

International Relations Pro-Seminar

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Course Description

This is the field seminar in international relations for graduate students in political science. In this course, the core debates in the field of international relations will be introduced and discussed. The emphasis will be on understanding the development of the field, recognizing common themes and identifying unresolved questions, as well as learning to evaluate and critique arguments.

Course Goals

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Describe and apply the steps associated with social science research.
2. Distinguish the strengths and weakness of qualitative, quantitative, and formal research methods
3. Identify and describe the theoretical perspectives prevalent in the modern study of international relations.
4. Evaluate the role of domestic political institutions on foreign policy behavior in various political systems.
5. Explain and apply rationalist perspectives of international relations.
6. Identify factors that aid international cooperation as well as those which impede such cooperation.

Evaluation

- **Participation** (25%) – Each student is expected to come to class fully prepared, planning to add to the class discussion. For each article/book/etc. that you read, you should be able to answer the following questions:
 - What is the research question?

- What is the author’s theoretical argument?
- What are the underlying assumptions? Are these appropriate – why or why not?
- How does the author attempt to test his or her argument?
- What conclusions does the author draw? Is the author’s evidence compelling?
- Where does this work fit with the broader literature?

I will expect you to be able to answer all of these questions thoroughly for everything we read. You will receive a midterm evaluation of your participation with your midterm exam grade.

- **Response Papers (30%)** – During the course of the semester, each student will be expected to write five (5) short papers that critiques one of the readings assigned for that week. These papers should not be summaries. Obviously, only one paper can be submitted per week, so plan accordingly. Late papers will not be accepted (so don’t ask).
- **Written Final Exam (25%)** – Students will be given 48 hours to answer two comps-style questions.
- **Literature or Book Review (20%)**: The readings on this syllabus can only serve as a starting point from which students will engage additional important literature. Students will therefore write a literature or book review on a topic of interest to them that relates to one of the subjects addressed by this course. A book review will generally focus intensively on one or two related books; a literature review will examine the development of a theme or problem through time and a larger number of readings. Either type of analysis should be 5,000 words. Students should consult with me before selecting a review topic. *Note: your topic must be explicitly related to international relations. Due November 16th.

Course Outline

Week 1: Course Introduction

- Reiter, Dan. 2015. “Should we leave behind the subfield of international relations?” *Annual Review of Political Science* 18:481-499
- Zinnes, Dina. 1980. “Three puzzles in search of a researcher,” *International Studies Quarterly* 24(3):315-342
- Bull, Hedley. 1966. “International Theory: The Case for a Classical Approach.” *World Politics* 28(3): 361-376
- Walt, Stephen M. 2005. “The Relationship between Theory and Policy in International Relations.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 8: 23-48

Additional readings:

- Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, 1985. "Toward a Scientific Understanding of International Conflict: A Personal View" in Symposium: Methodological Foundations of the Study of International Conflict, *International Studies Quarterly*, 29 (2): 121-136.
- Singer, J. David. 1970. "The Incomplete Theorist: Insight without Evidence." In Klaus Knorr and James N. Rosenau (eds.), *Contending Approaches to International Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Dessler, David. 1991. "Beyond Correlations: Toward a Causal Theory of War." *International Studies Quarterly*, 35(3): 337-355.

Week 2: Realism and Neorealism

- Excerpt from Waltz, Kenneth. 1979. *Theory of International Relations*. Reading: Addison-Wesley.
- Braumoeller, Bear. 2008. "Systemic Politics and the Origins of Great Power Conflict," *American Political Science Review* 102 (1): 77-93.
- Moravcsik, A. and Legro, J. (1999). "Is anybody still a realist?" *International Security* 24(2):5-55

Additional readings:

- Gilpin, Robert. 1988. "The Theory of Hegemonic War." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 18 (Spring): 591-614.
- Waltz, Kenneth. 1954. *Man, the State, and War: A Theoretical Analysis* New York: Columbia University Press.
- Keohane, Robert. *Neorealism and its Critics*, ch. 1-5.
- Morgenthau, Hans. 1948. *Politics among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*. Ch 1-3.
- Mearsheimer, John. 2001. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. New York, NY: Norton. Ch. 1-2, 5-6, 9.
- Carr, Edward Hallett. "The Realist Critique," *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939* (New York: Harper & Row, 1964), 63-88 in 1964 edition.
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- Krasner, Stephen. 1991. "Global Communications and National Power: Life on the Pareto Frontier." *World Politics* 43: 336-366.
- Downs, George, David Rocke, and Peter Barsboom. 1996. "Is the Good News about Compliance Good News about Cooperation?" *International Organization* 50: 379-406.

