

**Brescia University College**  
**IDS 1000G**  
**Introduction to Global Challenges**

Term: Winter 2018

Class Time: Monday, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Class Location: TBD

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Chater

Office: BR-UH 216

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

E-mail: [achater@uwo.ca](mailto:achater@uwo.ca)

Course Description and Objectives

This class overviews global issues, examined through disciplinary explanatory lenses. Students will receive an empirical introduction to world events, as well as a tour of theoretical perspectives across disciplines. Disciplines interrogated include history, sociology, economics and political science. Topics include climate change, environmental degradation, armed conflict, terrorism, development, freedom, women's rights, Indigenous peoples' rights and worker's rights.

By the end of this class, students will be able to:

- Critically understand different ways of thinking about global issues and apply this learning using examples from contemporary affairs (critical thinking, problem solving)
- Analyze various disciplinary perspectives by evaluating their relative merits in both debate and writing (critical thinking, problem solving)
- Evaluate the merits of solutions to global issues and demonstrate a thorough understanding in class activities (inquiry and analysis, critical thinking)
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of different ways of participating in world affairs to assess career options and develop active citizenship (self-awareness and development, social awareness and engagement)
- Create high-quality research that draws on a variety of scholarly sources and demonstrates a variety of communication skills to aid in further university study and career goals (communication)

Note: If you are not sure if you are eligible to register for this course, see the course instructor as soon as possible.

Class Organization

Classes will consist of a mix of lecture, discussion and interactive activities.

## Required Readings

Readings will be posted to the class OWL website (<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>). Read each week's assigned readings before coming to class.

## Assignments and Evaluations

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Research Proposal	10%	January 31
Essay	30%	March 7
Presentation	20%	March 26 – April 4
Participation 1	5%	January 8 – February 14
Participation 2	5%	February 25 – April 11
Exam	30%	April Exam Period

### ***Essay Proposal (10%)***

Students will write a brief, two-page essay proposal that discusses a research question based on a topic selected from a list. During the second week of class, the instructor will distribute a sign-up sheet of topics.

Students must then write their term paper on that topic. The proposal should give: the research question; necessary background; history on the topic; the student's preliminary opinion about the research question, and; a research plan.

You should use scholarly sources and other high-quality information to answer the question. The purpose of the assignment is to provide a well-written expression of a well-reasoned research question.

A good-quality proposal will provide a thoughtful research question, as well as an opinion on the chosen topic. All necessary background information and history will be present. It will be well written with almost no typographic errors or grammatical errors (for example, only one typo). It will be written in a concise and to-the-point manner.

**\*\*\*OPTIONAL BONUS MARKS\*\*\***

The instructor will mark your proposal and return it as soon as possible. If you resubmit your assignment the following class, the instructor will re-mark your assignment. The higher of the two marks will be your mark on the assignment! Resubmitting your assignment is optional.

### ***Essay (30%)***

Students will write an argumentative essay on their chosen essay topic. Essays must be 8-10 pages, not including the bibliography or cover page. The essay must include a minimum of 8 scholarly sources.

The instructor will provide a rubric before the essay due date. A good-quality essay will deliver a persuasive argument in response to the essay topic. It will provide good-quality research from a wide variety of scholarly sources. It will demonstrate analytical and critical thinking about sources and will contribute unique insight and analysis. It will consider and debunk counter-arguments. It will be logically organized into sub-arguments. Each sub-argument will be equally strong. The grammar and spelling will be correct and professional (i.e. less than five spelling and major grammatical errors).

### ***Presentation (20%)***

Students will give a presentation based on their essay. The instructor will provide details on the format before the due date. Students must assign a short reading, execute a lecture and lead a class discussion. During the second week of class, the instructor will distribute a sign-up sheet of presentation dates.

The instructor will evaluate presentations on content, the quality of the visual aids and successful facilitation of class debate. A successful presentation must give an understandable and scholarly discussion of the essay topic. It should be well delivered and engaging. It should include useful visual aids. It must inspire meaningful and worthwhile class discussion.

### ***Exam (30%)***

The final exam for the course will be held during the April exam period. The exact date will be released during each term. The final exam will be three hours. A breakdown of the exam format will be given during the term.

On the last day of class, or two weeks before the exam, a two-page exam guide and practice questions will be uploaded to the class OWL site. Practice questions will be very similar, though not necessarily identical, to the questions that will be on the final exam.

A good-quality answer should include material from lectures and the week's assigned readings.

### ***Class Participation (10%)***

Throughout the term, you will be evaluated based on the quality and quantity of your in-class participation. If you believe that you are too shy to participate, please see the course instructor as soon as possible to discuss strategies to overcome your shyness. You also earn participation marks by 1) bringing a news article to discuss during class, 2) e-mailing the course instructor questions and comments based on the lecture, or 3) visiting the course instructor during office hours to discuss lecture material.

