

# 2018-2019 IR 4<sup>th</sup> Year Seminar List

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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 is 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**

Mon 9:00-12:00

**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.

### History

#### **HIST 403B (3) 101**

##### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – The Middle East in Graphic Novels**

Thursday 14:00-16:00

**Instructor: Pheroze Unwalla**

Once thought of as juvenile and immaterial to politics, society and culture, graphic novels are today frequently considered art forms, political satires and/or intellectual compositions fundamental to the health of our polities as well as our imaginings of past and present. This course will explore graphic novels with a focus on their representation of Middle Eastern history, politics and peoples. Reading such works as Joe Sacco’s *Footnotes in Gaza*, Marjane Satrapi’s *Persepolis*, Craig Thompson’s *Habibi*, Brian K. Vaughan’s *Pride of Baghdad* and several others, we will discuss the evolution of the medium, the fraught history of visually representing the Middle East, as well as the challenges and opportunities graphic novels present for understanding the region. On this latter note, particular attention will be paid to the contentious use of graphic novels as works of journalism, oral history, and autobiography as well as to

fundamental questions on the ethics of graphically representing tragic episodes from Middle Eastern pasts. Second, given recent events associated with cartooning (i.e. the Charlie Hebdo massacre) we will also seek to grapple with such divisive issues as Islamophobia, Orientalism, free speech, and the uses and limits of satire. Finally, students should note that some of the texts we study contain graphic content (no pun intended), including depictions of mass murder and sexual violence. The artist's choice to visually represent such crimes will be a significant and recurring topic of discussion, as will the nature and quality of their depictions.

### **HIST 403J (3) 101**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – The Global 1970s**

Tuesdays 10:00-12:00

**Instructor: Eagle Glasheim**

In the 1970s, fundamental shifts in the global economic, social, and geo-political order surfaced, challenging the post-war prosperity and certainties of Europeans and North Americans. Some historians have called the 1970s a decade of crisis, others consider the decade a harbinger of crises and dilemmas to come (and still coming). This seminar examines the intertwined economic, ecological, and diplomatic challenges of the 1970s, as well as global, national, and local responses to those challenges. Our readings will focus on de-industrialization in North America and Europe, the energy crisis of 1973-74, the challenges of population growth for global cities, and the United Nations conferences that attempted to formulate global responses to these economic, social, and environmental challenges. The course will have a substantial research component, with each student expected to become an expert on a topic of their choice, using both primary and secondary sources to prepare a 15-20 page research paper.

### **HIST 490S (3) 101**

#### **Seminar for Majors in History - Canada and the Holocaust, 1933-2018**

Wed 14:00-16:00

**Instructor: Richard Menkis**

We will examine Canadian government policies and public attitudes towards Jews during the Holocaust and in the immediate postwar period, as well as the encounters in Europe of Canadian soldiers and social workers with survivors. We will also study the variety of forms of commemoration within the Jewish community and in Canadian public institutions.

## Political Science

### **POLI 439A (3) 001**

#### **Politics and Economic Growth**

Wednesday 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 in Latin America, Africa and East Asia, and investigate some of the pitfalls of natural resource wealth and the difficulties of foreign aid.

### **POLI 460A (3) 001**

#### **Foreign Policy Analysis: The Canadian Military at Home and Abroad**

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

**Instructor: Allan Craigie**

Prerequisites: Two of POLI 260, POLI 360, POLI 361, POLI 362, POLI 363, POLI 364, POLI 365, POLI 366, POLI 367, POLI 368, POLI 369, POLI 370.

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 460B (3) 001**

### **Foreign Policy Analysis - Global China in a Changing World Order**

Tue 17:00-20:00

**Instructor: Paul Evans**

Prerequisites: Two of POLI 260, POLI 360, POLI 361, POLI 362, POLI 363, POLI 364, POLI 365, POLI 366, POLI 367, POLI 368, POLI 369, POLI 370.

The world is being reshaped by the fourth rise of China, its integration into regional production networks and global value chains, its diplomatic and military assets, its deepening role in international institutions, and the persistence of its particular form of authoritarian capitalism.

The seminar addresses several related questions. What is global China? What are the implications of its rise for the balance of power as well as international norms, rules and institutions? Is China ready to play a leadership role in a world order that Mr. Trump's America appears to be unraveling?

Case studies will focus on G20 and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank; the use of force; climate change; cyber security; soft power. A major theme will be implications for Canada appropriate policy responses.

