

2016-2017 IR 4th Year Seminar List

All students majoring in International Relations are required to complete an IR seminar during their fourth year (Third-year students are not admitted to these seminars except with special permission of the Chair of the IR Program). Please note that all IR seminars must be taken for percentage grade.

Students may register for only one of these seminars, which will also meet the Arts Research Requirement. List subject to change. Please confirm course offerings by checking the timetable.

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Term 1

Geography

GEOG 412 (3) 101

Water Management: Theory, Policy, and Practice

Wed 9:00-12:00

Instructor: Bakker, Karen Jessica

Pre-requisites: GEOG 310

Interdisciplinary analysis of critical water issues, in Canada and internationally. Focus on social science perspectives. Emphasis on presentation, research, and essay-writing skills.

History

HIST 403A (3) 101

Seminar in the History of International Relations

Tue 18:00-21:00

Instructor: Colin Robert Green

In 2016W, the topic for HIST 403A, 101 is The Dragon Stirs: The (re)making of a Sinocentric Asia. Will examine China's relations with its neighbours in Asia from the founding of the Ming Dynasty until the present.

HIST 403H (3) 101

Seminar in the History of International Relations

Wed 13:00-15:00

Instructor: Jeffrey Byrne

In 2016W, the topic for sections 101 and 102 of HIST 403H is Revolution and Insurgency in the Third World. Examines the history of revolutionary movements and Islamic revolutions and insurgencies in countries such as Algeria, Angola, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Palestine and Vietnam.

HIST 403H (3) 102

Seminar in the History of International Relations

Mon 13:00-15:00

Instructor: Jeffrey Byrne

In 2016W, the topic for sections 101 and 102 of HIST 403H is Revolution and Insurgency in the Third World. Examines the history of revolutionary movements and Islamic revolutions and insurgencies in countries such as Algeria, Angola, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Palestine and Vietnam.

HIST 490B (3) 101

Seminar for Majors in History

Tue Thu 15:30-17:00

Instructor: Matt Galway

To register in this course, students must email irmajor.program@ubc.ca requesting to be added manually.

In 2016W, the topic of HIST 490B 101 is "Reading Revolution: Radical Texts and Movements of the Twentieth Century".

Political Science

POLI 462 (3) 001

International Relations Theory

Wed 9:00-12:00

Instructor: Michael Byers

Space is the final frontier for humanity and therefore international relations. Space sees considerable cooperation, including between the US and Russia on the International Space Station. Yet Space is also increasingly militarized, through the heavy use of imaging and communications satellites and the related development of anti-satellite weapons. Space is an important part of the global economy, involving 100s of billions of dollars of activity annually. Now, rapid technological developments such as reusable rockets are opening the door to Space mining and the eventual colonization of other planets. All these developments create challenges for national and international policy makers. They also cast new light onto the discipline of international relations and its traditional problems and theories.

POLI 464B (3) 001

Problems in International Relations

Tues 13:00-16:00

Instructor: Erin Baines

This course will be cross-listed with Poli 564B. The course focuses on the question of remaking the social and political after mass violence, atrocity or periods of repression. We will take cue from Bronwyn Leebaw's Judging State Sponsored Violence, who argues that transitional justice has been too narrowly

focused on singular issues, failing to address the complexity of violence and problematically reiterating a victim-perpetrator framework. Recent debate has already begun to complicate the concept of victims, asking who victims are, and who defines this. How does the field simultaneously politicize and de-politicize victims in the pursuit of justice? How to best represent victims in mechanisms designed to promote justice? What alternatives exist? What role to perpetrators play in transitional justice? What is the responsibility of ordinary citizens? Formal and informal transitional justice mechanisms are considered, threading together theoretical critique and empirical case studies.

POLI 464C (3) 001

Problems in International Relations

Wed 10:00-13:00

Instructor: Robert Farkasch

This course studies the relationship between politics and economics in order to understand the process of late development –both theoretically and empirically. Specifically, we will study questions such as: How important are political institutions to economic development and what role do they play? How does economics affect political institutions and government policies? Why do inefficient and/or harmful institutions survive? Topics include the role of the state in alleviating or exacerbating poverty, the politics of industrial policy and planning and the relationship between institutional change and growth. We will also examine the economic effects of different growth strategies and investigate some of the pitfalls of natural resource wealth and the difficulties of foreign aid.

Term 2

Economics

ECON 457 (3) 001

Seminar in International Economic Relations

Tue Thu 15:30-17:00

Instructor: Nisha Malhotra

Selected topics focusing upon various issues arising in international economic relations. Open only to fourth-year students in the Major program in International Relations.

Geography

GEOG 412 (3) 201

Water Management: Theory, Policy, and Practice

Tues 13:00-16:00

Instructor: Karen Jessica Bakker

Pre-requisites: GEOG 310

Interdisciplinary analysis of critical water issues, in Canada and internationally. Focus on social science perspectives. Emphasis on presentation, research, and essay-writing skills.

GEOG 446A (3) 201

Topics in Geography

Wed 13:00-16:00

Instructor: Loch Brown

This course examines both the historical and contemporary dynamics of global agriculture and food production systems in order to shed light on some of the key social, political, economic, and environmental benefits and problems associated with our current global food regime.

