Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Elective specialized seminars

Master’s program 2019-2020

Please note that there may be changes to the Fall and Winter schedules until the first day of class of each semester; it is recommended that you check your uoZone account regularly.
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New course/ Nouveau cours
Descriptions:

API 6319 A00  "Quantitative Research Methods"

Professor: Nicholas Rivers  Email: nrivers@uottawa.ca

The goal of this course is to develop an understanding of quantitative research methods used for the development and assessment of public policy. Methods covered include simple and multiple regression, logistic regression, and factor analysis.

Students will learn how to interpret and assess research that uses these multivariate techniques as well as build the skills to accurately and succinctly describe statistical information in a way appropriate for public policy.

The course consists of both lectures and computer lab assignments. In the labs, students will be given the opportunity to use Stata and Excel.

API 6333 A00  "International Law and Ethics"

Professor: Paul Robinson  Email: paul.robinson@uottawa.ca

Issues in international affairs from a legal and ethical perspective. The course investigates the obligations and rights of actors in the international system, as well as the ethical and legal dimensions of specific important issues in international affairs, such as the legitimacy of the use of force, humanitarian crises and the responsibility to protect, the international debt of developing countries, and the protection of the commons (e.g. oceans, atmosphere).

API 6335 A00  "Canadian Foreign Policy"

Professor: Roland Paris  Email: roland.paris@uOttawa.ca

This course will seek to address a fundamental question: how do international institutions shape practices of governance? We shall explore the evolution of security and economic institutions of multilateral governance over the course of the twentieth century, continuing up to the present day. Different types of power, institutional forms, innovations, and ad hoc arrangements of international governance will be surveyed. The course will begin with a brief discussion of international institutions that shaped international relations prior to the 20th century. We shall then examine the way in which the collapse of the League of Nations contributed to the construction of the post WWII world order, with the United Nations emerging as the lead organization. Global regimes and regional institutions as alternatives to universal membership organizations will also be examined. In analyzing all these institutions, we shall pay special attention to the dynamics and consequences of various practices of multilateral governance, and we shall seek to shed light on the different forms of power associated with those practices. Finally, the course will explore more recent debates about the role of institutions after the end of the Cold War, the growing role of non-state actors and the emergence of private authority in global governance, as well as the significance of transnational networks—including illicit networks, such as organized crime or terrorist groups-- in the contemporary international institutional landscape.
API 6339 B00 Special Topics: “The Cold War”

Professor: Peter Jones  
Email: Peter.Jones@uOttawa.ca

Students in university today have no memory of the Cold War. And yet the world they live in is profoundly shaped by that event. This course will examine the Cold War with a view to helping students understand why it happened, how it unfolded and what its legacy means to the world we live in today. Students will be encouraged to examine critically the assumptions, which guided policy-makers during the Cold War, and to try to understand how it felt to live through it.

API 6339 C00 Special Topics: “China’s Economy and Governance”

Professor: Yongjing Zhang  
Email: yongjing.zhang@uottawa.ca

This interdisciplinary course applies tools of economics and political science to a study of the transformation of the People’s Republic of China with a focus on structural and institutional changes behind China’s economic success since 1978. It will provide students a comprehensive introduction to China’s economy and governance, as well as an in-depth analysis of current debates on reform and policy.

API 6339 D00 Special Topics: “Political Violence in Africa”

Professor: Rita Abrahamsen  
Email: Rita.Abrahamsen@uOttawa.ca

This course offers historical, theoretical and empirical perspectives on political violence in Africa. Opening with debates about theories of violence and memory, the course proceeds through a series of case studies including wars of decolonization (e.g. Algeria and Kenya), state oppression (e.g. Ethiopia and Eritrea), civil wars (e.g. Sierra Leone and DRC), and contemporary terrorism (e.g. Boko Haram and al-Shaabab). Through such case studies the course examines the complex relationships between democracy and violence; economics and violence; identity and violence; globalization and violence, as well as issues of gender, youth, religion, and ethnicity. Finally, the course considers approaches to transitional justice, and the role of memory, silences and memorialization in making ‘living together again’ possible.