Week 3: Neoliberal Institutionalism

- Axelrod, Robert and Robert Keohane. 1985. "Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions." *World Politics* 38: 226-254.
- Keohane, Robert and Lisa L. Martin. 1995. "The Promise of Institutional Theory," *International Security* 20(1): 39-51.
- Simmons, Beth and Dan Hopkins, 2005. "The Constraining Power of International Treaties: Theory and Methods," *American Political Science Review* 99: 623-631.
- Mearsheimer, John. 1994. "The False Promise of Institutionalism." *International Security* 19: 5-49.

Additional readings:

- Grieco, Joseph. 1988. "Anarchy and the limits of cooperation: a realist critique of the newest liberal institutionalism" *International Organization* 42(3): 487-507.
- Axelrod, Robert. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation*. Basic Books. Chapters 1-4, 6-7
- Doyle, Michael W. 1986. "Liberalism and World Politics." *American Political Science Review*, 80(4): 1151-1169.
- Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York: W.W. Norton, Chapters 1-3.
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- Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics," *International Organization* 51(4): 513-553.

Week 4: Bargaining and War

- Fearon, James. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War," *International Organization* 49: 379-414.
- Powell, Robert. 2006. "War as a Commitment Problem," *International Organization* 60 (1): 169- 203
- Filson, D. and Werner, S. (2002). "A bargaining model of war and peace: Anticipating the onset, duration, and outcome of war" *American Journal of Political Science*: 819-837
- Walter, Barbara. 1997. "The Critical Barriers to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51: 335-364.

Additional Readings

- Wagner, Harrison. 2007. *War and the State: the Theory of International Politics*.
- Reiter Dan. 2003. "Exploring the Bargaining Model of War", *Perspectives on Politics* 1(1): 27- 43.
- Gartzke, Eric. 1999. "War is in the Error Term." *International Organization* 53: 567-587.
- Werner, Suzanne. 1999. "The Precarious Nature of Peace: Resolving the Issues, Enforcing the Settlement, and Renegotiating the Terms." *American Journal of Political Science* 43: 912-934.
- Fearon, James. 1998. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation," *International Organization* 52: 269-305
- For discussion of rational choice more generally:
 - Donald P. Green and Ian Shapiro, *Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994), chapters 1-3, 5.
 - Walt, Stephen. "Rigor or Rigor Mortis? Rational Choice and Security Studies," *International Security* 23 (Spring): 5-48.
 - Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce and James D. Morrow, "Sorting Through the Wealth of Notions," *International Security* 24 (Fall 1999): 56-73.

Week 5: Constructivism and Feminism

- Tannenwald, Nina. 2005. "Stigmatizing the Bomb: Origins of the Nuclear Taboo." *International Security* 29: 5-49.
- Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink. 2001. "The Constructivist Research Program in International Relations and Comparative Politics," *Annual Review of Political Science* 4(1): 391- 416.
- Mercer, Jonathan. 1995. "Anarchy and Identity," *International Organization* 49: 229-52.
- Wendt, Alexander. 1992. "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics," *International Organization* 46(2): 77-94.

Additional Readings

- Klotz, Audie. 1995. *Norms in International Relations: The Struggle against Apartheid*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 13-35.
- Hopf, Ted. 1998. "The Promise of Constructivism in IR Theory." *International Security* 23: 171-200.

- Peter J. Katzenstein (ed). 1996. *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*, New York: Columbia University Press. Chapters 2 (Jeperson, Wendt, and Katzenstein), 4 (Price and Tannenwald), 7 (Johnston), 10 (Risse-Kappen), and 12 (Kowert and Legro).
- Finnemore, Martha. 1993. International Organizations as Teachers of Norms: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and Science Policy. *International Organization* 47 (4): 565-597.
- Kelley, Judith. 2008. Assessing the Complex Evolution of Norms: The Rise of International Election Monitoring. *International Organization* 62 (2): 221-255.
- Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Week 6: Alternative Perspectives

SA: Sometimes I have included this material and sometimes I've dropped it. The last iteration of the course I combined feminism and constructivism and let the rest go by the wayside. Not sure what we want to do.

