

School of Arts & Science SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT PSC 224-01

International Conflict

Winter 2011

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 GARRISO	ON	
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday through Friday 11:30 – 13:00 or by appointment		
(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. Working with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action.

London: Zed Books, 2000.

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

(b) Other None

4. Course Content and Schedule

(This section can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

January 12th Introduction: The State of the World

January 14/19th Studying Conflict: Role of the Media

Reading #1

Handout (by group)

January 21/26th Studying Conflict: Theories and Patterns of Conflict

Working with Conflict, Chapter 1.

Reading #2

January 28th Case Study #1: The Troubles in Northern Ireland

Reading #3

February 2/4/9th Conflict Analysis

Working with Conflict, Chapters 2 and 3.

February 11/16th The International System: Multipolarity, Bipolarity, and Hegemony

Reading #4

February 18th Media and Conflict Assignment Due

February 18/23rd Case Study #2: Terrorism and Conflict / Review

Reading #5

February 25th Reading Break- No Class

MARCH 2nd MIDTERM EXAM

March 4/9th Canada's International Role

Reading #6

March 11th Intervention in Conflict

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

March 16th Case Study #3: Darfur

Reading #7

March 18th Research Colloquium

(Review your research notes/thesis statement)

March 23/25th Case Study #4: Afghanistan

Reading #8

March 30/April 1 Peacekeeping

Reading #9

April 6th TERM PAPER DUE

April 6/8th Case Study #5: Timor Leste (East Timor)

Reading #10 (for April 7th)

April 13th Peace-building and Reconciliation

Working with Conflict, Chapters 7 and 8.

April 15th Responding to Conflict / Review

(no new reading)

April 18-29th FINAL EXAM WEEK

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(This section should be directly linked to the Intended Learning Outcomes.)

a. 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 18th**. Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after March 2nd.

b. Midterm Examination - 20%

A midterm examination will be given in class on **March 2nd**. 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 23rd.

c. 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 March 2nd. Work submitted must be original. Plagiarism may result in a zero for the assignment. This assignment is due **April 6th.** Late assignments will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted after the end of the last class on April 15th.

d. Final Examination- 30%

A final examination will be given during Final Examination Week, **April 18-29th.** The exam will cover material presented in the course as a whole, though there will be extra emphasis on material presented since the midterm examination. A review and exam preparation session will be held in class on April 15th.

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	
1	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.)
	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor,
cw	after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers,
CVV	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