Writing pieces declared as “one pagers” are given randomly during a learning phase and are designed as an opportunity for the student to demonstrate technical command of the relevant concepts/ideas/terminology and to continue to work with the ideas of politics, governments, states, political cultures, social movements and ideologies that underpin the course objectives. In all likelihood, the “one-pager” will be based on readings from Poli Sci 105, in addition to lectures, discussions, and guest speakers during a particular learning phase.

Students will receive a rating for each one pager, but will receive final assessment for the one pagers as a whole. This means that students should feel free to test, to take risks and to see this writing as both assessment of learning and assessment for learning.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Exceptional 9-10** | **Excellent 8-8.9** | **Very Good 7-7.9** | **Good 6-6.9** | **Fair 5-5.9** | **Below 5** |
| The one pager is exceptional; an insightful, vivid, critical, creative, logical, and detailed synthesis on the readings and topics of the day in relation to the student’s evolving definition of politics and government structures. | The one pager is excellent; a vivid, critical, logical, and detailed synthesis on the reading and topic of the day in relation to the student’s evolving definition of politics and government structures  All elements are included. | The one pager is very good; a logical and detailed synthesis on the reading and topic of the day in relation to the student’s evolving definition of politics and government structures. Writing emphasizes either more personal or more technical writing, rather than a synchronized harmony of both.  Most elements are included. | The one pager is good; an adequate synthesis on the reading and topic of the day in relation to the student’s evolving definition of politics and government structures. Writing is missing a clear sense of understanding of the terms from a personal perspective or may demonstrate some gaps in learning.  Many elements are included. | The one pager is fair; some attempt to write a synthesis on the reading and topic of the day in relation to the student’s evolving definition of politics and government structures. The writing appears rushed and demonstrates significant gaps in learning.  Many elements are included. | The one pager is basic; any attempt that is made to write a synthesis on the reading and topic of the day in relation to the student’s evolving definition of politics and government structures is limited.  Some elements are included. |
| Required elements:   * Written from a thoughtful, personalized perspective * Writing is starting from the given prompt and expands in a purposeful way * Specific reference to topics, readings, class discussions and previous assignments * Strong connections between topics, readings, class discussions and previous assignments * Furthering the development of the student’s understanding of politics, governments, nation-states, political cultures, social movements & ideologies * Inclusion of relevant, related literature * Clear, professional, well written, included reference list when appropriate | | | | | |

**One Pager #3: What is International Relations?**

**Topics**:

* Nation, State, Sovereignty and the International System
* International Relations Theory
* Globalization
* the Realist Turn – 20th Century International Systems?
* the League of Nations
* the United Nations
* the UN Security Council
* Peacemaking v. Peacekeeping
* Challenges to the United Nations
* Diplomacy
* Canada-US Foreign Policies
* Summit Diplomacy
* Public Diplomacy
* International Civic Society

**Prodding Questions**

* What are the implications of and for a ‘nation’ and ‘state’ in the context of ‘sovereignty’ in an international system? Discuss.
* In what way does the right to national self-determination strengthen the legitimacy of the nation-state idea?
* What concept has had a more stabilizing effect on international efforts toward peace between nations – ‘collective security’ as in the League of Nations, United Nations and/or NATO - or the idea of a ‘balance of power’ within the scope of power politics?
* The United Nations is built on the idea of ‘internationalism’ (the idea that nations would sacrifice for the common good) but its structure adheres to the power of the nation-state and ‘realpolitik’ (based on practical and national self-interest). Discuss (in relation to the structure of the UN).
* Discuss the structure of the United Nations Security Council. Does it reflect the current ‘balance of power?’ Should that matter? Should the Security Council, then, be reformed or abolished? How so? Would the UN/World be better for it?
* To what extent has ‘peacekeeping’ and ‘peacemaking’ changed since the end of the Cold War era? Cite examples, please.
* Discuss Canada’s involvement in UN Peacekeeping operations. Have we always been a force for good? Cite examples, please.
* To what extent is the United Nations a useful and effective international organization?
* You are tasked with a review of Canada’s foreign policy. In a one page brief to the Department of Foreign Affairs provide a vision of what Canada’s interests should be vis-à-vis its relations with other states in our current international system.
* Discuss how important a states regional or geopolitical location is to its foreign policy using Canada and the US as exemplars.
* Canada’s relations with China have been strained in recent years. Briefly summarize the source(s) of discord and then, provide some options for Canada in stabilizing (improving?) its relations with the rising power that China is.
* Canadians often like to think we matter on the world stage. Is this necessarily true? Be ‘realistic,’ rather than ‘idealistic’ in reply.
* To what extent has Trump’s foreign policy been a threat to the postwar (WWII) alliance of the West? G7? NATO?
* How important is the relationship between world leaders (of nation-states) to maintain good relations to benefit their state’s?
* Evaluate forms of ‘public diplomacy’ Trudeau and Trump have used in communicating positions on specific foreign policy issues.
* Discuss the rise and implications of the international civic society we are witnessing as a result of protests (climate strikes and Black Lives Matter, as examples) that transcend national borders. How do they form our understanding of politics – institutions, systems of governance and ultimately, a global citizenry?