ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 1976
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2025
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval)**:** January 2031
Course outline form version: 29/08/2024

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: POSC 260	**Number of Credits:** 3 Course credit policy (105)
Course Full Title: International Relations and Global Politics **Course Short Title:** Int Relat & Global Politics	
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	**Department/School:** Political Science

Calendar Description:

Introduces students to the study of international relations and global politics. Explores international relations theory, the sources of power in world politics, security and war, international organizations, foreign policy, political economy, international law, human rights, poverty, development, globalization, and global governance.

Prerequisites (or NONE):	None.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	

Antirequisite Courses *(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)*

Former course code/number:

Cross-listed with:

Equivalent course(s):

(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours

Lecture/seminar	45
Total hours	**45**

Scheduled Laboratory Hours

Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: **No**

Course Details

Special Topics course: **No**

(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)

Directed Study course: **No**

(See policy 207 for more information.)

Grading System: **Letter grades**

Delivery Mode: **May be offered in multiple delivery modes**

Expected frequency: **Every semester**

Maximum enrolment (for information only)**: 36**

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

PLAR is available for this course.

Transfer Credit *(See **bctransferguide.ca**.)*

Transfer credit already exists: **Yes**

Submit outline for (re)articulation: **No**

(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)

Department approval	**Date of meeting:**	October 25, 2024
Faculty Council approval	**Date of meeting:**	December 6, 2024
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	**Date of meeting:**	January 31, 2025

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

1. Explain major theoretical approaches to the study of international relations.
2. Explain the different approaches to the study of international political economy.
3. Describe the causes of war and conditions of peace.
4. Critically analyze foreign policy goals of states.
5. Evaluate key events in world politics since the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648
6. Examine key components of international law and human rights.
7. Analyse key components and impact of poverty and underdevelopment on global politics.
8. Articulate sources of power and impact on global governance institutions.
9. Engage with political science-based research and writing practices.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Assignments:	20%	Holistic assessment:	20%		%
Quizzes/tests/midterm:	30%	Final exam:	30%		%

Details:

Participation in small-group and whole-class discussions:	10%
Small-group brainstorming on policy questions/issues	10%
Midterm examination	30%
Critical theoretical analysis of international news	20%
Final examination	30%

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures, small group/whole class discussions, assigned readings, essays, written and oral feedback on assignments and midterm exam.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. Open Educational Resources (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

	Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1.	Textbook	Steven L. Lamy et al	Introduction to Global Politics (Seventh Edition)	2023
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Course Content and Topics

- Introduction to international relations, concepts, and theories
- Mainstream theories: realism and liberalism
- Beyond states and national interest
- Critical/alternative theories of international relations
- Military power, war, and terrorism
- Human security, human rights, and humanitarian intervention
- States and foreign policy
- United nations and international law
- Regional organizations and non-state actors
- Globalization, trade, and finance
- Development, poverty, and inequality in the global south
- Global environmental politics
- Global governance