- Feminism – Tickner, J. Ann. 1997. “You Just Don’t Understand: Troubled Engagements between Feminists and IR Scholars,” *International Studies Quarterly* 41(4): 611-632.
 - Response to Tickner – *International Studies Quarterly* debate on feminism and IR, 42(1): 193-210.
 - Sjoberg, Laura. 2012. “Gender, Structure, and War: What Waltz Couldn’t See,” *International Theory* 4(1): 1-38.
- Post-Modernism – Ruggie, John Gerard. 1993. “Territoriality and Beyond: Problematizing Modernity in International Relations.” *International Organization* 47: 139-174.
 - Brown, Chris. 1994. “Critical Theory and Post-Modernism in International Relations.” In Groom and Light, eds., *Contemporary International Relations: A Guide to Theory*. London: Pinter.
- Marxist – Galtung, Johan. 1971. “A Structural Theory of Imperialism.” *Journal of Peace Research* 8: 81-117.
- Dependency – Caporaso, James. 1978. “Dependence, Dependency, and Power in the Global System: A Structural and Behavioral Analysis.” *International Organization* 32: 13-43.
 - Hills, Jill. 1994. “Dependency Theory and Its Relevance Today: International Institutions in Telecommunications and Structural Power.” *Review of International Studies* 20: 169-186.

Additional readings

- Goldstein, Joshua S. 2001. *War and Gender*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pages 34-57.
- Murphy, Craig N. 1996. "Seeing Women, Recognizing Gender, Recasting International Relations." *International Organization*, 50(3): 513-538.
- Tickner, J. Ann 2005. "What's Your Research Program? Some Feminist Answers to International Relations Methodological Questions." *International Studies Quarterly* 49 (1): 1-21
- Harvey, Frank P. and Michael Brecher (eds.). 2002. *Critical Perspectives in International Studies*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp. 27-44 (Smith), 56-77 (Cox)

Alternative Week 6: Psychological Approaches to IR

- Jervis, Robert. 1988. "War and Misperception," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18(4): 675- 700.
- Stein, Janice Gross. 2013. *Psychological Explanations of International Decision Making and Collective Behavior*. Handbook. Chapter 8.
- Levy, Jack. 1994. "Learning and Foreign Policy: Sweeping a Conceptual Minefield," *International Organization* 48 (02): 279-312.
- Tingley, Dustin and Barbara Walter, 2011. "Reputation Building in International Relations: An Experimental Approach," *International Organization* 65: 343-365.
- McDermott, Rose. 2004. "The Feeling of Rationality: The Meaning of Neuroscientific Advances for Political Science," *Perspectives on Politics* 4(2): 691-706.

Additional readings

- Gallagher, Maryann E., and Susan H. Allen. 2014. "Presidential personality: Not just a nuisance." *Foreign Policy Analysis* 10(1): 1-21.
- Horowitz, Michael, Rose McDermott, and Allan C. Stam. 2005. "Leader age, regime type, and violent international relations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49(5): 661-685.
- Goldgeier, J. M. and P.E. Tetlock. 2001. "Psychology and International Relations Theory." *Annual Review of Political Science* 4: 67-92.
- Mintz, Alex. 2004. "How Do Leaders Make Decisions? A Polyheuristic Perspective." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48, 1: 3-13.

- Herek, Gregory M., Irving L. Janis, and Paul K. Huth (1987). "Decision Making During International Crises: Is Quality of Process Related to Outcome?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 203-226.
- Kertzer, Joshua and Dustin Tingley. 2018. "Political Psychology in International Relations: Beyond the Paradigms." *Annual Review of Political Science* 21: 319-339.

Week 7: Domestic Politics and International Relations

- Weeks, Jessica. 2012. "Strongmen and Straw Men: Authoritarian Regimes and the Initiation of International Conflict," *American Political Science Review* 106: 326-347.
- Schultz, Kenneth. 2005. The Politics of Risking Peace: Do Hawks or Doves Deliver the Olive Branch? *International Organization* 59(1): 1-38.
- Selection from Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, James Morrow, Alistair Smith, and Randolph Siverson. 2003. *The Logic of Political Survival*
- Leeds, Ashley. 1999. "Domestic Political Institutions, Credible Commitments, and International Cooperation." *American Journal of Political Science* 43: 979- 1002.
- Dai, X., 2005. "Why comply? The domestic constituency mechanism." *International Organization*, 59(2), pp.363-398.

Additional readings

- Schelling, Thomas. 1960. *The Strategy of Conflict*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, ch. 2.
- Ryssett and Oneal. 2000. *Triangulating Peace*.
- Putnam, Robert. 1988. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two Level Games." *International Organization* 42: 427-460.
- Schultz, Kenneth. 1999. "Do Democratic Institutions Inform or Constrain? Contrasting Two Institutional Perspectives on Democracy and War." *International Organization* 53(2): 233-266.
- Colaresi, Michael. 2004. "When Doves Cry: International Rivalry, Unreciprocated Cooperation, Leadership Turnover." *American Journal of Political Science*.
- Snyder, Jack. 2000. *From Voting to Violence: Democratization and Nationalist Conflict*. New York: Norton.
- Maoz, Zeev and Bruce Russett. 1993. "Normative and Structural Causes of Democratic Peace." *American Political Science Review* 87: 624-38.
- Gartzke, Erik. 2007. "The Capitalist Peace," *American Journal of Political Science* 51(1): 166- 191.