Advanced knowledge of China and international institutions valuable but not essential.

## **POLI 463 (3) 001**

### **International Interdependence**

Monday 13:00-16:00

**Instructor: Justin Alger**

Pre-reqs: Two of POLI 260, POLI 360, POLI 361, POLI 362, POLI 363, POLI 364, POLI 365, POLI 366, POLI 367, POLI 368, POLI 369, POLI 370. (6 credits of ECON are recommended.)

This seminar explores how the political economy of environmental issues influences the decisions that governments, environmental groups, and multinational corporations make to address global ecological change. Mainstream environmentalism has, for better or worse, adopted a free-market approach to managing environmental change. Governments tend to adopt environmental targets that do not undermine their economic priorities. Environmental groups are increasingly shying away from more aggressive positions on environmental issues. And corporations continue to adopt eco-labeling and sustainability schemes that only alter practice at the margins. This seminar will analyze the benefits and limitations of this free-market approach to environmentalism. Topics include the problem of global consumption, the politics of climate change, civil society advocacy, conservation politics, corporate sustainability initiatives, and eco-labeling schemes, among others. It will focus on the politics of a number of environmental problems throughout the term, including climate change, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and ocean decline.

## **POLI 464A (3) 001**

### **Problems in International Relations: Global Civil Society and NGOs in International Politics**

Thursday 9:00-12:00

**Instructor: Lisa Sundstrom**

This course will examine the growing and changing roles of nongovernmental organizations in international politics. We will ask whether a “global civil society” may be said to exist today, then focus in on the major contemporary organizations that constitute this sphere today: transnationally active nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). Fundamental topics for discussion will include how much impact nongovernmental actors have in global governance, the organizational dynamics within and among NGOs, and the positive and negative aspects of NGOs’ global activities. We will spend a number of weeks concentrating on NGO activism in particular sectors, such as human rights and humanitarianism, environment, gender, and development.

The course will contain a mandatory community-based experiential learning (CBEL) component. The CBEL component is aimed at deepening students’ learning and community engagement by placing them in short-term project assignments (30 hours of expected work) with relevant NGOs in Metro Vancouver. The evaluated assignment associated with CBEL, in addition to a portion of students’ participation grade, will be a journal that students write throughout the term, as well as a group presentation at the end of the term, to which community partner organizations will be invited, reflecting upon their CBEL project experiences and how they relate to the academic course materials.

## **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**

Wed 9:00-12:00

**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 495 (3) 201**

#### **Geographies of Social Movements in the Americas**

Wed 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Juanita Sundberg**

Pre-reqs: One of LAST 100, GEOG 395.

The politics of North-South solidarity in theory and practice through community service learning models.

## **History**

### **HIST 403E (3) 201**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – Thinking About War**

Thur 15:30-17:30

**Instructor: Colin Green**

In this seminar students will examine the evolution of military strategy around the world, its relationship to technology, politics, and culture, and its impact on the conduct of warfare throughout history. Students will analyze the writings of several key strategists and explore how their ideas shaped our understanding of limited and total war, naval power, insurgency and counterinsurgency, strategic airpower, nuclear strategy, and the war on terror.

### **HIST 403K (3) 201**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – Third World Revolutions**

Tuesdays 9:30-11:30

**Instructor: Jeffrey Byrne**

This course examines the history of revolutionary movements and Islamic revolutions and insurgencies in the “Third World” (such as Algeria, Angola, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Palestine, Vietnam). Topics include the causes of revolution, revolutionary strategy, political violence, anti-colonial nationalism, the diplomacy of insurgencies, the influence of Marxism in the developing world, and Islamic revolutions and insurgencies.

### **HIST 403H (3) 201**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations - The International System, 1975-2001**

Tuesdays 16:00-18:00

**Instructor: Steven Lee**

We will explore topics in modern international history, 1975-2001, from a comparative and global point of view. Themes will include political and social revolutions, regional conflicts, development and agrarian societies, global migration, and environmental issues. Case studies will focus on the global south.

## Political Science

### **Poli 439A (3) 001**

#### **Politics and Economic Growth**

Wednesday 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 in Latin America, Africa and East Asia, and investigate some of the pitfalls of natural resource wealth and the difficulties of foreign aid.

