

POS 560: International Relations Proseminar, Fall 2013

Instructor: Professor Thorin Wright

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Office Hours: M 1pm-2pm, W 10:30-11:30am
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Classroom: COOR 6601

Meeting Time : W 6-8:20pm

Objectives of the Seminar

The objectives of this course are: (1) to understand the scope and breadth of the theoretical literature that has defined the study of international relations; (2) to identify and assess, in a rigorous way, the strengths and weaknesses of the theoretical paradigms represented in that literature; (3) to define specific research questions and issues that must be addressed by future research; and (4) to prepare students for preliminary examinations in international relations.

It is impossible to provide a comprehensive review of the entire field of international relations in a single semester. The readings and discussions in this course seek to strike a balance between traditional works that define the evolution of the field and contemporary works that highlight the development of our knowledge and possible directions for future research. Some of the materials in this course rely on technical tools (such as econometrics or formal theory). Students are not expected to be familiar with these tools prior to enrolling in the course, but will become familiar with them during the semester.

Course Requirements

Participation (20% of final grade): Students are expected to complete the assigned readings each week. Student-led discussion of the readings will occur in each class meeting. All students should arrive prepared with comments regarding the assigned readings.

Response Papers (30% of final grade; 7.5% each paper): Each seminar participant will write 4 response papers (maximum 3 pages single spaced) throughout the semester. These papers will critique (not just summarize) the arguments and/or tests in the works. This means discussing briefly but thoroughly the major strengths of the works as well as their weaknesses. Papers should also discuss possible extensions of the research or additional research questions facing that area of the literature. Papers should be emailed to all course participants by 5:00 PM on the Monday before class.

Literature Review (30% of the final grade): 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 review on a topic of interest to them that relates to one of the subjects addressed by this course. 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 4,000-5,000 words. Students should consult with me

before selecting a review topic and provide a potential bibliography to the instructor by no later than October 23. These will be due December 4.

Final Exam (20% of the final grade): Students will take a one-day examination that will be patterned on the preliminary examinations that graduate students must pass before they may advance to the dissertation stage of the PhD program.

It is important that students cite the material that they have relied upon in writing both the literature review and final written exam. You must cite works correctly. If you have questions about when you need to provide citation for a source, please see the following website: <http://libguides.asu.edu/citing>.

Required Books

The following books are available required. They are available for purchase through various online sources, including ebook formats in some cases. Over the course of the class, some of the readings will be book chapters, rather than journal articles that are easily found electronically via the library, but I will make available to you as the week they are assigned approaches.

David Baldwin, *Neorealism and Neoliberalism* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1993)

Soctt Bennet and Allan Stam, *The Behavioral Origins of War* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2004).

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, Alastair Smith, Randolph Siverson, and James Morrow, *The Logic of Political Survival* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2003).

Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984).

Robert Keohane (ed), *Neorealism and its Critics* (New York: Columbia University Press)

Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994)

Beth Simmons. *Mobilizing for Human Rights*. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009)

Imre Lakatos and Alan Musgrave, eds. *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1970).

Topics and Schedule Week 1 (August 28): Organization, Introduction & Review

Hedley Bull, 1966. International Theory: The Case for the Classical Approach, *World Politics* 18(3)

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, 1985. "Toward a Scientific Understanding of International Conflict: A Personal View," *International Studies Quarterly*, 29 (2): 121-136.

Stephen M. Walt, 2005. "The Relationship between Theory and Policy in International Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science* 8: 23-48

Week 2 (September 4): Theory and Progress in International Relations Research

Lakatos, Imre. "Falsification and the Methodology of Scientific Research Programmes" in *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge*, eds. Imre Lakatos and Alan Musgrave, pp. 91-196. (skim for now, we will revisit it later).

J. Ann Tickner, 2005. "What's Your Research Program? Some Feminist Answers to International Relations Methodological Questions." *International Studies Quarterly* 49 (1): 1-21

Kenneth Waltz, 1979. *Theory of International Politics, Laws and Theories* (Keohane, chpt 2)

Dina Zinnes, 1980. "Three Puzzles in Search of a Researcher." *International Studies Quarterly* 23(3): 315-42.

Kelly Kadera. 2013. "The Social Underpinnings of Women's Worth in the Study of World Politics: Culture, Leader Emergence, and Coauthorship." *International Studies Perspectives.*, forthcoming.

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, Samantha Lange, and Holly Brus. 2013. "Gendered Citation Patterns in International Relations Journals." *International Studies Perspectives.*, forthcoming.

