



Department of Political Science
M.A. Degree in International Relations
Handbook
2018 – 2019

Disclaimer: If there is a discrepancy between this Handbook and the School of Graduate Studies Calendar, [the School of Graduate Studies Calendar](#) will prevail.

McMaster University
Department of Political Science
Master of Arts in International Relations

The Master of Arts Degree in International Relations allows the student to undertake advanced graduate course work and a major research paper in one of the leading centres of critical international relations. McMaster is particularly strong in the areas of postcolonialism, alternative diplomacy, critical security studies, citizenship studies and international political economy.

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2018-2019 Important Dates

Monday, September 3	Labour Day Holiday, Department is closed
Tuesday, September 4	Orientation Session, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m., LRW 1003
Tuesday, September 4	TA Orientation Session, 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., LRW 1003
Tuesday, September 4	Welcome Reception & Lunch, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., LRW 1003
Wednesday, September 5	First day of Political Science graduate classes for Term 1
Wednesday, September 5	Teaching and Learning Forum, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., CIBC Hall
Monday, September 10	Final date for late Mosaic enrollment
Wednesday, September 12	Department course enrollment worksheet due
Friday, September 28	Last day to add courses for Term 1
Friday, September 28	Last day to complete and pass SGS 101 and SGS 201
Friday, October 5	Last day to drop courses for Term 1 (please note that all courses on a student's record after this date will require a grade)
October 8 – 14	Mid-term recess
Wednesday, December 5	Last day of class for Term 1
December 24 – January 1	Department and University closed for the Holiday Break
Wednesday, January 2	Department and University reopen for 2019
Monday, January 7	First day of classes for Term 2
Friday, January 25	Last day to add courses for Term 2
Friday, February 1	Last day to drop courses for Term 2 (please note that all courses on a student's record after this date will require a grade)
February 18 – 24	Mid-term recess
Tuesday, April 9	Last day of classes for Term 2
Friday, April 19	Good Friday, Department and University closed
Wednesday, May 1	First Draft Copy of MRP due to Supervisor
Wednesday, May 29	Second Draft Copy of MRP due to Supervisor
Monday, June 17	Final Copy (x2) of MRP due by 4:00 p.m.
Monday, July 15	MRP grade to be released informally by email
Thursday, August 15	Release of final grade and comments will be distributed

More detailed information on [Sessional Dates](#) can be found online in the 2018-2019 School of Graduate Studies Calendar.

Degree Requirements

Admission to the M.A. in International Relations degree program requires an average of B+ or better in Honours Political Science or, with the approval of the Department's Graduate Chair, in another discipline. The Department offers two streams in this M.A. program: (1) Global Politics; and (2) Global Political Economy. Students must indicate the stream in which they wish to major in their application.

1. Global Politics Stream

1. Five three unit courses including:

- 4 international relations courses; 3 in the major stream, one of which must include POLSCI 772),

- 1 other International Relations course (Global Politics or GPE list)
 - 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*

2. Global Political Economy Stream

1. Five three unit courses including:
 - 4 International Relations courses; 3 in the major stream, one of which must include POLSCI 774)
 - 1 other International Relations course (Global Politics or GPE list)
 - 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*

List of International Relations Courses

A. Global Politics Stream courses

- POLSCI 705 Global Public Policy
- POLSCI 708 MA IR Major Research Paper
- POLSCI 715 Liberalism and Imperialism
- POLSCI 757 Theories in Political Community
- POLSCI 771 Advanced Concepts in International Relations Theory
- POLSCI 772 Theories 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 courses

- GLOBALST 712 International Trade and Economic Development
- POLSCI 705 Global Public Policy
- 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 704 Global Social Policy
- HISTORY 714 The United States and Globalization since the Late 19th Century
- GLOBALST 718 Global Actors Beyond the State: Methods and Cases
- 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

Political Science Graduate Course Offerings (2018-2019)

Canadian Politics

POLSCI 6006 (3) Canadian Politics
 POLSCI 760 (2) Political Institutions of the Canadian State
 POLSCI 770 (1) Globalization and the Canadian State

Comparative Politics

POLSCI 706 (2) Comparative Politics of Health Policy
 POLSCI 740 (1) Theories of Comparative Politics
 POLSCI 742 (2) Politics of the Developing Area
 POLSCI 783 (2) Comparative Public Policy
 POLSC 788 (1) Comparative Foreign Policy: Canadian and U.S. Foreign Policy