API 6339 H00 Special Topics: “Violence and Citizen Security in Latin America”

Professor: New Visiting professor – TBD  
Email: TBD

Overview of the causes and consequences of violence in contemporary Latin America, as well as domestic and international policy responses. The seminar begins with the recent history of state repression and civil conflict in Latin America. Then we examine current threats to citizen security in Latin America, including transnational organized crime, political persecution, and gender-based violence, as well as the political and economic impact of crime and violence in Latin America. We conclude with a discussion of police reform and efforts to bolster the rule of law in the region.
API 6365 A00 "Contemporary Security Studies"

Professor: Michael Williams  
Email: Michael.Williams@uottawa.ca

Critical analysis of a range of transformations in the realm of security, and the challenges they present for analysts and policymakers. Study of how security has become a pervasive theme and dominant concern of modern political life, and of how traditional ideas and institutions that defined security are being challenged by dynamics that cross state borders and that involve a diverse range of new ideas, organizations and technologies.

API6399 B00  Capstone seminar: “Law and War”

Professor: David Petrasek  
Email: David.Petrasek@uOttawa.ca

The continuing reality of war, whether between or within States, would appear to be the triumph of force over reason – of the displacement of the rule of law by the rule of the gun. In fact, and to an increasing extent, international legal rules constrain both the recourse to armed force and the means and methods of warfare used.

The aims of the course are to provide students with a basic grasp of the relevant international legal rules, with an understanding of the constraints that hinder the enforcement of these rules, and with an appreciation of how advocates overcome such constraints. We will look in detail at rules regarding the recourse to armed force, protection of civilians, humanitarian action, and sexual and gender-based violence, among others.

This course uses the hybrid learning format, with a combination of online and in-class learning. Lecture material is for the most part online, and classroom sessions are largely comprised of active learning – role-playing and simulation exercises, small group discussions, etc.

API6731 A00  "Finance internationale"

Professeur: Patrick Leblond  
Courriel: Patrick.Leblond@uottawa.ca

Étude des marchés financiers internationaux et de l'environnement dans lequel ils opèrent. Les thèmes étudiés concernent les marchés de change, la parité des pouvoirs d'achat et des taux d'intérêts, les systèmes de taux de change (la période de Bretton Woods et après), les crises financières internationales, les instruments financiers dérivés, l'union monétaire européenne et la théorie des zones monétaires optimales ainsi que les débats sur la nécessité d'une nouvelle architecture financière internationale.
API6739 A00  Thème choisi : "Gouvernance globale de la santé"  
cancelled

Professeur: Patrick Fafard  
Courriel: Patrick.Fafard@uOttawa.ca

Survol historique de la gouvernance globale de la santé. Introduction au fonctionnement et la réforme de l’Organisation mondiale de la santé. Rôle des autres institutions mondiales qui influence la santé des populations. La santé comme enjeu de sécurité mondiale. Examen d’enjeux prioritaire de la santé mondiale (p.ex., virus Ébola ; résistance aux antimicrobiens).

API6799 A00  Séminaire d’intégration : "Politique & Conflits au Moyen Orient"

Professeur : Thomas Juneau  
Courriel : tjuneau@uottawa.ca

Examen de l'origine des deux groupes principaux de la mouvance djihadiste internationale, Al Qaeda et l’État Islamique. Étude de leurs stratégies, tactiques, et capacités; examen de leurs structures et des franchises régionales principales. Discussion des politiques que le Canada et ses alliés peuvent mettre en œuvre en matière de contre-terrorisme.
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*Course change / changement de cours*
Descriptions:

API 6314 A00  "Health Policy"
Professor: Patrick Fafard  Email: Patrick.Fafard@uottawa.ca
Examination of the development of health policy in Canada and selected other OECD countries. Issues covered include the funding of health-care, the role of public, non-profit, and private organizations in the delivery of health care, intergovernmental relations in this field, disease prevention and health promotion, and the impact of government policy generally on the health status of the population.