Week 8: International Institutions

- Abbott, Kenneth and Duncan Snidal. 1998. "Why States Act Through Formal International Organizations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42(1): 3-32.
- Simmons, Beth A. 2000. "International Law and State Behavior: Commitment and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs." *American Political Science Review* 94: 819-835.
- Milgrom, Paul R., Douglass C. North, and Barry R. Weingast. 1990. The Role of Institutions in the Revival of Trade: The Law Merchant, Private Judges, and the Champagne Fairs. *Economics and Politics* 2 (1): 1-23.
- Lipson, Charles. "Why Are Some International Agreements Informal?" *International Organization* 45(4): 495-538.
- Carnegie, Allison. 2014. "States Held Hostage: Political Hold-Up Problems and the Effects of International Institutions". *American Political Science Review* 108 (01): 54-70.
- Johnston, Ian. 2001. "Treating International Institutions as Social Environments." *International Studies Quarterly* 45(4): 47-515.
- Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal. 2001. "The Rational Design of International Institutions." *International Organization* 55: 761-799.
- Kelley, Judith. 2007. Who Keeps International Commitments and Why? The International Criminal Court and Bilateral Nonsurrender Agreements. *American Political Science Review* 101 (3): 573-589.

Additional Readings

- Abbott, Kenneth and Duncan Snidal. 1998. "Why States Act Through Formal International Organizations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42: 3-32.
- Leeds, Ashley. 2003. "Do Alliances Deter Aggression? The Influence of Military Alliances on the Initiation of Militarized Interstate Disputes." *American Journal of Political Science* 47: 427-439.
- Mitchell, Ronald B. 1994. "Regime Design Matters: International Oil Pollution and Treaty Compliance." *International Organization* 48:425-458.
- Smith, James M. 2000. "The Politics of Dispute Settlement Design: Explaining Legalism in Regional Trade Pacts," *International Organization* 54(1): 137-180.

Week 9: Political Economy and Trade

- Rogowski, Ronald. 1987. "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to International Trade." *American Political Science Review* 81(4): 1121-37
- Lake, David A. 2009. "Open Economy Politics: A Critical Review" *Review of International Organizations* 4: 219-244.
- Fordham, Benjamin O. and Katja Kleinberg. 2012. "How Can Economic Interests Influence Support for Free Trade?" *International Organization* 66(2):311-28.
- Milner, Helen V. and Keiko Kubota. 2005. "Why the Move to Free Trade? Democracy and Trade Policy in the Developing Countries." *International Organization* 59(1):157-193.
- Lake, David. 1993. "Leadership, Hegemony, and the International Economy: Naked Emperor or Tattered Monarch with Potential?" *International Studies Quarterly* 37: 459-489.
- Hafner-Burton, Emilie. 2013. *Forced to be good: Why Trade Agreements Boost Human Rights*. Cornell University Press. Ch. 1-2

Additional Readings

- Mansfield, Edward, Helen V. Milner, and B. Peter Rosendorff. 2000. "Free to trade: Democracies, autocracies, and international trade." *American Political Science Review* 94(2): 305-321.
- Gilpin, Robert. 1987. *The Political Economy of International Relations*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University.
- Katzenstein, Peter. "Conclusion: Domestic Structures and Strategies of Foreign Economic Policy," *International Organization* 31 (Summer 1977): 879-920.
- Lake, David. 1993. "Leadership, Hegemony, and the International Economy: Naked Emperor or Tattered Monarch with Potential?" *International Studies Quarterly* 37: 459-489.
- Gowa, Joanne and Edward D. Mansfield. 1993. "Power Politics and International Trade." *American Political Science Review* 87(2): 408-420.

Week 10: International Economic Policy

- Clark, William Roberts, and Mark Hallerberg. 2000. "Mobile Capital, Domestic Institutions, and Electorally Induced Monetary and Fiscal Policy." *American Political Science Review* 94 (2): 323-46.
- Alesina, A. and Dollar, D., 2000. "Who gives foreign aid to whom and why?" *Journal of economic growth* 5(1):33-63.

- Biglaiser, G. and DeRouen, K., 2007. "Following the flag: Troop deployment and US foreign direct investment." *International Studies Quarterly* 51(4): 835-854.
- Peters, Margaret. 2015. "Open Trade, Closed Borders: Immigration Policy in the Era of Globalization." *World Politics* 67(1):114-154.
- Mosley, Layna, and David A. Singer. 2015. "Migration, Labor and the International Political Economy." *Annual Review of Political Science* 18:283-301.

