490 Fall 2018

Liberal Internationalism and its Critics

Prof. Ian Hurd
Dept of Political Science
rm. 306 Scott Hall

Friday afternoons 1:00-3:50 in the Ripton Room

office hours Wed 10-12

This seminar examines liberal internationalism as idea, empirical claim, and practice. We will consider what the term means and how it has been used, in scholarship, in government, and elsewhere, and for what purposes. The course draws on writings on history, law, politics and political theory to gain insight into how the idea came to occupy a place in contemporary international politics and the alternatives and challengers against which it is set. Students will complete the seminar by either completing a research-paper draft or writing an exam that synthesizes the class material.

Requirements and grading

20% Preparation for and participation in seminar discussions

20% Presentations

Two in-class presentations of readings from the syllabus

60% Assignment: either

Research project arising from course material and themes
- 10-12pp. proposal or outline for a paper or project
- due December 14 2pm.

or

Take-home exam
- to mimic parts of the IR field exam, using themes in this course
- distributed December 7th and due December 14 2pm

Required books


**Schedule of Topics and Readings**

Friday September 28 - Prologue & introductions


Friday October 5 - Liberal Internationalism as world order


further reading


Friday October 12 - Liberal Internationalism and the science of global governance


Further reading


- on Hayek’s liberalism as world order and foreign policy


Friday October 19 - no class

Friday October 26 - Liberal internationalism and 19thC history


Further reading

- history of IL that sees it as part of empire, not a framework of equals

Duncan Bell, Ch. 10 of *Reordering the World*.
- on Brit 19-20thC liberal internationalism, rising and context


Sam Moyn and Andrew Sartori eds., *Global Intellectual History*.


Friday November 2 - Liberal internationalism and 20thC history


further reading


Andrew Guzman, *How International Law Works*.


Friday November 9 - Liberal internationalism as international theory (in Burdick Room)


further reading

Duncan Bell, “Making and Taking Worlds,” in Sam Moyn and Andrew Sartori, *Global Intellectual History* (on ideas making up the world, and in what sense this is ‘global’).


**Friday November 16 - International liberalism and law**


**Further reading**


**Friday November 30 - Liberal internationalism and US foreign policy**


**Further reading**

Randall Schweller, “Three Cheers for Trump’s Foreign Policy,” *Foreign Affairs* 2018


Friday December 7 - makeup if needed.