Introduction to International Studies  
IS 101 – Fall 2017  

Dr. Leslie Elliott Armijo  
Leslie.armijo@gmail.com; larmijo@sfu.ca  
www.lesliearmijo.org  

Tuesdays 2:30 – 4:30 pm, Room K9500, Burnaby Campus, SFU  
(Version of August 30, 2017)  

This class introduces key concepts and approaches in International Studies, providing students an initial conceptual framework for engagement with each of the three streams in the program: International Security and Conflict; Comparative World Politics and Societies; and International Development.  

The course is organized into four sections, each presenting a distinct perspective on how/why/when to approach the large subject area of International Studies in the early 21st century, followed by a concluding summary. The reading load is substantial and challenging, and each week’s reading is to be done prior to the relevant lecture. (Yes, this means that you have two weeks’ reading to complete for the second week. I have frontloaded the reading intentionally. You’ll thank me later in the term!) It is my hope that you will view our world differently three months hence.  

NOTE: Every term I choose a different novel, biography, or autobiography to give a personal story relevant to one of the topics or countries profiled in the course. This term our novel, *Wild Swans*, is highly readable but QUITE LONG. I very strongly suggest that you begin reading it as soon as possible  

*Required books:*  
Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE SECURITY STREAM: WHO OR WHAT ‘CAUSED’ THE FIRST WORLD WAR?

**Week 1 (Tues, Sept 5).** Causes of War: The Quality of Leadership or ‘Balance of Power’ Politics?
Reading: Joll and Martel, Chs 1 (“Introduction”), 2 (“July crisis”) and 3 (“Alliance system”)
Assignment: None

**Week 2 (Tues, Sept 12).** Causes of War: Military Strategy, Domestic Politics, and the International Economy
Reading: Joll and Martel, Chs 4 (“Militarism”), 5 (“Domestic politics”), & 6 (“International economy”)
Assignment: None

**Week 3 (Tues, Sept 19).** Causes of War: Colonial Rivalries or the influence of Ideas/Cognitions/Norms?
Reading: Joll and Martel: Chs 7 (“Imperial rivalries”), 8 (“The mood of 1914”), and 9 (“Conclusion”)
Assignment: None

II. INTRODUCTION TO CROSS-COUNTRY COMPARISON: THEORIZING NATIONAL POLITICAL REGIME TYPES

**Week 4 (Tues, Sept 26).** Theory and the Trajectory of an Early Industrializer: Britain
Reading: Ch 1 (“What is Comparative Politics?”) and Rutland, Peter. “Britain,” both in Kopstein, Lichbach, and Hansen, eds.
Assignment: None

**Week 5 (Tues, Oct 3).** Catching up with the Leader: Germany
Reading: Gould, Andrew C. “Germany,” in Kopstein, Lichbach, and Hansen, eds.
Assignment: 1st Essay Assignment OUT

**Week 6 (Tues, Oct 10).** Democratic Anomaly: India
Reading: Sil, Rudra. “India,” in Kopstein, Lichbach, and Hansen, eds.
Assignment: 1st Essay DUE

Week 7 (Tues, Oct 17). Islamic Nationalism: Iran
Assignment: 1st Essay RETURNED

III. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ON A HUMAN SCALE: MASSIVE UPHEAVALS & CHANGE IN TWENTIETH CENTURY CHINA

Week 8 (Tues, Oct 24). Revolution, Totalitarianism, and Party-led Development: China
Reading:
(2) Chang, Chaps 1-9 (pp. 1-185, covering 1909-1953).
Assignment: MIDTERM study sheet OUT

Week 9 (Tues, Oct 31). Approaching History through Literature, I
Reading: Chang, Chaps 10-19 (pp. 186-349, covering 1953-1967)
Assignment: MIDTERM, in tutorials

Week 10 (Tues, Nov 7). Approaching History through Literature, II
Assignment: MIDTERM returned

IV. INTRODUCTION TO DEVELOPMENT: CAN OUTSIDERS PROMOTE GROWTH, EQUITY, AND/OR ‘PROGRESS’ IN POOR COUNTRIES?

Week 11 (Tues, Nov 14). Economic Development and Individual Incentives
Reading: Banerjee and Duflo, Chs 1 through 5
Assignment: None

Week 12 (Tues, Nov 21). Pitfalls of Institutional Design
Reading: Banerjee and Duflo, Chs 6 through 10
Assignment: 2nd Essay Assignment OUT

V. INTERIM CONCLUSIONS: INTERNATIONAL STUDIES & SOCIAL SCIENCE

Week 13 (Tues, Nov 28).
Reading: No new reading
Assignment: 2nd Essay DUE
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are expected to read and understand the university’s policies with regard to academic dishonesty (T10.02 and T10.03). These policies are available through the following url: http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/teaching.html

Forms of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to the following:
- Submitting all or a portion of the same work for credit in more than one course.
- Representing another person’s work as your own for course assignments.
- Failure to acknowledge sources of facts, information, analyses, interpretations, and arguments that you incorporate in your work, whether from a source that is written, spoken communication, or the internet and whether it is published and unpublished. Appropriate documentation of your sources is necessary when you quote, paraphrase or incorporate information and ideas generated by others. In particular, please be aware that “patchwriting” is unacceptable.

All students in SIS classes are expected to read the SFU Library lesson on “What is Plagiarism?” and take the interactive tutorial, “Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism”


Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism: http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/tutorials/plagiarism-tutorial

As per department policy, ALL PAPERS WILL BE RUN THROUGH THE ANTI-PLAGIARISM PROGRAM “TURNITIN.”