M.A. DEGREE in
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Regulations and Course Information

Department of Political Science
McMaster University
2017 - 2018

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I. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A. GLOBAL POLITICS STREAM

1. Five three unit courses including:
   - 4 International Relations courses; 3 in major stream (one of which must include POLSCI 772),
   - 1 other International Relations course (Global Politics or GPE)
   - 1 additional graduate course (IR, Political Science, Globalization, or Other)

2. MA International Relations Colloquium course / POLSCI 775*

3. Major Research Paper (10,000 words) / POLSCI 708*

B. GLOBAL POLITICAL ECONOMY STREAM

1. Five three unit courses including:
   - 4 International Relations courses; 3 in major stream (one of which must include POLSCI 774),
   - 1 other International Relations course (Global Politics or GPE)
   - 1 additional graduate course (IR, Political Science, Globalization, or Other)

2. M.A. International Relations Colloquium course / POLSCI 775*

3. Major Research Paper (10,000 words) / POLSCI 708*

II. LIST OF IR COURSES

A. Global Politics Stream courses

- POLSCI 708 MA IR Major Research Paper
- POLSCI 715 Liberalism and Imperialism
- POLSCI 717 Political Violence and Revolution
- POLSCI 757 Theories in Political Community
- POLSCI 767 Politics of the Global South: An International Relations Perspective
- POLSCI 771 Advanced Concepts in International Relations Theory
- POLSCI 772 Theories of International Politics
- POLSCI 773 Selected Topics in International Politics
- POLSCI 775 MA IR Colloquium
- POLSCI 776 Advanced Issues in Critical Security Studies
- POLSCI 777 Global Governance
- POLSCI 788 Comparative Foreign Policy: Canadian and U.S. Foreign Policy
- POLSCI 796 Research Design and Methods

B. Global Political Economy Stream

- GLOBALST 712 International Trade and Economic Development
- POLSCI 708 MA IR Major Research Paper
- POLSCI 715 Liberalism and Imperialism
- POLSCI 768 Political Economy of Global Climate Change
- POLSCI 774 Global Political Economy
- POLSCI 775 MA IR Colloquium
- POLSCI 777 Global Governance
• POLSCI 796 Research Design and Methods

C. Other courses of interest (Note: not all courses listed are offered each year)

• GLOBALST 701 Topics in Globalization I: Islam in a Global World
• GLOBALST 704 Global Social Policy
• HISTORY 714 The United States and Globalization since the Late Nineteenth Century
• GLOBALST 718 Global Actors Beyond the State: Methods and Cases
• GLOBALST 728 Issues in International & Intercultural Health (NURSING 728)
• POLSCI 740 Theories of Comparative Politics
• POLSCI 742 Politics of Developing Areas
• HISTORY 757 The British Empire and Global Integration, 1815-1960
• HISTORY 764 Global Power Local Cultures: Comparative Colonialisms in Africa

School of Graduate Studies / McMaster University (mandatory requirements)
SGS #101 Academic Research Integrity & Ethics
SGS #201 AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act)

Environmental and Occupational Health Support Services (EOHSS) / (mandatory requirements)
EOHSS (Environmental and Occupational Health Support Services)
Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Training
Violence and Harassment Prevention Training

III. SELECTING YOUR COURSES

When choosing graduate courses MA IR students should consider the broad range of offerings available in the Department of Political Science, other departments and the Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition. Consider combining your IR courses with others into a theme if you wish to learn about a particular area in depth. Below are some themes and combinations to consider. A “*” indicates an IR listed course. (NOTE: not all courses listed are offered every year)

Students should consult with the MA International Relations Graduate Advisor on the appropriate courses to take.

The University and the Department use a letter grade system in which the following are passing grades: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-. A grade below B- is considered a failure in graduate courses. While a B- standing is sufficient to earn a degree by School of Graduate Studies criteria, a failure in any course normally results in the Department recommending that the student not be allowed to continue.

Exceptional Incompletes: Incompletes will be granted only in very unusual circumstances. To qualify, the student must apply for one by filling out the University’s Incomplete Petition Form. This must be signed by the instructor, and must be submitted to the Graduate Chair for approval. Deadlines for removal of incomplete grades are given in the Calendar. Courses still incomplete after the deadline are given a grade of F (fail) and the student is not permitted to re-register without the approval of the School of Graduate Studies Committee on Graduate Admissions and Study.

Interested in Developing Countries and Development?
• 712 International Trade and Development* (GLOBALST712)
• 742 Politics of Developing Areas
• 767 Politics of the Global South: An International Relations Perspective*
• 774 Global Political Economy*
• 782 Development Theory and Administration*

**Interested in Theoretical Approaches to International Relations?**
• 718 Global Actors Beyond the State: Methods & Cases (GLOBALST718)
• 749 Topics in Gender and Politics
• 756 Politics and Its Others
• 757 Theory of Political Community
• 758 Cosmopolitanism and its Critics*
• 771 Advanced Concepts in International Relations Theory*
• 772 Theories of International Politics*

**Interested in the politics of other countries?**
• 702 Contemporary Problems in Anthropology (ANTHROP702)
• 715 Globalization and China (GLOBALST715)
• 740 Theories of Comparative Politics
• 741 Politics of Social Movements
• 764 Global Power, Local Cultures: Comparative Colonialisms in Africa (HISTORY764)
• 769 Political Economy of East Asia*