Week 3 (September 11): International Relations as Social Science

Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (Chapters 1-3).

Special Issue on Control Variables of *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 2005. Issue 22, Volume 4. All articles (this may change).

Week 4 (September 18): Research Design Issues

Scott Bennett and Alan Stam, 2004. *The Behavioral Origins of War*, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. Chapters TBA

J. David Singer, 1961. The Levels-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations, *World Politics* 14(1).

Mearsheimer, John J. and Stephen M. Walt. 2013. "Leaving Theory Behind: Why Hypothesis Testing Has Become Bad for IR." *European Journal of International Relations* forthcoming.

Week 5 (September 25): Realist Perspectives

Hans Morgenthau, 1948. *Politics among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*. Chpts 1-3. (any version)

Kenneth Waltz, 1979. *Theory of International Politics* (Keohane, chpts 3-5)

Robert Gilpin, 1988. *The Theory of Hegemonic War*, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18(4): 591-613.

Van Evera, Stephen. "Offense, Defense, and the Causes of War." 1998. *International Security*. 22 (4): 5-43.

Week 6 (October 2): Responses to Realism

Richard Ashley, 1984. *The Poverty of Neorealism* (Keohane, chpt. 9)

Helen Milner, *The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique* (Baldwin, chpt. 6)

J. Ann Tickner, 1988. *Hans Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism: A Feminist Reformulation*, *Millennium* 17(3): 429-440.

*Revisit the Lakatos chapter from earlier in the term.

John A. Vasquez, 1997. "The Realist Paradigm and Degenerative versus Progressive Research Programs: An Appraisal of Neotraditional Research on Waltz's Balancing Proposition" *The American Political Science Review* 91 (4): 899-912.

Waltz, Kenneth. 1997. "Evaluating Theories." *American Political Science Review*. 91 (4): 913-917.

Colin Elman and Miriam Elman. 1997 "Lakatos and Neorealism: A Reply to Vasquez." *American Political Science Review*. 91 (4): 923-26.

Week 7 (October 9): Liberal Perspective (I)

Robert Keohane, 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-6.

Robert Axelrod and Robert Keohane, *Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy* (Baldwin, chpt 4)

Joseph Grieco, *Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation* (Baldwin, chpt 5)

Duncan Snidal, *Relative Gains and the Pattern of International Cooperation* (Baldwin, chpt 7)

Andrew Moravcsik, 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics." *International Organization*. 51: 513-33.

Week 8 (October 16): Liberal Perspective (II)

Robert Keohane, Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge after the Cold War (Baldwin, chpt 11)

Joseph Grieco, Understanding the Problem of International Cooperation: The Limits of Neoliberal Institutionalism and the Future of Realist Theory (Baldwin, chpt 12)

Robert O. Keohane and Lisa L. Martin, 1995. The Promise of Institutional Theory. *International Security*, 20(1): 39-51.

Mearsheimer, John, 1994-95. The False Promise of International Institutions. *International Security*, 19(3): 5-49.

Beth Simmons. 2009. *Mobilizing for Human Rights*, chapters TBA.

Week 9 (October 23): Constructivist Perspectives

Alexander Wendt, 1987. The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory." *International Organization* 41: 335-370.

Alexander Wendt, 1992. "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics." *International Organization* 46: 31-425.

John Gerard Ruggie, "What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge," *International Organization* 52 (4) 855-886.

Richard Price, "Reversing the Gun Sights: Transnational Civil Society Targets Land Mines," *International Organization* 52: 613-644.

Chaim Kaufmann and Robert Pape, "Explaining Costly International Moral Action: Britain's Sixty-Year Campaign against the Atlantic Slave Trade," *International Organization* 53: 631-668.

Week 10 (October 30): The Rational Choice Perspective on International Relations

Thomas Schelling, 1960. *The Strategy of Conflict*, New Haven: Yale University Press. Chapter 2 (An Essay on Bargaining).

James Fearon, 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization* 49(3): 379- 414.

Stephen Walt, 1999. Rigor or Rigor Mortis? *Rational Choice and Security Studies*, *International Security* 23(4): 5-48.

Lisa Martin, 1999. "The Contributions of Rational Choice: A Defense of Pluralism." *International Security* 24 (2): 74-83.

Robert Powell, 1999. "The Modeling Enterprise and Security Studies" *International Security* 24 (2): 97-106.

*Recommended: Other commentaries on rational choice debate in Issue 24 (2) of *International Security*. Contributions by Bueno de Mesquita and Morrow, Niou and Ordeshook, Zagare, and a response by Walt.

