

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Yale-NUS College

Spring 2016-17

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Synopsis

Why do countries go to war with each other and why do they cooperate? How do domestic institutions or individual leaders impact a country's external behaviour? Do international laws and institutions have any influence in global affairs? These types of questions have been central to the study of international relations for centuries. In the 20th century, Western scholars continued this tradition and established International Relations (IR) as a social science. This introductory course will examine the major theories of international conflict and cooperation that have emerged from this body of scholarship. It will also cover thematic issues such as economic interdependence, global governance, nuclear weapons, transnational movements, and the rise of new powers. The course provides an introduction to IR theory and instances in which insights from IR can illuminate the dynamics of real-world phenomena.

Assignments

Participation (10%): Students are expected to attend and participate in classes regularly.

Discussion questions (10%): Students are expected to submit one substantive discussion question via Canvas prior to each session.

Midterm exam (30%): In class, requiring identification of concepts, and short essay(s).

Group exercise (20%): A group of 3-4 students will lead a portion of the Thursday seminar in weeks 7-12. Each student in the group will also submit a one-page (single spaced) critique of that week's readings. Each student will do the group exercise once in the semester.

Final essay (30%): 2000-word essay due on April 21, 2017. Prompts will be distributed in advance.

WEEK 1: HISTORY & THE VALUE OF THEORY

Mon, Jan 9: History of the International System

- Karen A. Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguín-Toft. 2016 (7th ed.). *Essentials of International Relations*. New York: W. W. Norton, pp. 20-69.

Thu, Jan 12: The Value of Theory

- Paul Krugman. 1994. "The Fall and Rise of Development Economics." ([link](#)) – section on "Metaphors and Models".
- Kenneth N. Waltz. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, pp. 1-17.
- Stephen M. Walt. 2005. "The Relationship between Theory and Policy in International Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 8, pp. 23-39.
- Kenneth N. Waltz. 1954. *Man, the State, and War*. Columbia University Press, pp. 1-15.

WEEK 2: ANARCHY, POWER, AND CONFLICT

Mon, Jan 16: Realism and Neorealism

- Thucydides. 431 B.C. *History of the Peloponnesian War*. Translated by Martin Hammond. Oxford University Press, 301-7 (para 84-116).
- Hans J. Morgenthau. 1948. "Six Principles of Political Realism." In Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis. 2007. *International Politics* (Pearson Education, 8th ed.), pp. 7-14.
- Kenneth N. Waltz. 1979. "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 29-48.
- John J. Mearsheimer. 2001. "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 50-60.

Thu, Jan 19: Examples and Extensions

- Robert Jervis. 1978. "Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 177-94.
- Stephen M. Walt. 1987. "Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 96-102.
- Stephen M. Walt. 1987. *The Origins of Alliances*. Cornell University Press, pp. 262-69, 273-81.
- Randall L. Schweller. 1994. "Bandwagoning for Profit: Bringing the Revisionist State Back In." *International Security*, 19:1, pp. 72-99.

WEEK 3: COOPERATION UNDER ANARCHY

Mon, Jan 23: Neoliberalism / Institutionalism

- Robert O. Keohane. 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in World Politics*. Princeton University Press, pp. 7-10, 85-109.
- Lisa L. Martin. 1992. "Interests, Power, and Multilateralism." *International Organization*, 46:4, pp. 765-789.

Thu, Jan 26: Examples and Extensions

- Celeste A. Wallander. 2000. "Institutional Assets and Adaptability: NATO After the Cold War." *International Organization*, 54:4, pp. 705-733.
- Xinyuan Dai. 2002. "Information Systems in Treaty Regimes." *World Politics*, 54:4, pp. 405-436.

WEEK 4: DOMESTIC POLITICS

Mon, Jan 30: Holiday (Chinese New Year)

Thu, Feb 2: Liberal Theory, and Examples

- Andrew Moravcsik. 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics." *International Organization*, 51:4, pp. 513-33.

- Helen V. Milner. 1997. *Interests, Institutions, and Information: Domestic Politics and International Relations*. Princeton University Press, pp. 3-26.
- Graham Allison. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review*, 63:3, pp. 689-718.
- Joanne Gowa. 1999. *Ballots and Bullets: The Elusive Democratic Peace*. Princeton University Press, pp. 3-27.

WEEK 5: IDEAS AND IDENTITY

Mon, Feb 6: Constructivism

- Alexander Wendt. 1992. "Anarchy is what States Make of it: The Social Construction of Power Politics." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 61-67.
- Martha Finnemore. 1996. *National Interests in International Society*. Cornell University Press, pp. 1-33.

Thu, Feb 9: Examples

- Alastair Iain Johnston. 1996. "Cultural Realism and Strategy in Maoist China." In Peter J. Katzenstein (ed.), *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*. Columbia University Press, pp. 216-256.
- Nina Tannenwald. 1999. "The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use." *International Organization*, 53:3, pp. 433-465.

WEEK 6: COMPETING VIEWS OF HISTORY

Mon, Feb 13

- Henry R. Nau. 2012. *Perspectives on International Relations*. Washington, D. C.: CQ Press, pp. 103-24 (World War I), 129-56 (World War II), 160-94 (the Cold War).

