5	3 October
6	In-class 2-hr final test	20%	1, 2, 5	10 October

More specifically:

- **Seminar participation and contribution:** Students are expected to attend each class meeting and to prepare for, participate in the weekly discussion of the class readings. Students are expected to come to class having done the readings for that class. Attendance is not the same as participation. Active and thoughtful participation in class discussion is an essential part of this course. This grading component includes:
  - a) presentation of analytical essays to the class;
  - b) serving as discussant for one of the classmates' analytical essays;
  - c) constructive participation in the discussion of classmates' essays and presentations; this entails providing comments, making connections with class materials, asking thoughtful and relevant questions.

Specific grading criteria for the presentation of the analytical essay and for serving as a discussant will be posted on the Blackboard page.

Attendance will be taken in each class meeting.

- **Analytical essays:** Each student is required to submit an analytical essay for one class meeting. The essay should be a minimum of 1000 words and a maximum of 1,500 words in standard formatting (double-spaced, standard font, 2.5cm margins). The essay is worth 10% of the final grade, for a total of 20%. Essay writers should: (1) post their essay on Turnitin no later than 10.00am on the day of the scheduled class meeting; (2) send an electronic copy to ALL class members via Blackboard no later than 10.30am of the scheduled class meeting; and (3) bring a (stapled) hard copy, with the programme cover sheet, to the scheduled class.

Students will select one class meeting for their analytical essays. On lesson 1 (11 July), there will be a sign-up sheet. The instructors will make sure that the submission of analytical essays is evenly distributed throughout the trimester. Once you have signed up to write an analytical essay on a given week, you may not change your commitment, unless you find another classmate to exchange the respective topics and due dates.

For the essay you may focus on one reading or the entire set of assigned readings for that week. In the analytical essay you should analyse a particular theoretical or empirical issue identified in the readings for that week. Specifically, you should identify the major contribution of the reading(s); their major weakness; and then think creatively on how you would build upon the readings to produce novel theoretical arguments or novel empirical findings. These essays should NOT be a book report or summary of the reading(s), but an analytic assessment of the issues you identify.

- **Research essay proposal:** A research proposal for the research essay is due electronically on Turnitin by 10.00am on 8 August, and a (stapled) hard copy is due in class on the same day. The research proposal should be a minimum of 750 words and maximum of 1000 words (double-spaced, standard font, 2.5cm margins). The proposal should address the following points: (a) question and issue; (b) argument/hypotheses; (c) research plan; (d) preliminary bibliography.
- **Research essay:** The major assignment for the class is to write a research essay. The essay should be based upon independent and original research that, while inspired by and grounded in the class materials, goes beyond the class readings. Students are encouraged to think about research topics as early as possible, and discuss them with the course instructors. Essays should be a minimum of 7000 words in length and no longer than 7,500 words. The essay should be written using standard 12pt font with 2.5cm margins. Essays should also include a cover page with the title and an abstract; and a list of references at the end. The cover page and the list of references will not count against the 7000-word limit for the text of the essay. The electronic version of the essay should be submitted electronically via Turnitin on Blackboard no later than 10:00am on 3 October. A hard-copy of the essay, with the programme cover sheet, is due at the beginning of class on the same day. Please do not forget to staple the pages of the essay; and to put page numbers. Essays that do not meet the formatting guidelines will receive a penalty.
- **In-class mid-trimester test (2 hours):** This exam will cover materials from Week 1 to Week 5. It is meant to assess students' understanding and knowledge of the course materials, i.e. lectures, discussions and, especially, the course readings. The test is closed-book; closed notes. Use of smart phones, tablets, e-readers, laptop computers, or other electronic devices, is prohibited during the exam.
- **In-class final test (2 hours):** This exam will cover materials from the entire course. It is meant to assess students' understanding and knowledge of the course materials, i.e. lectures, discussions and, especially, the course readings. The test is closed-book; closed notes. Use of smart phones, tablets, e-readers, laptop computers, or other electronic devices, is prohibited during the exam.

Further assignment instructions and marking criteria will be communicated during the trimester.

## Submission and return of work

Assignments are to be submitted via Turnitin on Blackboard. Instructions on how to submit your assignments are provided on Blackboard. A hard-copy of the assignments, with the programme cover sheet, is also due in class, as specified above. Marked assignments will be returned to you in class, generally between 1-2 weeks after the date submitted, and then (if you are not in class) returned to the School Office, MY 518, where they can be collected between the hours of 2.00-3.00 pm, Monday to Friday.

## Extensions and penalties

### Extensions

The development of work discipline and time management skills are an important part of the education process and it is expected that each student takes responsibility for allocating sufficient time for their studies.

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

### Late 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**. If an assignment is due at 10am on Blackboard and it is submitted at 10.01am it is considered one day late, so please allocate enough time to submit your work. 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.

In all cases, the time/date of upload on Turnitin will be used as the submission time/date, but students must also submit a stapled hard copy. Students should submit their hard copies of late essays to an administrator from the Programme office in 518 Murphy and ensure that he/she dates it.

### Essays Not Meeting Length Requirements

A penalty will be assessed for any essay that does not meet minimum length requirements. If your essay is short, it will be marked as is; then this mark will be multiplied by the percentage completed. For example, an essay that is marked at 90% that is only 6,500 words when the requirement is a minimum of 7,000 words will receive a mark of  $.90 \times (6500/7000) = .84$ . For any essay that exceeds the word limit, the portion of the essay that is over the limit will be crossed-out and not considered in marking.

### Academic Integrity

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism here: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism).

### Technology in the Classroom

Please turn-off your cell phone prior to the start of class. NO CELLPHONES should be used during class; that means no texting, tweeting, surfing, or anything else. You may use computers for note taking and class activities only.

### Set texts

Henry Kissinger, *World Order: Reflections on the Character of Nations and the Course of History*, Penguin, 2015.

Copies of this will be available at Vic Books: [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz).

Additional readings will be made available on Blackboard.

## Recommended reading

A list of recommended reading is included in the session by session outline for INTP451 available on 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.

## Student feedback

This is a new course. So, there is no prior student feedback. The instructors, however, are eager to hear from their students.

## 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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)