GEOG 446B (3) 201

Topics in Geography

Mon 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Sarah Hunt

This seminar examines issues of law, geography and power, including discussion of Indigenous law, spatio-legal dynamics of empire, regulation of mobility, geographies of legal violence, and formations of property, jurisdiction, and territory.

GEOG 453 (3) 201

Political Geographic Analysis

Mon 13:00-16:00

Instructor: Merje Kuus

Pre-requisites: 4th year standing

Analysis of the political organization of space at selected geographic scales (international to urban); development of political policy, organization, and behaviour, and their locational consequences; decision making and conflict resolution.

History

HIST 403B (3) 201

Seminar in the History of International Relations - Nuclear Controversies: From the Cuban Crisis to Fukushima

Wed 13:00-15:00

Instructor: Alexei Kojevnikov

The seminar will explore several major post-World War II controversies regarding the nuclear power and weapons that have greatly affected international politics: the Cuban crisis of 1962, nuclear deterrence and peaceful coexistence; war plans, peace movements and protests; radioactive pollution and treaties banning nuclear tests; weapons proliferation and attempts to negotiate arms control; peaceful uses of atomic power, accidents, atomic fear, and the continuing controversies about the risks of atomic energy.

Readings include primary documents, participants' accounts, and historical analyses. During the weekly discussions, students will be asked to demonstrate critical skills of analyzing mutually contradictory and often misleading statements and interpretations, and to write a research paper on a selected topic.

HIST 403B (3) 202

Seminar in the History of International Relations - Nuclear Controversies: From the Cuban Crisis to Fukushima

Mon 13:00-15:00

Instructor: Alexei Kojevnikov

The seminar will explore several major post-World War II controversies regarding the nuclear power and weapons that have greatly affected international politics: the Cuban crisis of 1962, nuclear deterrence and peaceful coexistence; war plans, peace movements and protests; radioactive pollution and treaties banning nuclear tests; weapons proliferation and attempts to negotiate arms control; peaceful uses of atomic power, accidents, atomic fear, and the continuing controversies about the risks of atomic energy. Readings include primary documents, participants' accounts, and historical analyses. During the weekly discussions, students will be asked to demonstrate critical skills of analyzing mutually contradictory and often misleading statements and interpretations, and to write a research paper on a selected topic.

HIST 403

Not yet listed in timetable

NGOs and Refugees in Uganda: Regional and Global Perspectives

Schedule TBD

Instructor: Steven Lee

This will be an International Service Learning course that will require an application through Go Global and will involve a placement abroad. It will be taught in either term 2 2016W or term 1 of 2017S

Political Science

Poli 460 (3) 001

Foreign Policy Analysis

Thu 10:00-13:00

Instructor: Allan Craigie

This course explores how Canada, a global middle power, uses its comparatively limited military resources as an instrument of domestic and foreign policy. The role of the military in modern societies will be addressed, before moving on to the complexities of the Canadian Forces. Canadian contributions to international military and humanitarian interventions such as Afghanistan, Haiti, East Timor, the First and Second Iraq Wars, Libya, and the Former Yugoslav Republics will be discussed. Domestic and counter-terror operations will also be explored to better understand civil-military relations in Canada. As well, the relationship between military procurement and regional and industrial development in Canada will be examined focusing on recent topics such as the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy and the debates surrounding the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

The course will be comprised of student led discussions, debates, and presentations; as such it is vital that students come prepared to each and every class. Accordingly, a sizable portion of student evaluation will be based on class participation and student presentations.

Students who enroll in the class should be aware that guest speakers and class excursions may be arranged. A small fee may be required to support these activities and attendance will be mandatory.

POLI 461 (3) 001

Peach and Conflict Studies

Wed 9:00-12:00

Instructor: Jenny Peterson

Through an exploration of both orthodox and critical approaches to peace, this course will provide students with a range of conceptual tools that can be used to analyze both the nature of peace itself and the various policy interventions aimed at creating it. Students will begin by exploring the supposed differences between 'problem solving' vs 'critical approaches'. Following this, a range of ideas from the sub-field of critical peace studies will be explored, including critiques of liberalism, non-violent resistance, hybridity, 'the everyday', radical disagreement, agonistic politics, the narrative turn in IR and indigenous perspectives. Students will apply these ideas to a range of case studies (both local and global) with the aim of exploring the relevance of critical perspectives in analyzing different modes of peacebuilding. Students will also have the opportunity to explore and debate the utility of critical approaches in improving/creating peacebuilding policies.

POLI 464C (3) 002

Problems in International Relations

Wed 9:00-12:00

Instructor: Robert Farkasch

This course studies the relationship between politics and economics in order to understand the process of late development –both theoretically and empirically. Specifically, we will study questions such as: How important are political institutions to economic development and what role do they play? How does economics affect political institutions and government policies? Why do inefficient and/or harmful institutions survive? Topics include the role of the state in alleviating or exacerbating poverty, the politics of industrial policy and planning and the relationship between institutional change and growth. We will also examine the economic effects of different growth strategies and investigate some of the pitfalls of natural resource wealth and the difficulties of foreign aid.