

2022-2023 IR Final Year Seminar List

All students majoring in International Relations are required to complete an IR seminar during their final year of studies. 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. This list is subject to change with courses being added through Summer 2022. Please confirm course offerings by checking the UBC Course Schedule.

Term 1

Geography

GEOG 410 101

Environment and Society

Fridays 14:00-1700

Instructor: Loch Brown

Course description has not been released at this time.

GEOG 446A 101

Topics in Geography – Agriculture and Environment

Wednesdays 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Loch Brown

For the past ten thousand years, agriculture has been the primary driver in both the rise and fall of human civilizations. Today, agriculture remains the foundation of nearly all human societies, shaping in very fundamental ways both our environment and our economic, political, and cultural systems. In the past half century we have experienced very sudden and sweeping changes to the way we practice agriculture, due primarily to rapid advances in key areas of science and technology. Unfortunately, while our agricultural system is rapidly evolving, our understanding of how these changes are affecting both society and the environment struggles to keep up. This course examines the contemporary dynamics of global agriculture and food production systems in order to build a more robust understanding of the social, economic, and environmental benefits and problems associated with our current global food regime. Topics to be explored in this course will be determined by the students, and could include local and global agro-food systems, political ecology of food, global commodity chains, green & blue revolutions, cultural patterns of consumption, agricultural biotechnologies, agribusiness, food security, agriculture related social movements, biofuels, and of course the environmental impacts of agriculture.

Seminars will combine group work and discussion with short lectures and videos. Students will be expected to voice opinions and engage in &~ critical and informed debate on the course material. Course texts will be supplemented with weekly readings. This course also draws upon a range of video and other media to explore the interactions between agriculture and the environment.

GEOG 446B 101

Topics in Geography – Oceanic Geographies: Migration, Mobility, and Diaspora

Thursdays 11:00-14:00

Instructor: Desiree Valadares

This upper-year undergraduate course moves beyond landmasses to consider global oceanic connections, migration routes, diasporic populations, and seascape epistemologies. Five units include: (1) Blue Geographies (2) Oceans as Archives (3) Atmospheric Encounters (4) Diasporic Proximities and Oceanic Flows, and (5) Watery Soundscapes. Each student will produce a 10-15-page research paper and an accompanying sound-work.

GEOG 453

Political Geographic Analysis

Tuesdays 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Merje Kuus

Course description has not been released at this time.

History

HIST 403A 101

Seminar in the History of International Relations - Making Peace After Making War: Versailles, Vienna, and Westphalia

Wednesdays, 09:00-11:00

Instructor: Michael Lanthier

In January 1919, two months after the armistice that ended the First World War, hundreds of statesmen and diplomats from thirty-two countries around the world gathered in Paris to draw up a series of treaties (including the Treaty of Versailles, which quickly became synonymous with the Paris Peace Conference as a whole): their ultimate aim was to solve virtually all the worlds outstanding geopolitical problems and ensure peace for generations to come. While the Conference and its goals strike us today as quintessential examples of Western hubris, these must be understood as historical actors

participating in an ancient ritual. To fully understand the European tradition of peacemaking through treaties, we need to study both the Peace of Westphalia (1648) and the Congress of Vienna (1814-15): these earlier gatherings and the treaties that they produced reveal much about the mental universe of those seeking to build an edifice of peace in 1919. This historical journey will shed light on the peacemaking processes of the twenty-first century, which have been shaped by this uniquely European understanding of politics (kingdoms, empires, nation-states) and the ways in which they deal with each other on the world stage.

HIST 403C 101

Seminar in the History of International Relations – History of the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire

Tuesdays, 13:00-15:00

Instructor: Eyyup Ozyuksel

The historical context within which the Genocide occurred, the fragmentation within and between ethnicities as a result of modernization, the imperial appetites of the Great Powers, the aspirations and aims of the Armenians and Young Turks, the 1908 Revolution, and deterioration of Ottoman-Armenian relations after the Balkan Wars and WW1.

HIST 403E 101

Seminar in the History of International Relations – History of Graphic Novels

Wednesdays, 10:00- 12:00

Instructor: Pheroze Unwalla

The Middle East in Graphic Novels: History, Politics and the Tragic Comic: 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 politics as well as our imaginings of past and present. This course explores 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. Finally, 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.

HIST 490C 101

Seminar for Majors in History – Central Eastern European Historiography of the Holocaust

Thursdays, 09:00-11:00

Instructor: Anna Switzer

This course introduces students to Holocaust historiography in Central Eastern Europe, including in Poland, Hungary, Ukraine and Slovakia. Our aim is to reconstruct the process of the institutionalisation of the recent past. This process began with the foundations laid by those who had perished in the Holocaust, and was continued by historians who were survivors themselves and by their non-survivors contemporaries, and was then pursued by subsequent generations of scholars. We will also examine the most recent, and highly contentious, developments in Holocaust historiography in the Central Eastern European region, and their broader and comparative context. Our goal is to identify the principal questions that arise from the present situation as well as the ramifications of these developments and their implications for the future.