API 6336 A00  "Defense Policy and Military Affairs"
Professor: Paul Robinson  Email: paul.robinson@uottawa.ca
Analysis of various aspects of defence policy and military affairs, including: the international security environment; theoretical models of defence policy making; the practice of defence-policy making in various Western states; the role of the military-industrial complex; defence procurement; and civil-military relations.

API 6337 A00  "Peace Operations and Post-Conflict Reconstruction"
Professor: Roland Paris  Email: rparis@uottawa.ca
Concepts and practice of peacekeeping, peace-making and post-conflict reconstruction. Topics include the history and development of peace operations before and after the Cold War, preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, humanitarian emergencies, the role of military and civilian actors in peace operations, and the rehabilitation of countries after civil war.

API 6339 E00  "Issues & Challenges in Contemporary World Politics"
Professor: Michael Williams  Email: michael.williams@uottawa.ca
Security has become a pervasive theme and dominant concern of modern political life. Traditional ideas and institutions that defined security primarily as the military defence of state borders are being overlain and challenged by dynamics that cross in the internal/external divide, and involve a diverse range of new ideas, organizations and technologies. This course critically examines a range of transformations in the security agenda, and the challenges they present for analysts and policymakers.
API 6339 F00  Special Topics: “The Return of Geopolitical Rivalry”

Professor: Roland Paris  
Email: rparis@uottawa.ca

This course will examine the causes, characteristics and possible consequences of the recent intensification of major-power rivalry in international politics, including in the military, economic and cyber domains. Implications for Canada will also be considered.

API 6339 G00  Special Topics: “Terrorism and Armed Conflicts in the 21st Century”

Professor: TBD  
Email: TBD

This course investigates the causes, trends, and changing nature of armed conflicts in the 21st century. The course will focus on an array of topics including violent extremism and radicalization, insurgency and counter-insurgency warfare, civil wars and ethnic conflicts, homegrown and transnational terrorism, foreign fighters, and hybrid warfare. Finally, the course will also examine international humanitarian law and human rights in armed conflicts.

API6351 A00  "International Economics and Developing Countries"

Professor: Geranda Notten  
Email: geranda.notten@uOttawa.ca

Introduction to the economic analysis of developing countries. The course will review the different theories of economic development and the tools used to measure inclusive economic development; to identify constraints to inclusive economic development; and to assess relevant policy areas in low and middle-income countries. Topics considered include human development, poverty and inequality, macro-economic stability, private sector development, trade, employment, human capital and financial markets. As part of this course you will further your skills in economic analysis, academic writing and constructing evidence-based arguments using both qualitative and quantitative information. The assessment consists of weekly quizzes or assignments and a country level analysis (preferably group project) involving a draft report and a final report. The country report consists of the analysis of economic and human development information, a diagnosis of the most pressing problems to inclusive economic growth, and a policy analysis focusing on a few policies to relieve one of those problems.

API6361 A00  “US Foreign Policy”

Professor: Srdjan Vucetic  
Email: Srdjan.Vucetic@uottawa.ca

Study of United States foreign policy, analyzing both historical and contemporary themes such as democracy and trade promotion, security issues, and the environment. Study of the changing place in the world of the United States of America as well as of actors such as the White House, the National Security Council, Congress, the military, interest groups and lobbies, the news media, and mass opinion.
APC6999 C00  Capstone seminar: “Policy Planning and Analysis”

Professor: Patrick Leblond  Email: patrick.leblond@uOttawa.ca

Society and economy are evolving rapidly as a result of demographic and technological changes. Governments must develop appropriate policies to respond to these changes in order to ensure that we maintain, if not improve, our collective well-being. It is in this context that this course introduces students to the concepts, theories and methods relevant to policy planning and analysis within the public sector in order to address the challenges faced by society and economy. As part of this course, students will be tasked with conducting a real-world policy analysis project for an agency or department of the Canadian federal government. Students will also have the opportunity to interact with experienced policy planning and analysis practitioners.

