



**Econ2183G 570
Economics of War
Winter 2026**

Instructor: Trevor Medeiros
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Course Information

Mode of Instruction: In Person

Calendar Description:

This course explores the nature of war through an economic perspective. By using the tool of economic analysis in a historical context we will examine topics such as why we wage war, the roots of imperialism, and the state of the military industrial complex within our modern economy.

Pre-requisite(s): Economics 1021A/B and Economics 1022A/B.

Anti-requisite(s): Economics 2175F/G if taken at King's University College in 2022-2023, 2023-2024.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours.

Course Weight: 0.50

Breadth: CATEGORY A

Subject Code: ECONOMIC

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol 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.

Economics of War

Economics 2183G - Section 570

Professor Trevor Medeiros

Fall 2024

Office Hours

4:00pm – 6:00pm Tuesday and Thursday in the Library

Course Materials

-Moosa (2019), *The Economics of War: Profiteering, Militarism, and Imperialism*

-Textbook is available online as an e-book. It is not **mandatory!**

<https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/usd/the-economics-of-war-9781788978514.html> (\$142.00)

Brightspace

Brightspace Course Page will be the main point of information sharing for this course. All communication and updates will be done through Announcements. All PowerPoints and additional files will be in Content. Grades will be posted in the Gradebook.

Course Objectives

This course explores the nature of war through an economic perspective. By using economic analysis in a historical context, we will examine topics such as why we wage war, the roots of imperialism, and the state of the military-industrial complex within our modern economy. The course will build the skills needed to critically analyse the conflict in Ukraine as a means of applying concepts to an ongoing, real-world situation.

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes for this course include:

- Engage in class discussion on critical issues surrounding war and its institutions
- Analyze the economic impact and motivators for armed conflict
- Observe an overview of the history of warfare
- Discuss solutions to ongoing conflicts such as Russia/Ukraine
- Investigate those who profit from war and whether this should be destabilized
- Apply economic thinking in a non-standard topic

Teaching Methodology and Expectations

Class will be lecture based and held in person during scheduled class time. Open class discussion about various topics is a crucial part of this course. Participation is part of your grade so regular attendance is required. Midterm and Final Papers will be handed in through Brightspace. Final Exam will be held on campus and be in essay format; you will be given 5 questions and asked to write about 3 of them.

Technical Requirements

Stable internet connection and access to writing software (ie. Word).

Evaluation

Midterm Paper (Mandatory requirement, due Friday February 13th) = 25%

- Full details provided on Brightspace
- Expected to be submitted through Brightspace, TurnItIn will be enabled

Final Paper (Due Friday April 3rd but no penalty until after Friday April 10th) = 35%

- Full details provided on Brightspace
- Expected to be submitted through Brightspace, TurnItIn will be enabled
- Will be graded more strictly than the first paper
- This requires documentation if you miss it

Final Exam (TBA in Final Exam Schedule) = 25%

- Essay Format
- 5 questions provided and you pick 3 to write about
- 3 hours in length
- Closed book
- Dictionary may be used if needed
- All content, a more precise list is provided closer to the exam

Participation (every class) = 15%

- Based on handing in a short written response to a question each class
- Missed classes and lack of participation in class will negatively impact your grade

Total = 100%

Electronic devices of any kind, outside of calculators (including cell phones, smart watches, etc.) are NOT permitted at exams.

Missed/Late Assignments and Tests

-Missed Midterm paper requires formal supporting documentation for academic consideration

(1) The weights are subject to adjustment to respect the maintenance of academic standards and fairness regarding circumstances impacting academic integrity, academic consideration or accommodation, students' achievement, technology issues, or other extenuating factors.

(2) Final course grades are subject to review, approval by the Dean, and calibration and reweighting (adjustment up or down in the same manner for all students) by the instructor and

the School of Management, Economics, & Mathematics to account for the difficulty level of the assessments, academic consideration/ accommodation, unanticipated events (e.g., pandemic, etc.) or extenuating circumstances that may affect students' overall performance or otherwise.

(3) Due dates are tentative and subject to change depending on class progress, academic consideration or accommodation, unanticipated events, instructor discretion or otherwise.

(4) Generally, there are no make-up tests, no test resets, etc. A missed test for academic consideration or other valid reasons may be re-weighted to the final or an alternative assessment at the instructor's discretion. The instructor will decide this on a case-by-case basis.

Electronic devices of any kind, outside of calculators (including cell phones, smart watches, etc.) are NOT permitted at exams.

Lecture and Examination Schedule

See Weekly Schedule on Brightspace for all dates and chapters

Course Policies

-Electronic devices may be used in class but if they become a distraction to others I reserve the right to ask you to put it away or leave.

-Emails are expected to include the course code and follow good email etiquette

-Emails on day of an exam are unlikely to be answered. If you are ill or experiencing an emergency you are expected to get Academic Consideration

Academic Consideration:

- Missed Midterm/Final Paper or Final Exam: Academic Consideration is required

Academic Integrity

- Western Scholastic Discipline policy
- AI is not to be used in this course for Midterm or Final papers. If use of AI is suspected or detected this can result in a mark of zero on the assignment and academic discipline

MEM Course Policies

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required! Missing 25% of scheduled classes is considered to be too frequent. A warning email will be issued at the 20% point and if absences continue the instructor will implement the King's attendance policy below:

King's policy states that "A student may be debarred from writing the final exam for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year. 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."*

* implies that faculty must be tracking and have communicated attendance concerns to student

Email and communication Policy:

Faculty should detail their email and communication policy. Here is one example taken from a few well-developed syllabi:

Students must use their uwo email address when emailing the instructor so it does not end up in spam and can be verified. Subject line must include course and section number and should include the topic of the email. Emails need to be respectful and concise listing your issue, what you have done to solve it, and what you hope the faculty member can help you with; for example, to explain a concept, provide feedback, to make an appointment to meet in person etc. MEM faculty will endeavor to respond to student emails within 3 business (working) days. All course changes and updates will be communicated to students via the Brightspace course website, so please check that frequently.

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

2025-2026

1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences

Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf.

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

2. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Academic Support Services at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

GBSV Support:

King’s is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing Care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western’s Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with your instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

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; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

5. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

6. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

7. Policy on Attendance

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.