

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

Huron University College  
Mondays: 2:30- 4:30 H227

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

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Student Drop in: Tuesdays 10-11am or by Zoom/in-person appt



*\*\*\*Huron University College is situated on Treaty 6 lands and the territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaune, Lenapeewak, 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 in the Resources folder.
- We are reading several chapters from Pekkanen, S. M. et al. (2014) *The Oxford handbook of the international relations of Asia* New York: Oxford University Press, the entirety of which is available as an e-book through the UWO library.

**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 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: Subject to modification depending on class size*

Participation:	20% (partially self-assessed)
Module Reflection X2:	20% (1 <sup>st</sup> due Feb 13, 2 <sup>nd</sup> due Mar 20 <sup>th</sup> )
Discussion Lead:	10% (rolling basis)
Peer Response:	10% (rolling basis)
Capstone Research Proposal:	10% (due Mar 27 <sup>th</sup> )
Capstone Research Paper:	30% (due Apr 10 <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 seminar meetings that take place during the scheduled class time.* 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 seminar 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.*

## 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. **Please utilize your resources. Don't hesitate to ask for a meeting with me** if you have questions or need course guidance.

## Quick Index of Weeks and Topics

*IMPORTANT: Subject to change*

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

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

### MODULE 1- STUDYING REGIONS

Jan. 09                      W01. **Course overview and class introductions**  
Jan. 16                      W02. **What is *Regional Governance*? What is the '*Asia-Pacific*'?**  
Jan. 23                      W03. **\*Explaining and understanding the region**

### MODULE 2- REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

Jan. 30                      W04. **\*Historicizing regionalism in the Asia-Pacific**  
Feb. 06                      W05. **\*Overlapping multilateralisms**

### MODULE 3- REGIONAL SECURITY AND GEOPOLITICS

Feb. 13                      W06. **\* Regional hotspots and tensions** (*first module reflection due*)  
*Feb. 20*                      (*NO CLASS*) *Reading Week*  
Feb. 27                      W07. **\*Great powers and middle powers**

### MODULE 4- REGIONAL ISSUES BEYOND THE STATE

Mar. 06                      W08. **\*Non-state regional actors**  
Mar. 13                      W09. **\*Non-traditional and human security**

### MODULE 5- RESEARCH WEEKS

Mar. 20                      W10. **TBD** (*second module reflection due*)  
Mar. 27                      W11. **Research Roundtable** (*capstone research proposal due*)  
Apr. 03                      W12. **Research Week**

### FINAL COURSE WRAP UP

Apr. 10                      W12. **Course Wrap Up** (*capstone essay & participation self-assessment due*)





## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2022 - 2023**

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

### **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>.

### **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.

### **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: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

### **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: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#). 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, tablets, 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**

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, 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) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. 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. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) 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. 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: [accommodation\\_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). 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>

### **Wellness and Health Supports 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. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. 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)

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

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)