APC6999 D00  Capstone seminar: “Law and Politics of International Human Rights”

Professor: David Petrasek  Email: david.petrasek@Ottawa.ca

This course examines the international regime for the protection of human rights as established under the United Nations (UN). What are the main features of this regime, and how does it operate in practice? Through the study of key UN documents, and attempts to apply them in practice, students will gain an appreciation both of the legal frameworks and the heavily politicized contexts in which they operate. Human rights practitioners will join the class to offer their insights on the issues. Particular topics will include women’s rights, human rights and counter-terrorism, human rights in armed conflict and new human rights challenges. There will be an effort throughout the course to look at the ways in which the issues under discussion apply in the Canadian context.

APC6999 E00  "Canadian Defence Policy"

Professor: Srdjan Vucetic  Email: Srdjan.Vucetic@uottawa.ca

Study of the main issues defining and shaping Canada’s defence policy today and in the first decades of the 21st century. Co-taught with a private-company CEO, this capstone seminar is designed to equip students with foundational understanding of how to lead in government, industry and other sectors.

APC6765 A00  "Études contemporaines de la sécurité"

Professeur : Thomas Juneau  Courriel : Thomas.Juneau@uottawa.ca

Une analyse critique d’une gamme de transformations dans le domaine de la sécurité et des défis que celles-ci posent pour les analystes et décideurs. Étude de la manière dont la notion de sécurité est devenue omniprésente et dominante sur la scène politique actuelle, ainsi que de la manière dont les idées et les institutions traditionnelles qui définissaient la sécurité sont en train d’être remises en question par des facteurs qui traversent les frontières étatiques et qui impliquent une gamme diverse d’idées, d’organisations, et de terminologies nouvelles.
Dans un contexte où les biens, services, capitaux et personnes circulent de plus en plus mondialement,
les relations gouvernement-entreprise prennent de plus en plus d’importance dans l’élaboration et
la mise en œuvre des politiques publiques, qu’elles soient nationales ou internationales. D’un côté, il y a
les entreprises qui tentent d’influencer l’élaboration de politiques et réglementations de manière à ce
que celles-ci nuisent le moins possible à leurs opérations. De l’autre, il y a les gouvernements et les
institutions internationales qui cherchent à établir des règles du jeu pour le bon fonctionnement des
marchés et du bien-être de la population. Ce cours regardera donc attentivement ces deux dimensions
des relations gouvernement-entreprise, surtout en en Amérique du Nord et en Europe, ainsi que dans le
cadre de la réglementation et normalisation internationale.

Aux enjeux environnementaux, économiques, sociaux (inégalités globales et démographiques), et
politique (la fin de l’ordre libéral?) plusieurs auteurs complètent cette liste en y ajoutant les enjeux
démocratiques. Brexit, Trump, algorithme, démocratie illibérale, populisme, Fake News, nouvel
autoritarisme, cyber attaques, etc : chacun de ces termes indique à sa manière que la démocratie et son
fonctionnement font désormais parti de l’agenda de réflexion et d’action de nos sociétés.
Inscrits dans ce contexte d’une démocratie qui ne vit pas des jours tranquilles mais qui est confrontée à
de nouveaux questionnements et défis, les objectifs de ce cours sont de prendre la mesure de la diversité
et de la complexité des enjeux actuels ainsi que de produire une lecture et une compréhension
collectives de l’état actuel de la démocratie sur la planète. D’où l’organisation du cours en trois parties :
après avoir proposé une définition substantielle de la démocratie qui ne la réduit pas à la démocratie
electorale, nous dressons l’état de la démocratie sur la planète et de sa relative régression, pour, dans
un 2e temps, dresser un panorama des principales critiques qui lui sont adressées suivi dans un troisième
temps d’un inventaire des propositions de renouvellement de la démocratie, les softs comme les
radicales et enfin, terminer en ouvrant la discussion sur l’espace de la démocratie, à partir des travaux
portant sur la démocratie globale.