

**Northwestern University  
440 Winter 2016**

**International Relations Theory  
Graduate Seminar**

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This seminar provides an introduction to contemporary issues in international relations theory. It presents various approaches and views toward core concepts such as power, anarchy, sovereignty, law, normativity, and more, as they are used in IR scholarship. The course is designed to support students' interests in research on topics in international politics.

Seminar meetings: Friday, noon to 3pm, Ripton Room, Scott Hall

Office hours Wednesday 10-12, rm 306 Scott Hall.

**Assignments**

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| Seminar participation  | 50% |
| - contributions by every seminar member expected every session           |     |
| Seminar presentation   | 10% |
| - introduce one reading one week, with material to launch the discussion |     |
| Final essay  | 40% |
| - 10-page proposal, outline, and bibliography of a research paper        |     |

**Required Texts**

Hedley Bull, *The Anarchical Society: A Study in World Order*. Columbia University Press, any edition.

E.H. Carr, *The 20 Years' Crisis 1919-1939 An Introduction to International Relations*. Macmillan, any edition.

Helen M. Kinsella, *The Image Before the Weapon: A Critical History of the Distinction between Combatant and Civilian*. Cornell University Press, 2011.

Carne Ross, *Independent Diplomat: Dispatches from an Unaccountable Elite*. Cornell University Press, 2007.

Jennifer Rubenstein, *Between Samaritans and States: The Political Ethics of Humanitarian INGOs*. Oxford University Press, 2015.

## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND MEETINGS

### January 8 - Introductions

E.H. Carr, *The Twenty Years Crisis*, esp. Chs. 3, 4, 5.

Carne Ross, *Independent Diplomat: Dispatches from an Unaccountable Elite*. Cornell University Press, 2007.

### January 15 - Anarchy

Kenneth Waltz, "Anarchic Orders and Balances of Power," in Robert O. Keohane ed. *Neorealism and its Critics*. Columbia University Press, 1986.

Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization*, 1992.

Hedley Bull, *The Anarchical Society: A Study in World Order*. Columbia University Press, 1977.

Helen Milner, "The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique," *Review of International Studies*.

### January 22 - Power

Charli Carpenter (2003). "'Women and Children First': Gender, Norms, and Humanitarian Evacuation in the Balkans 1991-95," *International Organization*, 57(4).

John J. Mearsheimer (2001). "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power," Ch. 2 of Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. Norton.

John Gaventa (1982). *Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley*. Chapter 1.

Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall, "Power in International Politics," *International Organization*, 59, 2005: 39-75.

## January 29 - Power - II

Hans J. Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations*, through Chapter 5 or so.

Charlotte Epstein, "Making Meaning Matter in International Relations," Ch. 1 of Epstein *The Power of Words in International Politics: Birth of an Anti-Whaling Discourse*. MIT Press, 2008.

Karl Marx and Fredrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*.

Robert W. Cox, "Gramsci, Hegemony and International Relations: An Essay in Method," *Millennium* 12(2), 1983.

B.S. Chimni, "International Institutions Today: An Imperial Global State in the Making," *European Journal of International Law* 15(1), 2004:1-37.

## February 5 - Sovereignty

Robert Axelrod and Robert O. Keohane, "Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions," in David A. Baldwin, ed. *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*. Columbia University Press, 1993.

Siba Grovogui, "Regimes of Sovereignty: International Morality and the African Condition," *European Journal of International Relations* 8(3), 2002: 315-338.

Jennifer Mitzen, "From International Society to Public Power," Ch. 3 of Mitzen *Power in Concert: The Nineteenth-Century Origins of Global Governance*. University of Chicago Press, 2013.

G. John Ikenberry, "Crisis of the Old Order," Ch. 1 of Ikenberry *Liberal Leviathan: The Origins, Crisis, and Transformation of the American World Order*. Princeton University Press, 2011.

## February 12 -Varieties of Modes of Inquiry in IR

Bruce Russett, *Grasping the Democratic Peace*. Princeton University Press. Ch.1 and Ch.2.

Jennifer Rubenstein, *Between Samaritans and States: The Political Ethics of Humanitarian INGOs*. (Oxford University Press, 2015).

Ian Shapiro. 2004. "Problems, Methods, and Theories in the Study of Politics, or: What's Wrong with Political Science and What to do about it." In Ian Shapiro,

Rogers M. Smith, and Tarek E. Masoud, eds. *Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Charles Taylor, "To follow a rule," in Craig Calhoun, Edward LiPuma, and Moishe Postone eds. *Bourdieu: Critical Perspectives* (University of Chicago Press, 1993).

## **February 19 - 'Normativity' and IR Research**

Andrew Moravcsik, "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics," *International Organization*, 51(4), 1997:513-553.

Mara Pillinger, Ian Hurd, and Michael Barnett, "How to Get Away with Cholera: Haiti, the UN, and International Law," *Perspectives on Politics*, March 2016.

Chris Brown, "Tragedy, 'Tragic Choices' and Contemporary International Political Theory," *Millennium* 21(1), 2007:5-13.

Jacqueline Stevens, "Forensic Intelligence and the Deportation Research Clinic: Toward a New Paradigm," *Perspectives on Politics*, 13(3), 2015:722-738.

Roland Paris, "Global Governance and Power Politics: Back to Basics," *Ethics and International Affairs*, 29(4), 2015.

## **February 26 - International Law**

Kenneth Abbott and Duncan Snidal, "Law, Legalization, and Politics: An Agenda for the Next Generation of IL/IR Scholars," in Jeffrey Dunoff and Mark Pollack eds. *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on International Law and International Relations: The State of the Art*. Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Judith Goldstein *et al.* "Introduction: Legalization and World Politics," *International Organization*, 2000, 54(3):385-399.

Helen M. Kinsella, *The Image Before the Weapon: A Critical History of the Distinction between Combatant and Civilian*. Cornell University Press, 2011.

Ingo Venzke, "Legal Contestation about 'Enemy Combatants' - On the Exercise of Power in Legal Interpretation," *Journal of International Law and International Relations*, 2009, 5(1), 155-184.

Ian Hurd, "Enchanted and Disenchanted International Law," *Global Policy*, 2015.

Robert Howse and Ruti Teitel, "Beyond Compliance: Why International Law Really Matters," *Global Policy*.

**March 4 — no meeting**