International Relations

POLSCI 768 (1) Political Economy of Global Climate Change
 POLSCI 771 (2) Advanced Concepts in International Relations Theory
 POLSCI 772 (1) Theories of International Politics
 POLSCI 774 (1) Global Political Economy
 POLSCI 776 (2) Advanced Issues in Critical Security Studies
 POLSCI 777 (2) Global Governance
 POLSCI 788 (1) Comparative Foreign Policy: Canadian and U.S. Foreign Policy

Political Theory

POLSCI 715 (1) Liberalism and Imperialism
 POLSCI 754 (2) Critics of Modernity
 POLSCI 757 (2) Theories of Political Community

Public Policy

POLSCI 701 (1) Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis: Frameworks and Models
 POLSCI 706 (2) Comparative Politics of Health Policy
 POLSCI 705 (2) Global Public Policy
 POLSCI 770 (1) Globalization and the Canadian State
 POLSCI 780 (1) Selected Political Problems I: Topic TBA
 POLSCI 783 (2) Comparative Public Policy
 POLSCI 784 (2) Quantitative Political and Policy Analysis
 POLSCI 785 (1) Public Sector Management

POLSCI 796 (1) Research Design and Methods

The complete list of Political Science graduate courses is available in the [School of Graduate Studies Calendar](#). Political Science grad courses being offered for the 2018-2019 academic year are listed on the [Department of Political Science website](#).

School of Graduate Studies (mandatory requirements)

All graduate students, including part-time students, exchange and visiting students must complete and pass the SGS 101 Academic Research Integrity & Ethics and SGS 201 Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA) within the first term of their program.

SGS 101 Academic Research Integrity and Ethics

This course will introduce incoming graduate students to the standards of academic integrity expected at McMaster. It will provide examples of acceptable and unacceptable practices and will clarify the responsibility and expectations of graduate students with respect to academic integrity. Students will be exposed to the Academic Integrity Policy of McMaster and best practices will be described that will minimize the likelihood of incorrectly attributed work from appearing in their assignments and research records.

SGS 201 Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

All graduate students are required to complete appropriate training required to complete their research and studies (health and safety training, ethics training, biosafety training, etc.), as determined by their home Department or Program. All graduate students also are required to complete training on the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), which can be completed on-line [avenue.mcmaster.ca]. Having an understanding of how we can identify and reduce attitudinal, structural, information, technological, and systemic barriers to persons with disabilities is core to McMaster University's commitment to supporting an inclusive community in which all persons are treated with dignity and equality, and completion of AODA training is critical as McMaster's graduates move forward in their varied, chosen professions. More information about this can be found through the [Accessibility Hub](#).

You must enroll in Mosaic for both these on-line courses and it will be available to you via [Avenue to Learn](#) to complete.

Students may not graduate or register for subsequent years in their program until they have completed their required training.

EOHSS (Health and Safety Training mandatory requirements)

McMaster's Environmental and Occupational Health Support Services ([EOHSS](#)) Health and Safety Training Program provides mandatory training for all employees, grad students, volunteers and visitors working in the University. Self-registration offered by EOHSS is available through Mosaic. Use the Regulatory Training tile on your homepage. As a graduate student at McMaster you are required to complete the following 7 modules: 1) Asbestos Awareness, 2)

Ergonomics, 3) Fire & Safety, 4) Health & Safety Orientation, 5) Slips, Trips & Falls, 6) WHMIS 2015, and 7) Violence & Harassment Prevention.

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 IR 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 the 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 [School of Graduate Studies 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.

Interested in Developing Countries and Development?

- 712 International Trade and Development* (GLOBALST 712)
- 742 Politics of Developing Areas
- 767 Politics of the Global South: An IR 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 (GLOBALST 718)
- 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*
- 776 Advanced Issues in Critical Security Studies*

Interested in the politics of other countries?

- 702 Contemporary Problems in Anthropology (ANTHRO 702)
- 715 Globalization and China (GLOBALST 715)
- 740 Theories of Comparative Politics
- 741 Politics of Social Movements
- 764 Global Power, Local Cultures: Comparative Colonialism in Africa (HISTORY 764)
- 769 Political Economy of East Asia*

Interested in Social Policy / Social Issues?

- 704 Global Social Policy (GLOBALST 704)
- 705 Global Public Policy*
- 708 health and Aging in a Global and International Context (HLTH AGE 708)
- 730 Work and Democracy in the Global Society (LABRST 730)
- 749 Topics in Gender and Politics

Interested in Research Design?

- 796 Research Design and Methods

MA IR Colloquium

- POLSCI 775 MA IR Colloquium

The IR Colloquium will take place every second week in the Fall and Winter terms under the leadership of the IR Convenor. 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.).

