

**University of Victoria
Department of Geography
Contemporary Geopolitics**

- Gain proficiency of geopolitical concepts and case studies to understand current geopolitical conflicts.

Learning Outcomes

- Ability to use geopolitical concepts to evaluate geopolitical conflicts around the world.
- Ability to assess geopolitical conflicts using a variety of geographic perspectives.
- Describe where and why specific conflicts are taking place across various regions globally.
- Develop critical thinking skills in terms of speaking and writing about geopolitical issues.
- Ability to understand, explain and evaluate geopolitical discourse.

Required Course Text and Readings

- Flint, Colin. (2012). *The Great Game*. 2nd Edition. New York: Routledge.
- Cockburn, Patrick. (2015). *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*. New York: Verso.

Assignments and Grading Scheme

Your final grade will be based on the following calculation:

Attendance	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	35%
Critical Analysis Term Paper	35%

Grading Scale:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	77-79%	73-76%	70-72%	65-69%	60-64%	50-59%	49% or Less

Undergraduate GradingAs per stated in the 2015-2016 Calendar**

Details About Assignments

I. Attendance (10%):

II. Midterm Exam (20%) and Final Exam (35%)

There will be two exams over the course of the semester (see schedule below for dates). The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short-answer essay questions, and they will cover material from the lectures, readings, and films. The midterm exam will only include material covered from the beginning to the middle of the semester. However, there will also be a cumulative final exam at the end of the semester. For the final exam, you will be responsible for all material covered in the course from the beginning of the semester to the end. The final exam date/time/location will be announced during the semester. All class lectures will be posted by midnight the night before each class meeting on the UVic CourseSpaces website (<http://coursespaces.uvic.ca>). You are expected to attend lectures and take notes because some information (concepts, ideas, themes) will be discussed in the class that may not be on the lecture slides.

III. Critical Analysis Term Paper (35%)

You are required to write a term paper for this course on the following required text:

Cockburn, Patrick. (2015).

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://ces.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

1. What strengths did your **instructor** demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?
2. Please provide specific suggestions as to how the **instructor** could have helped you learn more effectively.
3. PI

Fri	Jan 22nd	Cycles of World Leadership	Read Chapter 7 (Flint)
		Week 4	

The Next World Leader:

Tue Jan 26th

Fri	Mar 11th	War on Terrorism I	Read Chapter 6 (Flint)
		Week 11	
Tues	Mar 15th	War on Terrorism II	Read Chapter 6 (Flint)
Wed	Mar 16th	Arab Spring & Middle East Geopolitics Film: The Mumbai Massacre	*No Assigned Reading
Fri	Mar 18th		