### **POLI 462 (3) 001**

#### **International Relations Theory**

Wed 9:00-12:00

**Instructor: Michael Byers**

Prerequisites: Two of POLI 260, POLI 360, POLI 361, POLI 362, POLI 363, POLI 364, POLI 365, POLI 366, POLI 367, POLI 368, POLI 369, POLI 370.

Each change of government in the United States brings a new approach to foreign relations. This creates new challenges and opportunities for other governments, international organizations, and non-state actors. It also creates new questions and opportunities for the study of international relations and international law. This seminar will examine the behaviour of the Trump Administration across a range of issue areas, including international trade, human rights, military force, and the environment. It will also examine several key relationships of the United States, including with Canada, China, Russia, the United Nations and NATO.

Three factors are considered for evaluation purposes:



- Individual effort, initiative, ingenuity, and teamwork—as expressed through the provision of collegial support and constructive criticism for the work of other students (33 percent);
- An oral presentation to a public workshop (33 percent);
- A term paper of between 4000-5000 words on a specific issue or insight related to the course focus (33 percent).

### **POLI 463 (3) 002**

#### **International Interdependence**

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

**Instructor: Justin Alger**

Pre-reqs: Two of POLI 260, POLI 360, POLI 361, POLI 362, POLI 363, POLI 364, POLI 365, POLI 366, POLI 367, POLI 368, POLI 369, POLI 370. (6 credits of ECON are recommended.)

This seminar explores how the political economy of environmental issues influences the decisions that governments, environmental groups, and multinational corporations make to address global ecological change. Mainstream environmentalism has, for better or worse, adopted a free-market approach to managing environmental change. Governments tend to adopt environmental targets that do not undermine their economic priorities. Environmental groups are increasingly shying away from more aggressive positions on environmental issues. And corporations continue to adopt eco-labeling and sustainability schemes that only alter practice at the margins. This seminar will analyze the benefits and limitations of this free-market approach to environmentalism. Topics include the problem of global consumption, the politics of climate change, civil society advocacy, conservation politics, corporate sustainability initiatives, and eco-labeling schemes, among others. It will focus on the politics of a number of environmental problems throughout the term, including climate change, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and ocean decline.

### **POLI 464B (3) 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations: Gender, Peace and Security**

Friday 9:00-12:00

**Instructor: Erin Baines**

*This seminar will be jointly taught with POLI 564B 001.*

This class considers the politics and policies stemming from Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000) and related UN Resolutions. It examines the historical evolution of SCR 1325, as well as debates surrounding its strengths and limitations. It introduces gender and intersectional analysis and how these can be applied in practice. We consider some of the methodological and ethical concerns of research/policy on gender in volatile or politically charged settings, and larger geo-political critiques regarding SCR 1325's normative framework. Finally we will examine four themes

in conflict affected settings: i. Sexual violence against women; ii. Gender based Violence against men and boys; iii. Children and youth; iv. Resilience and agency.

### **POLI 464E (3) 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations: Intelligence and Politics**

Wednesday 16:00-19:00

**Instructor: Alexander Butterfield**

This course explores the relationship between intelligence and politics. It is primarily concerned with the influence of the intelligence services and the intelligence they produce on policy formulation and political decision-making at the national level. Intelligence support to military command at the strategic and operational levels will also be considered. In this context, we will examine how bias, perception, and political pressure play in the production and delivery of intelligence and the consequences of those influences on warning and decision. We will use a series of historical and contemporary case studies to illustrate aspects of the intelligence-policy interaction in the formulation and execution of national security policy at the highest levels of government. Finally, we will look at the integrity of the intelligence-policy dynamic and discuss ways to minimize bias, misperception, and political distortion and maximize understanding, critical judgment, and sound decision-making.

### **POLI 464F (3) 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations: Human Right Advocacy: Case Study – Academic Freedom and Scholars at Risk**

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

**Instructor: Jenny Peterson**

In this seminar, students will explore theories and processes related to international human rights advocacy. Alongside a tracing of the growth of international human rights discourses, students will also analyze praxis, gaining an understanding of mechanisms through which a range of actors fight for human rights and how we as scholars can analyze such practice. These lessons will be explored via a case study of the concept of Academic Freedom which focuses on the rights of scholars to engage open, scholarly inquiry without fear to their physical safety, freedom or other forms of persecution from states or interest groups. As part of the seminar, students will conduct human rights research/monitoring and engage in advocacy on behalf of the Scholars at Risk network– an international network of institutions and individuals whose mission is to protect scholars and promote academic freedom (<https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/>).