Major Research Paper

- POLSCI 708 MA IR Major Research Paper

In addition to completing 18 units of graduate level course work, students enrolled in the M.A. in International Relations are required to complete a Major Research Paper (MRP) in the spring/summer 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 the Graduate Administrative Assistant by **Monday, June 17, 2019** with an electronic PDF copy to be emailed to Manuela Dozzi at dozzim@mcmaster.ca by 4:00 p.m. 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 with one copy of their MRP by August 31, 2019.

MRPs will be graded and grades will be released informally via email on Monday, July 15, 2019. 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. Peter Nyers (nyersp@mcmaster.ca) or to the Graduate Administrative Assistant, Manuela Dozzi (dozzim@mcmaster.ca).

Institute on 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.

Pre-Course Readings

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:

- J. Marshall Beier and Lana Wylie, *Canadian Foreign Policy in Critical Perspective* (Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2009).
- Hedley Bull, *The Anarchical Society* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1977).
- Geeta Chowdhry and Sheila Nair, eds., *Power, Postcolonialism and International Relations: Reading Race, Gender and Class* (New York: Routledge, 2002).
- David Campbell, *Writing Security: United States Foreign Policy and the Politics of Identity* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, revised ed., 1998).

- A. Claire Cutler, Virginia Haufler and Tony Porter, *Private Authority and International Affairs* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1999).
- Edgar Grande and Louis W. Pauly, *Complex Sovereignty: Reconstituting Political Authority in the Twenty-first Century* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2005).
- John Gerard Ruggie, *Constructing the World Polity: Essays on International Institutionalization* (New York: Routledge, 1998).
- Richard Stubbs, *Rethinking Asia's Economic Miracle: War, Prosperity and Crisis* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005).

For Global Political Economy Stream:

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

- Robert O'Brien and Marc Williams, *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics 5th Edition* (New York: Palgrave, 2016).
- Richard Stubbs and Geoffrey Underhill, eds., *Political Economy and the Changing Global Order 3rd Edition* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2005).
- John Ravenhill, *Global Political Economy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).

Those with little previous knowledge or economics may wish to consult an introduction such as:

- Robert L. Heilbroner and Lester Thurow, *Economics Explained* (New York: Touchstone, 1998).

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

- John Kenneth Galbraith, *Money: Whence it Came, Where it Went* Revised Edition (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004).

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

- Paul Krugman, *The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008* (New York: Norton, 2008).

Additional books:

- Nicola Phillips ed., *The Eastern Origins of Western Civilization* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).

University Regulations

For complete listing of Regulations for Master's Degrees, students are advised to consult the current edition of the [School of Graduate Studies Calendar](#).

Other Administrative Information

Personal Information

Students are responsible for keeping the personal contact information, such as addresses and phone numbers up to date. Additions and changes must be completed through your Student Center in Mosaic.

Transportation

All full-time graduate students will be given a PRESTO card which you can use for free on the Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) and on GO Transit. More information about this can be found on the [Graduate Students Association website](#).

CUPE

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), [Local 3906](#), Unit 1, represents all individuals employed as teaching assistants (TAs) and Research Assistants in lieu (RAs in lieu), demonstrators, tutors & super tutors and markers. If you are a TA or an RA in lieu of a TA, you are a member of CUPE. Union dues are deducted when you receive TA/RA payments. The [Union office](#) is located in KTH-B111.

Dental Plan

All full-time graduate students who are receiving a TA and/or RA in lieu of a TA of 130 hours or greater will have Dental Plan premiums deducted each month for the full year, September to August). Provisions for opting-out of the [Dental Plan](#) or for obtaining family coverage can be found online through the CUPE Local 3906 website.

Employment Regulations

Full-time students who are participating in McMaster-based paid employment should work no more than an average of 10 hours a week to a maximum of 505 hours in the academic year. Normally students who exceed this limit are asked drop down to part-time status, to stop working or reduce their hours of work. Changing student status from full-time to part-time will affect a student's scholarship funding, OSAP, and student visa.

No exceptions totaling 505 hours or more per academic year (September-August) will be approved.

Full-time Status

Full-time students are obliged to be on campus, except for vacation periods or authorized off-campus status, for all three terms of the university year. Any student who is away from campus for longer than one week, which is not part of the student's vacation entitlement, requires their supervisor's approval in writing. If this period of time exceeds two weeks, the approval of the department chair is also required. Students who will be away from campus for more than four weeks require not only permission from the Department but also that of the appropriate Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and must submit a Request to be Full Time Off Campus.

Note that this permission is needed even for field work or study elsewhere in the world, in order to allow the University to comply with the regulation requiring that a written explanation for such absences be lodged in the Graduate School office.

