



SEMESTER ONE 2023-2024

ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

**IP12820 THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD: WAR, PEACE AND
REVOLUTION SINCE 1789**

Time allowed: **8.5 HOURS.**

You must submit your answer in a single document to the TurnItIn submission point on the module's Blackboard site before 6 P.M. (BST) the day the examination paper is released. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Please answer TWO questions, **ONE** from **EACH SECTION**

Each answer must comprise of 750 words (+/- 10%). Do not duplicate material you have submitted previously.

**STUDENTS MAY SUBMIT ANSWERS TO THIS PAPER IN EITHER
WELSH OR ENGLISH**

SECTION A (answer **ONE** question)

1. Which is the more important factor in explaining 19th century European imperial expansion, the rise of industrial capitalism or great power politics?
2. Should historians regard the First World War (1914-19) as a clash of imperialisms?
3. 'The most significant outcome of the Second World War (1939-45) was the destruction of European power.' Discuss.
4. 'The most important factor in the disintegration of European empires was anti-colonial nationalism.' Discuss.
5. Is it right to think of the post-1945 Cold War balance of power as a bipolar system of international politics?

SECTION B (answer **ONE** question)

1. Why was the 19th century 'Concert of Europe' system for managing international order so successful for so long?
2. Why did the League of Nations fail to prevent the Second World War?
3. Is it too simple to view the Cold War as an ideological confrontation between capitalism and communism?
4. How successful has the United Nations been as a mechanism for preventing war and resolving conflict since 1945?
5. Citing specific examples, consider the ways in which the legacies of imperialism continue to shape international politics in the 21st century?