HIST 490P 101

Seminar for Majors in History – The Two Koreas in the International System

Mondays, 12:00-14:00

Instructor: Avram Agov

This seminar offers a survey of the integration of North Korea and South Korea into two opposing international systems. The course will study the history of the Cold War in East Asia with a focus on the division of the Korean peninsula. The formation of two rival Korean states in the post-World War Two environment set the stage for the Korean War (1950-1953) and a frontier zone of the Cold War in Asia. The seminar will examine the origins of the peninsular division and the development of the two Koreas in the second half the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century. It will examine the character and the implications of the division as well as the relationship between North Korea and the communist alliance system and South Korea's ties to the US-led security system in the Asia-Pacific region.

Political Science

POLI 460C 001

Foreign Policy Analysis

Wednesdays, 17:00-20:00

Instructor: Paul Evans

Course description can be found [here](#) later in Summer 2022.

POLI 464A 001

Problems in International Relations

Fridays, 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Gregor Sharp

Course description can be found [here](#) later in Summer 2022.

POLI 464B 001

Problems in International Relations

Fridays, 09:00-12:00

Instructor: Denis Dogah

Course description can be found [here](#) later in Summer 2022.

POLI 464G 001

Problems in International Relations

Wednesdays, 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Ibrahim Muradov

Course description can be found [here](#) later in Summer 2022.

Economics

ECON 457 002

Seminar in International Economic Relations

Tue / Thu 18:30 – 20:00

Instructor: Emrul Hasan

Selected topics focusing upon various issues arising in international economic relations.

Public Policy and Global Affairs

PPGA 568 001

Global Economic Policy

Fridays, 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Kristen Hopewell

Limited seating may be available to non-MPPGA students after July 19. Please contact the program (mppga.program@ubc.ca). The global economy and global politics are currently in a period of immense change. For over half a century, the international system was dominated by the US and other Western states. Yet there has recently been a significant shift of global economic activity from the Global North to the Global South, with major developing countries such as the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) emerging as key players in the world economy. Along with their growing economic might, the emerging powers are increasingly asserting themselves in global politics and demanding a greater role in global governance. This transformation has been identified as one of the most important in modern history and prompted considerable debate in academic and policy circles around the world about the agendas of the emerging powers and the consequences of their rise. This course examines the role and impact of emerging powers in the international system. It begins by analyzing the politics, economics, and foreign policy objectives of these countries. It then turns to assessing the sources and nature of contemporary power shifts and their implications for a variety of different areas of global politics and governance, including security, human rights, environment, trade, finance, and development.

Term 2

Geography

GEOG 410 201

Environment and Society

Thursdays 14:00-1700

Instructor: Loch Brown

Course description has not been released at this time

GEOG 495 201

Geographies of Social Movements in the Americas

Wednesdays 11:00-1400

Instructor: Juanita Sundberg

Course description has not been released at this time

History

HIST 403B 201

Seminar in the History of International Relations – Canada-US Relations

Fridays, 10:00-12:00

Instructor: Lara Silver

The seminar examines Canada-US relations from the 1930s to the present day to obtain an expansive view of bilateral bliss and the uncomfortable aspects of “sleeping with an elephant”. In particular, we will look at the relationships between the presidents and prime ministers in addition to the broader frameworks of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy.

HIST 403D 201

Seminar in the History of International Relations – The International System, 1975 – 2001: Historical Perspectives

Wednesdays 17:00- 19:00

Instructor: Steven Hugh Lee

This course will explore topics in modern international history, 1975-2001, from a comparative and global point of view. Themes will include the history of capitalism, social and environmental change, conflict, and the transformation of agrarian societies. Students will write an historiographical review essay and a second paper using primary sources.

HIST 403G 201

Seminar in the History of International Relations

Wednesdays, 15:00- 17:00

Instructor: Jeffrey Byrne

Course description has not been released at this time.

HIST 490D 201

Seminar for Majors in History– Media and Gender in East Asia

Wednesdays, 14:00-16:00

Instructor: Jihyun Shin

This course examines selected topics in the histories of East Asia in the twentieth century, using media and gender as analytical tools.

HIST 490M 201**Seminar for Majors in History– Modern Arab and Islamic Thought**

Tuesdays, 14:00-16:00

Instructor: Hichma Safieddine

This course critically examines the rich and diverse history of political, social, and economic thought across the Middle East and North Africa from the 19th century until the present. Themes discussed include liberalism, nationalism, socialism, Islamic reform and government, feminism, and economic development.

HIST 490R 201**Seminar for Majors in History– Migration in the Americas**

Tuesdays, 10:00-12:00

Instructor: Benjamin Bryce

This course highlights the centrality of migration and cultural pluralism in the history of the Americas. It focuses on the people who migrate and on the responses of government officials, workers, politicians, and other migrant groups to new arrivals. Topics include diplomacy, government policies, gender, the construction of racial categories, and nationalism.

Political Science**POLI 461C 001****Peace and Conflict Studies**

Tuesdays 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Jenny Peterson

Course description can be found [here](#) later in Summer 2022.

POLI 464A 002**Problems in International Relations**

Mondays, 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Gregor Sharp

Course description can be found [here](#) later in Summer 2022.

Public Policy and Global Affairs

PPGA 568 002

Global Economic Policy

Fridays, 14:00-17:00

Instructor: Kristen Hopewell

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