Below is the rubric used to evaluate participation:

Mark	Comments
90%+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frequent comments</li><li>• Comments make specific reference to assigned readings, when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture</li><li>• Comments demonstrate analytical thought</li><li>• Comments are delivered articulately</li></ul>
80% - 89%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frequent comments</li><li>• Comments usually make specific reference to assigned readings, when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture</li><li>• Comments usually demonstrate analytical thought</li><li>• Comments are usually delivered articulately</li></ul>
70% - 79%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limited comments</li><li>• Comments usually make specific reference to assigned readings, when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture</li><li>• Comments usually demonstrate analytical thought</li><li>• Comments are usually delivered articulately</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frequent comments</li><li>• Comments rarely make specific reference to assigned readings, even when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture</li><li>• Comments usually demonstrate analytical thought</li><li>• Comments are usually delivered articulately</li></ul>
50% - 69%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limited comments</li><li>• Comments rarely make specific reference to assigned readings, even when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture</li><li>• Comments demonstrate limited analytical thought</li><li>• Comments are not delivered articulately</li></ul>
< 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Few or no comments</li><li>• Comments rarely make specific reference to assigned readings, even when appropriate, as well as the week's lecture</li><li>• Comments demonstrate limited analytical thought</li><li>• Comments are not delivered articulately</li></ul>

## **Policy on Late Assignments**

Each assignment is due at the beginning of class on the due date. If you do not hand in your assignment by the beginning of class (i.e. before the day's lecture begins), your assignment will be counted as late. Your assignment will be deducted 2% per day it is late, including weekends.

You must submit each writing assignment to Turnitin through the link on the class OWL website. If you do not submit your assignments to Turnitin by the beginning of class on the various due dates, your assignment will be counted as late. Your assignment will not be marked until it is uploaded to Turnitin.

If you cannot complete an essay on time or require a makeup exam for medical or other valid reasons, you must inform the instructor and visit Brescia Academic Advising to submit the required documents. Only Brescia Academic Advising can grant essay extensions and schedule makeup exams. Information on documentation can be found here: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/academic-advising/>

If you cannot complete the essay proposal assignment on time, please contact the course instructor as soon as possible. The instructor has discretion granting extensions for this assignment.

If you do not attend your presentation, you will receive a mark of 0%.

If you cannot attend several lectures for medical or other valid reasons and thus cannot participate in class discussion, you must visit Brescia Academic Advising and submit the required documents. Missing a small number of lectures will not impact your mark; if you must miss a significant number of lectures for a valid reason, you can submit an additional written assignment.

If a conflict emerges because of a religious observance, please inform the instructor two weeks in advance to make a reasonable accommodation.

## ***Support Services***

Emotional and mental distress: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/mental-health-and-wellness/>

Students with disabilities: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/about/accessibility/>

Learning services and help: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/learning-enhancement/>

## Weekly Outline and Readings

### Week One: January 8 and January 10

- Introduction to course (January 8)
- Introduction to global issues (January 10)
- Read the course outline

### Week Two: January 15 and January 17 – Climate Change and the Environment

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*, Summary for Policymakers.

### Week Three: January 22 and January 24 – Armed Conflict

- Read “How to Read the ACR Conflict Descriptions” and one “conflict description” of your choice from the *Project Ploughshares Armed Conflict Report*:  
<http://ploughshares.ca/armed-conflict/conflict-descriptions/>
- Be prepared to tell us about the conflict you selected

### Week Four: January 29 and January 31 – Terrorism (proposal due January 31)

- Armando Spataro, “Why Do People Become Terrorists? A Prosecutor’s Experiences,” *Journal of International Criminal Justice* 6, no. 3 (2008): 507-524.

### Week Five: February 5 and February 7 - Development

- United Nations Development Programme, *Overview: Human Development Report 2016 - Human Development for Everyone*.

### Week Six: February 12 and February 14 – Freedom and Democracy

- Freedom House, *Freedom in the World 2017*.

### Week Seven: February 26 and February 28 – Women’s Rights

- Andrew Heywood, *Politics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Chapter 2, pages 60-61.
- Watch: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, “We Should All Be Feminists,” TED Talk, April 12, 2013,  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=hg3umXU\\_qWc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=hg3umXU_qWc).

### Week Eight: March 5 and March 7 – Indigenous peoples’ rights (essay due March 7)

- Review the website <https://www.canadasshame.com/>
- Watch the trailer for the film *Angry Inuk*:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4tfmdv5Z7w>

Week Nine: March 12 and March 14 – Labour Rights

- World Vision Canada, *Supply Chain Risk Report: Child and Forced Labour in Canadian Consumer Products*, 2016.
- Benjamin Powell, “A Case Against Child Labor Prohibitions,” *Economic Development Bulletin* no. 21 (2014): 1-4.

Week Ten: March 19 and March 21 – TBD

- Students choose the topic or presentations

Week Eleven: March 26 and March 28 – Presentations

- Presentations

Week Twelve: April 2 and April 4 – Presentations

- Presentations

Week Thirteen: April 9 and April 11

- Review

## 2017-18 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

### 1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf). The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:  
<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg117.html>

### 2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of



occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official dates <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg7.html> ). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg130.html> )

### 3. ABSENCES

**Short Absences:** If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

### 4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Computer-marked Tests/exams:**

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

## **5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS**

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar (<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg112.html> ).

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices

([http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/evaluation\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/evaluation_undergrad.pdf) and [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/finalgrades.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/finalgrades.pdf)).

## **6. PREREQUISITES**

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

## **7. SUPPORT**

### **Support Services**

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> .

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental\_Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### **Sexual Violence**

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

---

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.