

***POLS 3394G (Special Topics)  
Regional Governance in the  
Asia-Pacific***

Huron University College  
Tuesdays: 3:30- 5:30

**Dr. Jennifer Mustapha** (she/her)

[jmustap@uwo.ca](mailto:jmustap@uwo.ca)

Student Meetings: By Zoom Appointment.



*\*\*\*Huron University College is situated on Treaty 6 lands and the territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaune, Lenaapeewak, and Attawandaron peoples\*\*\**

**Contacting me:**

The best way to contact me is through e-mail at [jmustap@uwo.ca](mailto:jmustap@uwo.ca) - During the week, I will try to respond within 24 hours, and on the weekends or over holidays within 48 hours. *Due to privacy rules, you must e-mail me from your own uwo.ca e-mail account.*

**Course Prerequisites:**

Enrolment in 3rd or 4th year in any Political Science module, or permission from the Huron Political Science Department.

**Required Texts:**

- All readings are available online through provided links, or on OWL through your library access. Check the OWL Course Resources tab for PDFs of our course readings.

**Course Overview:**

This is a special topics seminar course on regional politics in the Asia-Pacific region with a focus on regional governance trends in East and Southeast Asia. This course introduces students to concepts and conversations in the study of regions and explores key regional governance mechanisms and actors in the Asia-Pacific.



We explore these regional dynamics within the particular contexts of the colonialism and decolonization, the Cold War, the Asian financial crisis, the War on Terror, and contemporary tensions between the US and China.

Through explorations of relevant IR and comparative scholarship- including work by scholars and policy practitioners from the region- we examine specific topics relating to regional trade, geopolitical trends, regional security, and a variety of so-called non-traditional security challenges.

## Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate a critical understanding of the main concepts pertaining to the study of regions.
- 2) Demonstrate familiarity with different regional conceptualizations of the 'Asia-Pacific.'
- 3) Demonstrate a familiarity with key regional governance mechanisms and actors in the Asia-Pacific.
- 4) Demonstrate analytical knowledge of contemporary issues in regional trade, geopolitical trends, and regional security- both traditional and non-traditional- in the Asia-Pacific.
- 5) Demonstrate and convey these competencies in a clear, critical, and reflexive communication style.

## Assignments and Assessment

(For more info see OWL):

*Note: May be modified depending on class size*

Participation:	20% (partially self-assessed)
Module Reflection X2:	20% (1 <sup>st</sup> due Feb 15, 2 <sup>nd</sup> due Mar 29 <sup>th</sup> )
Discussion Lead:	10% (rolling basis)
Peer Response:	10% (rolling basis)
Research Roundtable:	10% (due Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> )
Research Paper:	30% (due Apr 5 <sup>th</sup> )



## Course Format:

This is an upper-level seminar course based on the “flipped classroom” model and *delivered through a combination of readings and independent assignments that you complete at your own pace, and synchronous seminar meetings that take place during the scheduled class time.* The format for this class will essentially be the same whether it ends up being fully on-line or partially in-person. Note that our meetings will not be traditional lectures with slides, and we will be approaching our time together differently depending on the week. If you are not able to attend our synchronous meetings or are falling behind in your work, please reach out to me ASAP. I am just an e-mail away!

The course materials are meant to be explored in chronological sequence, and each include required readings and content for you to cover before moving on to the next topic. These will include articles, links to external resources or news items, slides, and sometimes short videos or podcasts you can listen to on the go. You are always free to read/explore ahead. I will help facilitate seminar discussions that will critically engage the main points of the required readings and raise questions relating to the topic of the week and the broader themes of the course. That said, *seminar courses rely on all students being self-directed in engaging with the weekly materials and these kinds of courses work best when participants are prepared, willing to share their ideas, and willing to learn from one another. COVID continues to present disruptive challenges to all of us (me too!) and I am always happy to discuss ways that we can mitigate the constant uncertainty of a global pandemic.*

## Success in this course:

If you **keep up with your readings, engage with the assigned material, complete your assignments, and participate in discussions and class activities** you will be well equipped to achieve the learning objectives of the course and do well. Familiarize yourself with the course structure on OWL and my website portal. **Please utilize your resources. Don't hesitate to ask for a zoom meeting with me** if you have questions or need course guidance.

## Quick Index of Weeks and Topics

*IMPORTANT: Subject to change, especially due to the ongoing COVID pandemic.*

***PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN COMPLIANCE WITH HURON'S VACCINATION AND COVID POLICIES***

*Dates*                      *Topic*    **\* weeks with discussion leaders and peer responders**

### MODULE 1- STUDYING REGIONS

Jan. 11                      W01. **Course overview and class introductions**  
Jan. 18                      W02. **\*What is *Regional Governance*? What is the 'Asia-Pacific'?**  
Jan. 25                      W03. **\*Explaining and understanding the region**

### MODULE 2- REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Feb. 01                      W04. **\*Historicizing regionalism in the Asia-Pacific**  
Feb. 08                      W05. **\*Overlapping multilateralisms**

### MODULE 3- REGIONAL SECURITY AND GEOPOLITICS

Feb. 15                      W06. **\* Regional hotspots and tensions** (*first module reflection due*)  
*Feb. 22*                      (*NO CLASS*) *Reading Week*  
Mar. 01                      W07. **\*Great powers and middle powers**

### MODULE 4- REGIONAL ISSUES BEYOND THE STATE

Mar. 08                      W08. **\*Non-state regional actors**  
Mar. 15                      W09. **\*Non-traditional and human security**

### MODULE 5- RESEARCH WEEKS

Mar. 22                      W10. **Research Roundtable** (*capstone research proposal due*)  
Mar. 29                      W11. **Research Week** (*second module reflection due*)

### FINAL COURSE WRAP UP

Apr. 05                      W12. **Course Review** (*capstone essay & participation self-assessment due*)



## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022**

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this 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 prerequisites.

### **Pandemic Contingency**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf).

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

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 website: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf). The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

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>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf) are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

#### **(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

#### **(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

### **Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

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 and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: [huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Chaplaincy: [gthorne@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:gthorne@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.