Thu, Feb 16 (Midterm Exam)

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WEEK 7: PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACHES

Mon, Feb 27: Perception and Misperception

- Robert Jervis. 1968. "Hypotheses on Misperception." *World Politics*, 20:3, pp. 454-79.
- Keren Yarhi-Milo. 2013. "In the Eye of the Beholder: How Leaders and Intelligence Communities Assess the Intentions of Adversaries." *International Security*, 38:1, pp. 7-51.

Thu, Mar 2: Beliefs and Ideology

- Jonathan Mercer. 2010. "Emotional Beliefs." *International Organization*, 64:1, pp. 1-26.

- Manjari Chatterjee Miller. 2013. *Wronged by Empire: Post-Imperial Ideology and Foreign Policy in India and China*. Stanford University Press, pp. 1-4, 55-81.

WEEK 8: WAR & PEACE

Mon, Mar 6: Why States Fight

- Jack S. Levy and William R. Thompson. 2010. *Causes of War*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 1-22.
- James D. Fearon. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization*, 49:3, pp. 379-410.

Thu, Mar 9: Peace and its Durability

- Dan Reiter. 2009. *How Wars End*. Princeton University Press, pp. 1-7, 186-210.
- Virginia Page Fortna. 2003. "Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace." *International Organization*, 57:2, pp. 337-67.

WEEK 9: NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Mon, Mar 13: Nuclear Strategy

- Joseph Cirincione. 2007. *Bomb Scare: The History and Future of Nuclear Weapons*. Columbia University Press, pp. 1-13.
- Thomas C. Schelling. 1966. "The Diplomacy of Violence." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 149-62.
- Bernard Brodie. 1959. *Strategy in the Missile Age*. Santa Monica: RAND, pp. 264-304.

Thu, Mar 16: Nuclear Stability/Instability

- Scott Sagan. 2003. "Nuclear Instability in South Asia." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 239-49.
- Kenneth N. Waltz. 2003. "Nuclear Stability in South Asia." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 250-59.
- Caitlin Talmadge. 2017 (forthcoming). "Assessing the Risk of Chinese Nuclear Escalation in a Conventional War with the United States." *International Security*.

WEEK 10: ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE

Mon, Mar 20: Globalization

- Jeffrey Frankel. 2000. "Globalization of the Economy." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 309-324.
- Dani Rodrik. 2001. "Trading in Illusions." In Art and Jervis, *International Politics*, pp. 347-54.
- Emilie M. Hafner-Burton. 2005. "Trading Human Rights: How Preferential Trade Agreements Influence Government Repression." *International Organization*, 59:3, pp. 593-624.

Thu, Mar 23: Trade and Conflict

- Katherine Barbieri. 2002. *The Liberal Illusion: Does Trade Promote Peace?* University of Michigan Press, pp. 17-42.
- Dale C. Copeland. 2014. *Economic Interdependence and War*. Princeton University Press, pp. 1-13, 122-42.

WEEK 11: GLOBAL GOVERNANCE**Mon, Mar 27: Global Structure**

- Elinor Ostrom. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-21.
- John G. Ruggie. 1992. "Multilateralism: the Anatomy of an Institution." *International Organization*, 46:3, pp. 561-98.

Thu, Mar 30: Global Agency

- Deborah D. Avant, Martha Finnemore, and Susan K. Sell (eds.). 2010. *Who Governs the Globe?* Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-31.
- Daniel W. Drezner. 2004. "The Global Governance of the Internet: Bringing the State Back In." *Political Science Quarterly*, 119:3, pp. 477-98.

WEEK 12: TRANSNATIONAL ACTORS**Mon, Apr 3: Global Networks I**

- Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Cornell University Press, pp. 1-38.
- Anne-Marie Slaughter. 2004. *A New World Order*. Princeton University Press, pp. 1-35.

Thu, Apr 6: Global Networks II

- Bruce Hoffman. 2006. *Inside Terrorism*. Columbia University Press, pp. 40-41, 63-80.
- Martha Crenshaw. 2011. *Explaining Terrorism: Causes, Processes, and Consequences*. New York: Routledge, pp. 34-50.
- David D. Laitin and Jacob N. Shapiro. "The Political, Economic, and Organizational Sources of Terrorism." In Philip Keefer and Norman Loayza (eds.), *Terrorism, Economic Development, and Political Openness*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 209-232.

WEEK 13: GLOBAL ORDER AND TRANSITION**Mon, Apr 10: Global Order**

- G. John Ikenberry. 2011. *Liberal Leviathan: The Origins, Crisis, and Transformation of the American World Order*. Princeton University Press, pp. 1-32.
- Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth. 2008. *World out of Balance: International Relations and the Challenge of American Primacy*. Princeton University Press, pp. 1-21.

Thu, Apr 13: Power Transition

- Robert Gilpin. 1981. *War and Change in World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 9-49.
- Aaron L. Friedberg. 2005. "The Future of U.S.-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" *International Security*, 30:2, pp. 7-45.

Fri, Apr 21: Final Papers due by 11:59pm.