

School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT PSC 224

International Conflict

Quarter or Semester/Year

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/psc.html

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Randall GARRISON	
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday & Thursday Wednesday& Friday or by appointment	11:30- 13:00 10:30- 11:30
(c)	Location:	Y205	
(d)	Phone:	370-3336	Alternative Phone:
(e)	Email:	garrison@camosun.bc.ca	
(f)	Website:	D2L	

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to describe and explain (and in some cases critically assess):

- 1. Describe the origins and underlying causes of major contemporary international conflicts.
- 2. Identify potential key issues and players in international conflict situations.
- 3. Outline major theories on the origins of international conflict and approaches to conflict resolution.
- 4. Critically evaluate the success and failure of international institutions and international law in the face of international conflict.

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts: Simon Fisher et al. <u>Working with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action</u>. London: Zed Books, 2000.

Garrison, Randall. Ed. Readings for PSC 224. Victoria: Camosun College, 2010.

(b) Other: none

4. Course Content and Schedule

January 6th Introduction: The State of the World

January 8/13th Studying Conflict: Role of the Media

Reading #1

Handout (by group)

January 15th/20th Studying Conflict: Theories and Patterns of Conflict

Working with Conflict, Chapter 1.

Reading #2

January 22nd Case Study #1: The Troubles in Northern Ireland

Reading #3

January 27/29th Conflict Analysis

Working with Conflict, Chapters 2 and 3.

February 3/5th The International System: Multipolarity, Bipolarity, and Hegemony

Reading #4

February 5th Media and Conflict Assignment Due

February 10/12th Case Study #2: Terrorism and Conflict / Review

Reading #5

February 17th MIDTERM EXAM

February 19th Reading Break- No Class

February 24/26th Canada's International Role

Reading #6

March 3rd Intervention in Conflict

Working with Conflict, Chapters 4, 5, & 6.

March 5th Case Study #3: Darfur

Reading #7

March 10/12th Case Study #4: Afghanistan

Reading #8

March 17th Research Colloquium

(Review your research notes/thesis statement)

March 19/24th Peacekeeping

Reading #9

March 26th Peace-building and Reconciliation

Working with Conflict, Chapters 7 and 8.

March 31st TERM PAPER DUE

April 2nd Good Friday- No Class

March 31/April 7th Case Study #5: Timor Leste (East Timor)

Reading #10 (for April 7th)

April 9th Responding to Conflict / Review

(no new reading)

April 12-20th FINAL EXAM WEEK

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

1. Media and Conflict Assignment - 20%

This assignment consists of collecting at least five articles from newspapers, news magazines, or journals which comment on a current international conflict. Students must write a short paper analysing the media coverage of the conflict and explaining the origins of the conflict and differing views of the conflict found in the media coverage. A separate handout will be provided. The written portion of the assignment should be 1000-1750 words in length. This assignment is due February 5th. Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after February 24th.

2. Midterm Examination - 20%

A midterm examination will be given in class on **February 17th**. It will consist of three sections: Definitions, Short Answers, and Essay Questions. The exam will cover material from lectures, discussions, and required readings. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on February 12th.

3. Conflict Analysis Term Paper - 30%

Students must complete a research-based term paper analysing a contemporary international conflict. Papers should be 2,000 to 2,250 words in length, the equivalent of at least eight typed pages, double-spaced. Requirements for the term paper will be specified in a separate handout which will include a list of suggested topics. Topics for term papers must be chosen and approved by the instructor by February 24th. Work submitted must be original. Plagiarism may result in a zero for the assignment. This assignment is due March 31st. Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after the end of the last class on April 9th.

4. Final Examination- 30%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **April 12-20th.** The exam will cover material presented in the course as a whole, though there will be extra emphasis on material presented since the second examination. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on April 9th.

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
ı	Incomplete: A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED