

# INTL 1100

# Introduction to Global Issues

**Dr. Leah Carmichael**



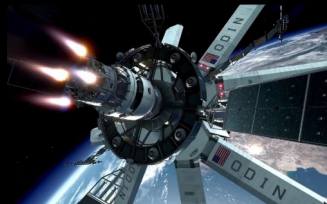
## **Climate Change & Kiribati**

Explore the global impact and policy responses to climate change



## **Cultural Artifacts**

Examine the preservation and repatriation of cultural heritage



## **Space Militarization**

Understand the geopolitical and security implications of the militarization of space.

## **Russia's Invasion**

Analyze the historical, political, cultural drivers and implications of Russia's invasion



## **Israel & Hamas**

Explore the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas.



## **Iran's Foreign Policy**

Explore the societal, ethical, and security challenges posed by the advancement of AI technologies.



## **Competition in the Arctic**

Explore the societal, ethical, and security challenges posed by the advancement of AI technologies.



## **Learn More About Careers in International Affairs**

# Instructor & Course Logistics



## Instructor:

**Dr. Leah Carmichael**  
(she/her)



## Time & Place

Tuesdays & Thursdays,  
8:00 AM to 9:15 AM  
Sanford Hall, Room 313



## Email

[leahlang@uga.edu](mailto:leahlang@uga.edu)



## Peer Learning Assistants (PLAs)

Saige Wakefield,  
Eva Sardon,  
Erin Simmons  
& Ava Mei McMahon



## Graduate Teaching Assistant

TBA



## Office Hours

Dr. Carmichael will host office  
hours from 11:00 to 1:00 PM on  
Tuesday and Thursdays by  
Appt in Sanford, Room 307

# Student Learning Outcomes

## 1 Key Concepts

Identify key concepts and theoretical underpinnings used within the field of International Affairs

## 2 Communication Skills

Create original visual representations, oral arguments, and written policy recommendations

# Course Schedule

## Welcome

- *Thursday 8.14.25* (No Assignments Due)

## Module One: Kiribati & Statehood Status

Covers the concept of nation-states and the impact of climate change on the Republic of Kiribati.

- *Tuesday 8.19.25* - (Module One Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 8.21.25* - (Module One Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 8.26.25* - (Module One Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 8.28.25* - (Module One Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 9.02.25\** - (Module One Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

## Module Two: Returning State Artifacts

Explores the battle over cultural artifacts and ownership of culture.

- *Tuesday 9.02.25\** - (Module Two Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 9.04.25* - (Module Two Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 9.09.25* - (Module Two Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 9.11.25* - (Module Two Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 9.16.25\** - (Module Two Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

## Module Three: Militarization of Outer Space

Examines outer space law and technological advances in space weapon systems.

- *Tuesday 9.16.25\** - (Module Three Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 9.18.25* - (Module Three Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 9.23.25* - (Module Three Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 9.25.25* - (Module Three Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 9.30.25\** - (Module Three Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

\* Dates include multiple assignment submissions

# Course Schedule (Contd)

## Module Four: Russia's Invasion Into Ukraine

Analyzes Putin's revisionist foreign policy approach and international strategies in the extended war.

- *Tuesday 9.30.25\** - (Module Four Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 10.02.25*- (Module Four Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 10.07.25* - (Module Four Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 10.09.25* - (Module Four Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 10.14.25\** - (Module Four Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

## Module Five: Israel-Hamas War

Studies the history of Israel & Palestine and explores peace possibilities.

- *Tuesday 10.14.25\** - (Module Five Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 10.16.25* - (Module Five Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 10.21.25* - (Module Five Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 10.23.25* - (Module Five Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 10.28.25\** - (Module Five Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

## Module Six: Iran's Foreign Policy

Examines Iran's foreign policy approach and international responses.

- *Tuesday 10.28.25\** - (Module Six Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 10.30.25* - (Module Six Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 11.04.25* - (Module Six Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 11.06.25* - (Module Six Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 11.11.25\** - (Module Six Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

## Module Seven: Future of the Arctic

Explores climate impacts and geostrategic concerns in the Arctic region.

- *Tuesday 11.11.25\** - (Module Seven Course Reader Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 11.13.25* - (Module Seven Policy Brief Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 11.18.25* - (Module Seven Press Conference Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Thursday 11.20.25* - (Module Seven Simulation Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)
- *Tuesday 11.25.25* - (Module Seven Reflection Assignment Due @ 9:00 am)

# Assignments

## Attendance

The purpose of an attendance policy is to ensure students develop skills to be a dependable team member and class participant. Each student is able to have **three** unexcused absences (so long as they let their group members know they will not be present and are responsible for completing all work missed). After three unexcused absences, each subsequent unexcused absence deducts 1.5 percent from the final grade. Coming late and leaving class early will be considered unexcused absences without proper communication with your group and instructor.