Week 11 (November 6): Bargaining and War

Harrison Wagner, 2000. "Bargaining and War." *American Journal of Political Science* 44 (3): 469-484.

Darrel Filson and Suzanne Werner, 2002. A Bargaining Model of War and Peace: Anticipating the Onset, Duration, and Outcome of War, *American Journal of Political Science* 46 (4): 819-838.

Dan Reiter, 2003. Exploring the Bargaining Model of War, *Perspectives on Politics* 1(1): 27-43.

Slantchev, Branislav. 2003. The Power to Hurt: Costly Conflict with Completely Informed States, *American Political Science Review* 97(1): 123-135.

Robert Powell, 2006. War as a Commitment Problem, *International Organization* 60(1): 169- 203.

Week 12 (November 13): Psychology, Conflict Issues, and the Study of War

Robert Jervis, 1988. "War and Misperception." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*. 18: 675-700

Jack Levy, 1994. Learning and Foreign Policy, *International Organization* 48: 279-312.

Chaim Kaufmann, 1994. "Out of the Labs and Into the Archives: A Method for Testing Psychological Explanations of Political Decision Making," *International Studies Quarterly* 38(4)

Dominic D.P. Johnson and Dominic Tierney, 2011. The Rubicon Theory of War: How the Path of Conflict Reaches the Point of No Return, *International Security*, 36: 7-40.

Senese, Paul D., and John A. Vasquez. 2005. "Assessing the Steps to War." *British Journal of Political Science*

Goddard, Stacie E. 2006. "Uncommon Ground: Territorial Conflict and the Politics of Legitimacy." *International Organization*. 60: 35-68.

Hensel, Paul, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2005. "Issue Indivisibility and Territorial Claims." *GeoJournal*. 64: 275-85.

Week 13 (November 20): Domestic Politics and the Democratic Peace

Putnam, Robert D, 1988. Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games. *International Organization*. 42 (3): 427-460

Fearon, James, 1994. Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review* 88 (3): 577-592.

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, James Morrow, Alistair Smith, and Randolph Siverson. 2003. *The Logic of Political Survival* (Ch TBA)

Weeks, Jessica L. 2012. "Strongmen and Straw Men: Authoritarian Regimes and the Initiation of International Conflict." *American Political Science Review*. 106: 326-47.

Gibler, Douglas. 2007. "Bordering on Peace: Democracy, Territorial Issues, and Conflict." *International Studies Quarterly*. 51 (3): 509-32.

Week 14 (November 27): Liberalism, Interdependence, and the Prospects for Peace

Note: We will reschedule this meeting for a different time as this is the night before Thanksgiving

Michael Doyle, 1986. Liberalism and World Politics, *American Political Science Review* 80(4): 1151-1169.

Katherine Barbieri. 1996. "Economic Interdependence: A Path to Peace or a Source of Interstate Conflict?" *Journal of Peace Research* 33(1):29-49.

Mark Crescenzi. 2003. "Economic Exit, Interdependence, and Conflict." *Journal of Politics* 65(3): 809-832.

Selections from special issue on the Capitalist Peace *International Interactions*, 2010. Issue 36 (2) (TBA)

Week 15 (December 4): Civil Wars, Intervention, and State Repression

Literature Reviews Due by the start of class

Virginia Page Fortna, 2003. Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace. *International Organization* 57 (2): 337-372.

Suzanne Werner and Amy Yuen, 2005. Making and Keeping Peace. *International Organization* 59 (2): 261-292.

Stephen Gent, 2007. Strange Bedfellow: The Strategic Dynamics of Major Power Military Intervention. *Journal of Politics* 69 (4): 1089-1102

James Fearon and David Laitin, 2003. Ethnicity, Insurgency and Civil War, *American Political Science Review* 97 (1): 75-90.

Barbara F. Walter, 2006. Building Reputation: Why Governments Fight Some Separatists But Not Others, *American Journal of Political Science* 50 (2): 313-330.

Kristian Gleditsch, Idean Salehyan and Kenneth Schultz, 2008. Fighting at Home, Fighting Abroad: How Civil Wars Lead to International Disputes, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 52(4): 479-506.

Steven C. Poe, and C. Neal Tate. 1994 "Repression of Human Rights to Personal Integrity in the 1980s: A Global Analysis." *American Political Science Review*. 88: 853-72.

Christian Davenport. 2007. "State Repression and the Tyrannical Peace." *Journal of Peace Research*. 44: 485-504.

Week 17 (December 11): Wrap Up

Mock Comprehensive Exams