

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title	: Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Global and Environmental Studies
Programme QF Level	: 5
Course Title	: Global Politics
Course Code	: SSC3274
Department	: Social Sciences
Credit Points	: 3
Contact Hours	: 39
Pre-requisite(s)	: Nil
Medium of Instruction	: EMI
Course Level	: 3

Part II

The University's Graduate Attributes and seven Generic Intended Learning Outcomes (GILOs) represent the attributes of ideal EdUHK graduates and their expected qualities respectively. Learning outcomes work coherently at the University (GILOs), programme (Programme Intended Learning Outcomes) and course (Course Intended Learning Outcomes) levels to achieve the goal of nurturing students with important graduate attributes.

In gist, the Graduate Attributes for Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate and Research Postgraduate students consist of the following three domains (i.e. in short "PEER & I"):

- Professional Excellence;
- Ethical Responsibility; &
- Innovation.

The descriptors under these three domains are different for the three groups of students in order to reflect the respective level of Graduate Attributes.

The seven GILOs are:

1. Problem Solving Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Creative Thinking Skills
- 4a. Oral Communication Skills
- 4b. Written Communication Skills
5. Social Interaction Skills
6. Ethical Decision Making
7. Global Perspectives

1. Course Synopsis

This course discusses a wide range of theoretical and applied issues related to contemporary global affairs. Key concepts and debates of global politics would be introduced before turning to key topical issues, including inter-state and transnational security challenges, conflict resolution and prevention, the roles of international institutions and non-state actors like NGOs, transnational networks, civil society, business actors and cities. These will help students develop skills to appreciate the changing political dynamics underlying global issues, and develop skill to critically evaluate real-world events through the use of academic concepts. Examination of global environmental issues will be featured as case studies throughout the whole course.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- CILO₁ examine critically features of and debates on international relations and global governance;
- CILO₂ develop critical thinking skills using multiple perspectives;
- CILO₃ analyze reports and statements of governments and international organizations related to global affairs.
- CILO₄ appreciate the merit and applicability of various theories in global politics in the area of global environmental issues in particular.

3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Introduction of international relations: theoretical overview, with a focus on the academic debates between realism, liberalism and constructivism.	CILO _{1,2,4}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual inquiry • Group discussion • Debate
Theories of war, including discussions on reasons leading to global insecurity, and emerging security challenges beyond inter-state conflicts	CILO _{1,2,4}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual inquiry • Debate • Case studies
Conflict and crisis prevention mechanism applicable of the contemporary world, including the UN system and regional organizations.	CILO _{1,2,4}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debate • Case Studies
Global institutions relating to international politics and law, especially the United Nations, G8/G20, and global development and environment IOs.	CILO _{1,2,3}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual inquiry • Group discussion • Debate
Actors beyond states, including NGOs, transnational networks, business actors and cities in global politics, and their roles in global development and environmental affairs.	CILO _{1,2,3}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual inquiry • Group discussion • Case Studies
Legalization of world politics, especially in environmental affairs and human right domains.	CILO _{1,2,4}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual inquiry • Group discussion • Debate

4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
Individual Paper (of about 2000 words discussing the applicability and limits of different IR theories)	50%	CILO _{1,2,3,4}

Examination (2 hours)	50%	CILO _{1,2,4}
-----------------------	-----	-----------------------

5. Required Text(s)

- Anieri, P. D. (2016). *International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs* (4th ed.) Belmont, C.A.: Cengage Learning.
- Lamy, S. L., et al. (2018). *Introduction to Global Politics* (5th ed.) Oxford: Oxford University Press.

6. Recommended Readings

- Barkin, J. S. (2006). *International Organization: Theories and Institutions*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Brownlie, I. (2008). *Principles of Public International Law* (7th ed.). Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.
- Chasek, P. S., Downie, D. L. & Brown, J. W. (2014). *Global Environmental Politics* (6th ed.). Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.
- Mitchell, R. B. (2010). *International Politics and the Environment*. London: SAGE.
- Nye, J. S. & Welch, D. A. (2013). *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation*. (9th ed.). Boston, M.A. Pearson Longman.
- O'Connell, M. E. (2008). *The Power and Purpose of International Law*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.
- O' Neill, K. (2009). *The Environment and International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Pease, K.-K. S. (2007). *International Organizations: Perspectives on Governance in the Twenty-First Century* (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, New York: Prentice Hall.
- Reus-Smit, C. ed. (2004). *The Politics of International Law*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Rochester, J. M. (2012). *Between Peril and Promise: the Politics of International Law*. Thousand Oaks, C.A.: SAGE/CQ Press.
- Wallensteen, P. (2007). *Understanding Conflict Resolution: War, Peace and the Global System*. New York: Sage Publication.

7. Related Journals

- Foreign Affairs*. Council on Foreign Relations.
- Foreign Policy*. Foreign Policy Group.
- Global Environmental Politics*. The MIT Press.
- Global Governance*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- International Affairs*. Royal Institute of International Affairs.
- International Organization*. The MIT Press.
- International Security*. Harvard University Press.
- Journal of International Affairs*. Columbia University Press.
- Journal of Peace Research*. International Peace Research Institute, Oslo.
- Security Studies*. Taylor and Francis.
- Survival*. Taylor and Francis.
- The Washington Quarterly*. CSIS.

8. Related Web Resources

Center for International and Strategic Studies:

<http://www.csis.org>

Columbia International Affairs Online:

<https://www.ciaonet.org/>.

Council on Foreign Relations:

<http://www.cfr.org/>

Foreign Affairs:

<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/>

Foreign Policy:

<http://foreignpolicy.com>

Foreign Policy in Focus:

<http://www.fpif.org/>

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace:

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/>

Global Asia:

www.globalasia.org

International Monetary Fund:

www.imf.org

International Relations and Security Network:

<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/>

The Globalist:

<http://www.theglobalist.com/>

United Nations:

<http://www.un.org>

United Nations Global Issues:

<https://www.un.org/en/globalissues>

World Bank:

<http://www.worldbank.org>

World Trade Organization:

<http://www.wto.org>

9. Academic Honesty

The University adopts a zero tolerance policy to plagiarism. For the University's policy on plagiarism, please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity with Specific Reference to the Avoidance of Plagiarism by Students* (<https://www.eduhk.hk/re/modules/downloads/visit.php?cid=9&lid=89>). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

10. Others

Nil