

Poli 370(A) mid-term papers

Please remember, a mid-term paper of no more than 2000 words is due on Tuesday, October 31.

This paper must be submitted concurrently on paper (at class that day) and electronically through *TurnItIn*. Please go to http://www.turnitin.com/login_page.asp

The class ID code is 1695577 and the password is Byers.

Students must answer one of three set questions, as follow:

Topic 1: Implied authorization (Iran)

On July 31, 2006 the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1696 concerning Iran's nuclear programme. Could this resolution or any subsequent resolution be read as providing authorization for the use of force against Iran, and would such a reading be legally permissible? Should it be?

Topic 2: Self-defence against non-state actors (Hezbollah)

In July 2006, Israel attacked a wide-range of targets in Lebanon on the basis of a claimed right of self-defence. However, the attacks to which it claimed to be responding were acts of Hezbollah, a non-state actor, rather than of the Government of Lebanon. Does the right of self-defence extend to such situations? If it does so extend, what limits (if any) apply? If it does not so extend, should it do so? And within what (if any) limits?

Topic 3: Choice of weapons (cluster bombs)

Is the use of cluster bombs legal, illegal, or sometimes legal, and sometimes not? Should it be?

Papers will be assessed on the basis of technical accuracy, creativity, persuasiveness, and depth and rigour of analysis. There is no "right" answer to any particular question. Citations must be provided for any quotations or direct references. The use of primary documents and news reports is encouraged. Students should aim to incorporate insights from both political science and international law, as is implicit in the distinction between the "coulds" and "shoulds" in the questions.

The class TAs are available for in-person or e-mail consultation. Their contact details follow:

Michael D. Cohen: 2:30-3:30 PM, Tuesdays, Brock Hall Annex 153 (extended hours Oct 24: 12:30-3:30), cohenm@interchange.ubc.ca

Christina Cook, 2:15-3:15 PM, Tuesdays, 4th Floor AERL (2202 Main Mall) (extended hours Wednesdays, Oct 18 & 25: 10:00 AM-12:00 noon), clcook@interchange.ubc.ca

Adam Bower, 2:30-3:30 PM, Thursdays, Brock Hall Annex 154 (extended hours Oct 19 & 26: 12:30-3:30 PM), adamsbower@gmail.com

Good luck!