Additional readings

- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James Robinson, "Institutions as the Fundamental Cause of Long-Run Growth" NBER Working Paper 10481.
- Deaton, Angus. 2005 "Measuring Poverty in a Growing World." *Review of Economics and Statistics*
- Sachs, Jeffrey. 2004. "Institutions Don't Rule: Direct Effects of Geography on Per Capita Income." NBER Working Paper 9106.
- Solow, Robert M. "Perspectives on Growth Theory." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 8: 45-54.
- Frieden, Jeffrey A. 1991. Invested Interests: The Politics of National Economic Policies in a World of Global Finance. *International Organization* 45 (4): 425-451.

Week 11: Civil War

- Cunningham, Kathleen. 2013. "Actor Fragmentation and Civil War Bargaining: How Internal Divisions Generate Civil Conflict," *American Journal of Political Science* 57(3)
- Salehyan, Idean and Kristian Gleditsch. 2006. "Refugees and the Spread of Civil War," *International Organizations* 60(2): 335-366.
- Cunningham, David. 2006. "Veto Players and Civil War Duration", *American Journal of Political Science* 50(4): 875-892.
- Kalyvas, Stathis and Laia Balcells. 2010. "International System and Technologies of Rebellion: How the End of the Cold War Shaped Internal Conflict," *American Political Science Review* 104(3): 415-429.

Additional Reading

- Hegre, H., et al. 2001. "Toward a democratic civil peace? Democracy, political change, and civil war, 1816-1992." *American Political Science Review* 95(1):33-48.
- Fearon, James and Laitin, David. 2003. "Ethnicity, insurgency, and civil war." *American political science review* 97(1): 75-90.

- Salehyan, Idean and Gleditsch, K.S., 2006. “Refugees and the spread of civil war.” *International Organization* 60(2): 335-366.
- Walter, Barbara. 1997. “The Critical Barriers to Civil War Settlement.” *International Organization* 51: 335-364.

Week 12: Terrorism and Extremist Violence

- Kydd, Andrew and Barbara Walter. 2006. “The strategies of terrorism.” *International Security* 31(1), pp.49-80.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Ethan. 2005. “The Quality of Terror,” *American Journal of Political Science* 49(3): 515-530
- Carter, David B., 2016. “Provocation and the strategy of terrorist and guerrilla attacks.” *International Organization* 70(1):133-173.
- Findley, Michael and Joseph Young. 2012. “Terrorism, Democracy, and Credible Commitments” *International Studies Quarterly* 55(2): 357-378.
- Chenoweth, Erica. 2013. “Terrorism and Democracy.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 16: 355-378.

Additional readings

- Stephan, M.J. and Chenoweth, E., 2008. “Why civil resistance works: The strategic logic of nonviolent conflict.” *International Security* 33(1): 7-44.
- Abrahms, Max. 2006. “Why terrorism does not work.” *International Security* 31(2): 42-78.
- Pape, Robert. 2003. “The strategic logic of suicide terrorism.” *American Political Science Review* 97(3): 343-361.

Week 13: Conflict Management

- Beardsley et al. 2006 “Mediation Style and Crisis Outcome,” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 2(1): 58-86.
- Kydd, Andrew. 2003. “Which Side Are You On? Bias, Credibility, and Mediation.” *American Journal of Political Science* 47 (4): 597-611.
- Mitchell, Sara and Paul Hensel, 2007. “International Institutions and Compliance with Agreements,” *American Journal of Political Science* 51(4): 721-737.
- Fortna, Virginia Page, and Lise Morje Howard. 2008. “Pitfalls and prospects in the peacekeeping literature.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 11: 283-301.
- Werner, Suzanne and Amy Yuen. 2005. “Making and Keeping Peace.” *International Organization* 59 (2): 261-292.

Additional Readings

- Fortna, Page. 2003. "Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace," *International Organization* 57(2): 337-372.
- Jarstad, Anna and Nilsson, Desiree. 2008. "From words to deeds: The implementation of power-sharing pacts in peace accords." *Conflict management and peace science* 25(3): 206-223.
- Hultman, Lisa, Jacob Kathman, and Megan Shannon. 2014. "Beyond keeping peace: United Nations effectiveness in the midst of fighting." *American Political Science Review* 108(4): 737-753.
- Mattes, Michaela, and Burcu Savun. 2010. "Information, agreement design, and the durability of civil war settlements." *American Journal of Political Science* 54(2): 511-524.