Students may arrange, through the Department and the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, to be “full-time off-campus” for periods of up to a year. Students will also be required to complete the Risk Management Manual (RMM) 801 forms and gain approval through EOHSS. In cases of unauthorized absence the student will be deemed to have withdrawn voluntarily from graduate study and will have to petition for readmission. No guarantee of readmission or of renewal of financial arrangements can be made.

In order to receive a degree, the student must fulfill all departmental or program requirements and all University regulations, including those of the School of Graduate Studies. Students who have outstanding financial accounts at the end of the academic year will not receive their academic results, diplomas, or transcripts.

Student Vacations

Full-time graduate students are expected to be on campus for all three terms of the university year. In addition to statutory holidays and the closure of the University normally late December until early January, normal vacation entitlement for a graduate student is two weeks of vacation during the year, to be scheduled by mutual agreement with the research supervisor. An exception to this allotment requires approval from the supervisor or in the supervisor’s absence the Graduate Chair.

Students who are also employees of the University must seek vacation approval from their employment supervisor and are entitled to vacation time pursuant to the terms of their employment contract.

Teaching Assistantships/RA in lieu of TA

Some full-time graduate students are offered a TA (or RA in lieu) as part of their funding package. Duties vary according to department/course requirements but will normally consist of leading tutorials, meeting with students, email communication, marking, and other duties as discussed with the course instructor. It is important to note that TA positions will be distributed in the first or second week of September.

Transcripts

Unofficial transcripts are available through Mosaic. Access is available to view and print on demand through the My Academics tab. You can also request an official transcript through Mosaic with options to include in-person pick-up (GH-108) or mail. For rush, courier or fax requests processing charges will apply. More information can be found through the [Office of the Registrar](#).

Universal Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) for Visa Students

The [Universal Health Insurance Plan](#) (UHIP) is a mandatory, comprehensive health insurance plan that provides health coverage for International and Incoming Exchange Students. UHIP covers medically necessary doctors and hospital visits within Ontario. International students are

automatically enrolled in UHIP every year. The student is responsible to ensure that the coverage is correct and are asked to check student account in Mosaic. For more information please visit the Health Care portal through McMaster's [International Student Services website](#). More detailed information and what you need to know is listed on this site.

Contacts and Facilities

Graduate Committee 2018-2019

Chair: Dr. Robert O'Brien

MA International Relations Graduate Advisor: Dr. Peter Nyers

MA Political Science Graduate Advisor: Dr. Peter Graefe

Scholarships Coordinator: Dr. Tony Porter

TA Coordinator: Dr. Stephen McBride

Curriculum Coordinator: Dr. Katherine Boothe

Recruitment Coordinator: Dr. Michelle Dion

PhD Graduate Student Representative: TBA

MA Graduate Student Representative: TBA

Area Convenors

Canadian Politics: Dr. Greg Flynn

Comparative Politics: Dr. Nibaldo Galleguillos

International Relations: Dr. Peter Nyers

Political Theory: Dr. Inder Marwah

Public Policy: Dr. Katherine Boothe

Administrative Assistant

Manuela Dozzi

Email: dozzim@mcmaster.ca

Office: Kenneth Taylor Hall, Room 527 (KTH-527)

Tel: (905) 525-9140 extension 24742

Please feel free to visit the [Political Science website](#) to view faculty profiles and contact information.

Graduate Student Computer Lab

At present, graduate students in Political Science have access to a small computer lab located on the 5th floor of Kenneth Taylor Hall in KTH-501. Some if not most course readings will be placed in KTH-501 and can be borrowed for photocopying. The access code to this room will be given to all MA students after the Orientation Session.

Photocopying/Printing

A network photocopier is available for students to use and is located in KTH-501. The service is available at a cost of \$0.10/printed per side (not per page) for black and white printing only. Individual photocopier codes will be given to each student in September.

Billing cycle 1: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 – Sunday, December 2, 2018

- Bill date: Monday, December 3, 2018
- Payment due date: Monday, December 17, 2018

Billing cycle 2: Monday, December 3, 2018 – Tuesday, April 30, 2019

- Bill date: Wednesday, May 1, 2019
- Payment due date: Wednesday, May 15, 2019

There will also be one final billing date in mid to late summer of 2019.

Mail Services

Each graduate student will have their own mailbox located in KTH-526. This room can be accessed at any time and we ask that you regularly check your mailbox. The access code for this room will be given to all MA students after the Orientation Session.

Department Checkout Requirements

Upon completion of all degree requirements, students will be required to empty their mailboxes, return any keys (if applicable) and to make sure that their contact information in Mosaic is current and up to date. Any mail collected will be forwarded to you for up to three months.

Departmental website

More information about the department, courses, news, research, people and contacts can be found on the [Department of Political Science](#) website.