**Interested in Social Policy / Social Issues?**
• 704 Global Social Policy (GLOBALST 704)
• 705 Global Public Policy*
• 708 Health & Aging in a Global & International Context (HLTH AGE 708)
• 728 Issues in International & Intercultural Health (GLOBALST 728)
• 730 Work and Democracy in the Global Society (WORKSOC 730)
• 749 Topics in Gender and Politics

**Interested in Research Design?**
• 796 Research Design and Methods

**IV. MA IR COLLOQUIUM COURSE**
• 775 MA International Relations Colloquium

The IR Colloquium will take place every second week in the Fall and Winter terms under the leadership of the IR Convener. It will be a two hour meeting with all of the MA IR students. It will consist of faculty presentations highlighting their research and professional development sessions on topics such as grant writing, PhD programs and career information. Other sessions will focus upon skills needed for the Major Research paper (choosing a topic and supervisor, preparing an outline etc.)

**V. MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER**
• 708 Major Research Paper

In addition to completing 18 units of graduate level coursework, students enrolled in the M.A. in International Relations are required to complete a Major Research Paper (MRP) in the spring following their coursework.

The major research paper (MRP) is an opportunity for students to do an extended piece of research on a topic of their choosing. Guidance on the MRP will be provided in the IR Colloquium. Students will be assigned a faculty supervisor in consultation with the IR convenor. MRPs are to be no longer than 10,000 words.
including all front matter, references and bibliography. That normally leaves 8,000 words for the text which is the length of an average scholarly journal article.

**TWO copies** of your MRP in finished form must be submitted to your supervisor by **JUNE 15, 2018**. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, single or double-sided on 8 ½ x 11” paper and coil or cerlox bound with a clear cover. Sources must be documented according to the conventions of a recognized academic style (MLA, Chicago, etc.). Those who fail to submit the final copy by the due date risk not graduating. Please note that INCOMPLETES will only be granted for legitimate medical or other properly documented reasons.

Your MRP will be read and marked by your supervisor and a second reader, normally chosen by your supervisor. One copy of your MRP will be returned to you, the second one retained by the Department for its records.

The MRP is marked on a pass / fail basis. Truly outstanding papers may be given a pass with distinction (P+). We will collate comments from both markers and pass them on to the students.

MRPs will be graded and returned to students by July 15. A student whose MRP receives a failing grade will normally have the opportunity to revise and resubmit for August 15.

Any general questions should be directed to the MA IR Advisor, Dr. Robert O’Brien (obrienr@mcmaster.ca) or to Manuela Dozzi (dozzim@mcmaster.ca).

**VI. INSTITUTE OF GLOBALIZATION AND THE HUMAN CONDITION (IGHC)**

The Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition (IGHC) is a research Institute which hosts an M.A. in Globalization Studies and supports teaching and research on a wide variety of global studies topics. The Institute is located on the 2nd floor of L.R. Wilson Hall (LRW-2021). It runs a working paper series, hosts numerous visiting speakers, awards essay prizes and grants research scholarships. Political Science and International Relations students, with an interest in globalization are welcome and encouraged to take courses in the Institute and participate in all of its activities.

See: [http://globalization.mcmaster.ca/](http://globalization.mcmaster.ca/)
VII. PRE-COURSE READING

Some students may wish to undertake some additional reading before beginning the MA in September. This is not required, but should you wish to do so, we have the following suggestions;

For Global Politics Stream:
- Geeta Chowdhry and Sheila Nair, eds., *Power, Postcolonialism and International Relations: Reading Race, Gender and Class* (New York: Routledge, 2002).

For Global Political Economy Stream:

At a minimum, students should be familiar with a basic undergraduate IPE or GPE textbook such as:

Those with little previous knowledge of economics may wish to buy or consult an economics primer such as:

A solid understanding of the role of MONEY is helpful. You may wish to consult an introduction such as:

A good overview of our present economic crisis can be found in:

Additional books:
VIII. OTHER REGULATIONS

For a complete listing of Regulations for Master’s Degrees, students are advised to consult the School of Graduate Studies Calendar: http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/index.php

IX. CONTACTS AND FACILITIES

GRADUATE COMMITTEE 2017 - 2018

Chair: Dr. Alina Sajed
MA Political Science Graduate Advisor: Dr. Peter Graefe
MA IR Graduate Advisor: Dr. Robert O’Brien
Scholarships Coordinator: Dr. Marshall Beier
TA Coordinator: Dr. Netina Tan
Curriculum Coordinator: Dr. James Ingram
PhD Graduate Student Representative: TBA
MA Graduate Student Representative: TBA

AREA CONVENORS 2017 - 2018

Canadian: Dr. Peter Graefe
Comparative: Dr. Nibaldo Galleguillos
International Relations: Dr. Robert O’Brien
Political Theory: Dr. Catherine Frost
Public Policy: Dr. Henry Jacek

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Manuela Dozzi
Kenneth Taylor Hall (KTH) 527
(905) 525-9140 Ext. 24742
Email: dozzim@mcmaster.ca

DEPARTMENTAL WEBSITE: http://politicalscience.mcmaster.ca/

At present, graduate students in Political Science have access to a small computer lab in KTH-501. Some if not most course readings will be placed in KTH-502 and can be borrowed for photocopying.

Your key administrative contact is Manuela Dozzi.