**10%**

*Unexcused absence  
after three  
worth 1.5% each*

## Course Reader Assignments

The purpose of these assignments is for students to identify main ideas from course materials. At the beginning of each module, each student will review the materials outside of class before the first class period. While reading the material (i.e., open notes), students will complete a Course Reader Assignment on eLC.

**20%**

*Seven assignments,  
each worth 2.86%*

## Policy Briefs

The purpose of these assignments is for students to practice creating clear, concise, and complete policy briefs that analyze the key problems facing a given actor and recommend the best future strategic choices for their assigned actor based on a thorough cost-benefit analysis. To complete this assignment, students will make a copy of a policy brief template provided, complete the relevant sections, and submit these assignments as a pdf on eLC.

**20%**

*Seven assignments,  
each worth 2.86%*

## Press Conference Assignments

Students will be able to work collaboratively to converge policy positions within their group. Some groups will be given the opportunity to present their positions to the entire class and gain feedback on them in the form of a press conference (i.e., a question and answer session). All press conference slides should be presented as an image copied directly into the Discussion thread.

**20%**

*Seven assignments,  
each worth 2.86%*

## Simulation Preparation & Participation Materials

Students will negotiate resolutions to the political issues via an in-class political simulation. Documentation of simulation participation will be submitted via eLC.

**20%**

*Seven assignments,  
each worth 2.86%*

## Reflection

Students will be able to reflect on their group's overall and individual successes and challenges as well as the evolution in their position on the political issue at hand from the beginning of the module until its end.

**10%**

*Seven assignments,  
each worth 1.43%*



# Attendance & Assignment Expectations

- Regular attendance is required due to the interactive and collaborative nature of this course.
- In the rare circumstances in which you will not be in attendance, no documentation is needed so long as you communicate to your group that you will be absent and submit all assignments via eLC before the deadline.
- If you do not submit an assignment before the deadline and wish to have an extension, you must provide a formally documented excuse (e.g., doctor's note) via email to the instructor (leahlang@uga.edu) within 24 hours of the assignment deadline. Your instructor will review the documentation and respond via email with a plan for submitting the overdue assignment.
- In addition to documentation to the instructor, you must also include evidence that you contacted your group members if you were unable to assist with the work (please do not include any formal documentation to your peers). In such case, your instructor will review the documentation and evidence of correspondence with the group. If accepted, she will respond via email with a plan for submitting an individual assignment in lieu of the group work.
- Assignments will be created from original thought and not AI generation for this course. This is not to say that AI is not useful. However, for this introductory course, it is essential students demonstrate their own understanding of the course material throughout each assignment. Failure to adhere to these expectations will result in a submission of your case to academic dishonesty.

## Fundamental Rules of Respect

- We will be respectful and actively engaged with each other and the ideas presented by others. Both personally and professionally, I value open discourse across the political spectrum.
- If you feel that anyone is not allowing you to express well-informed political opinions at any time, please feel free to communicate with me. We will all work to ensure that our contributions to the class discussion improve (rather than detract from) the quality of the course. Active engagement is prized, but we will not tolerate discourse meant to quiet others. Instead, we will work toward discussions that seek to value all contributions.
- Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important when dealing with differences in race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities.
- Class rosters with the student's legal name are provided to the instructor. I am eager to address you by your preferred name and/or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

# Grading Scale

94 to 100	A
90 to 93.99	A-
88 to 89.99	B+
82 to 87.99	B
80 to 81.99	B-
78 to 79.99	C+
72 to 77.99	C
70 to 71.99	C-
60 to 69.99	D

There is no rounding of grades.

## Academic Integrity

All students must demonstrate academic integrity in all parts of the course. Any cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the University's guidelines. The University's policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty can be found at [https://honesty.uga.edu/Academic-Honesty-Policy/Prohibited Conduct/](https://honesty.uga.edu/Academic-Honesty-Policy/Prohibited-Conduct/)

## FERPA

The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) grants students certain information privacy rights. For more details, visit [www.apps.reg.uga.edu/FERPA/](http://www.apps.reg.uga.edu/FERPA/). Learning Accommodation Policy

UGA is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible course environment. Students needing accommodations should contact the instructor or the Disability Resource Center.

## Additional Student Resources

Various support services are available, including the Office of Student Care & Outreach, Counseling