

# 2023-2024 IR Final Year Seminar List

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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 2023. Please confirm course offerings by checking the UBC Course Schedule.**

## Term 1

### Geography

#### GEOG 410 101

##### **Environment and Society**

Wednesdays 14:00-1700

**Instructor: Loch Brown**

Course description has not been released at this time.

#### GEOG 446A 101 & 102

##### **Topics in Geography – Agriculture and Environment**

Wednesdays 11:00-14:00 / 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Loch Brown / Peter Hudson**

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 453**

#### **Political Geographic Analysis**

Tuesdays 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Merje Kuus**

Course description has not been released at this time.

## **History**

### **HIST 403B 101**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations**

Wednesdays, 10:00-12:00

**Instructor: Jeffrey Byrne**

Course description has not been released at this time

### **HIST 403C 101**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – The Causes of War: World War I Case Study**

Wednesdays, 09:00-11:00

**Instructor: Michael Lanthier**

Course description has not been released at this time

### **HIST 403E 101**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations**

Thursdays, 14:00- 16:00

**Instructor: Pheroze Unwalla**

Course description has not been released at this time

**HIST 490L 101****Seminar for Majors in History – Social Memory of International Violence**

Wednesdays, 15:00-17:00

**Instructor: Xian Wang**

This course examines the issues and legacies of colonialism, the Second World War, and the Vietnam War, focusing on memory studies and oral history in East Asia, Europe, and Southeast Asia. It explores how official narratives and vernacular memories of these war experiences have been constructed and interpreted, generating boundaries and ongoing power struggles between so-called perpetrators, victims, heroes, and bystanders during the post-war times.

**HIST 490Q 101****Seminar for Majors in History – Global Environmental History**

Mondays, 14:00-16:00

**Instructor: Eagle Glassheim**

**In 2023W, IR majors who wish to attend this seminar must contact the IR Program Manager for registration help.**

This seminar will use an environmental lens to explore histories of the global circulation of things, people, ideas, and power. We'll look at cases involving commodities like sugar, cotton, and bird poop; diseases, such as yellow fever; imperialist resource extraction; and the history of whales and fisheries. The course will develop skills of thinking, researching, and writing like an environmental historian. Each student will become an expert on a topic of their choice, using both primary and secondary sources to prepare a 15-20 page research paper.

**Political Science****POLI 439A 001****Politics and Economic Growth**

Wednesdays 14:00- 17:00

**Instructor: Robert Farkasch**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 464C 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations – International Organizations**

Thursdays 09:00- 12:00

**Instructor: Katia Coleman**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 464D 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations – Civil Wars**

Tuesdays, 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Joshua Weiner**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 464E 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations**

Tuesdays, 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: TBC**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 464I 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations**

Thursdays, 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: TBC**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

## **Economics**

### **ECON 457 002**

#### **Seminar in International Economic Relations**

Tue / Thu 12:30 – 14:00

**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](mailto:mppga.program@ubc.ca)).** This course introduces the key issues and debates in global economic policy. It begins with the main schools of thinking about the global economy and its governance. It then turns to examining a range of critical policy topics, including: the role of government in the economy; globalization and regionalism, with attention to populism and the revolt against globalization; international trade, finance, and investment; economic competitiveness, innovation and industrial policy; global development, debt and aid; global supply chains, multinational corporations, and labour; the impacts of contemporary power shifts; and the causes of, and responses to, economic crises. The course focuses on applying rigorous analysis and empirical evidence to debate contemporary policy problems and develop effective solutions. It will shed light on the dynamics of international negotiations and the role of governments, international institutions, businesses and non-governmental organizations in global economic policymaking. Students will come away with a strong understanding of the workings of the global economy, which is essential to a successful career in many different areas of global policy.

## Term 2

## Geography

### GEOG 410 201

#### Environment and Society

Wednesdays 11:00-14:00

**Instructor: Loch Brown**

Course description has not been released at this time

### GEOG 446B 201

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

Fridays 14:00-17:00

**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 495 201**

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

Tuesdays 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Juanita Sundberg**

Course description has not been released at this time

## **History**

### **HIST 403A 201**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – The History of Capitalism**

Wednesdays, 17:00-19:00

**Instructor: Steven Lee**

This class will explore the history of capitalism in the twentieth century. Prominent themes include the impact of capitalism on the global south, the relationship between culture and capitalism, the history of capitalist crisis, and linkages between capitalism, politics, and political systems. Engagement with primary sources will be a central element of this class.

### **HIST 403D 201**

#### **Seminar in the History of International Relations – Migration in the Americas**

Tuesdays 16:00- 18:00

**Instructor: Benjamin Bryce**

This seminar explores several themes in the history of migration in and to the Americas. As a seminar, it focuses on methods, archival research, and historiographic debates. Our readings, discussions, and projects aim to teach students about the people who migrate and the responses of government officials, workers, politicians, and other migrant groups to new arrivals. Topics of the readings include diplomacy, government policies, gender, the construction of racial categories, and nationalism. The readings aim to introduce students to a variety of methodological approaches used in social history as well as to offer examples of transnational and global history. The assignments seek to strengthen students' research

skills using primary and secondary sources and to give student practical skills to develop public-facing research.

## Political Science

### **POLI 439A 002**

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

Tuesdays 14:00- 17:00

**Instructor: Robert Farkasch**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 461C 001**

#### **Peace and Conflict Studies**

Mondays 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Jenny Peterson**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 464D 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations**

Tuesdays 14:00-17:00

**Instructor: Sally Sharif**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

### **POLI 464G 001**

#### **Problems in International Relations**

Mondays, 09:00-12:00

**Instructor: Ibrahim Muradov**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*

**POLI 464J 001**

**Problems in International Relations**

Thursdays, 09:00-12:00

**Instructor: Stewart Prest**

*Course description can be found [here](#)*