

Introduction to International Relations

POSC 172
Spring 2014

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Course Objectives:

This course aims to introduce major bodies of theory concerning cooperation and conflict in the international system. In a setting characterized by political heterogeneity and economic inequality, how can the actions of states be understood and compared? POSC 272 seeks to answer this question by exploring theory and applying it to historical and contemporary examples. The first half of the course focuses on issues related to war and peace. The second half covers international economic issues, and issues of the future.

Required texts:

International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues (IP), Robert J. Art and Robert J. Jervis, 10th Edition

Grades:

Reviews/attendance	10
Case study/presentation	20
Short exam (2)	30
Final	40

Detailed Requirements:

1. Reviews: Though this is an introductory course, it is highly dependent upon student participation and keeping up with the readings. To facilitate participation, **a review of 2 selected weekly readings will be due on Monday. You must do 10 reviews throughout the semester and no papers past Monday of that week will be accepted.** The analysis should focus on two of the assigned readings that week, **be no longer than two pages**, and in your own words lay out the issue discussed, the concepts deployed, and the arguments developed. These papers are not individually graded rather total completion of these papers along with class participation is 10 percent of the final grade.
2. Case Study Presentation: A case study assignment will be given the second week of class.
3. Short Exams: Week 4 and Week 11 there will be an in class short answer exam.
4. Final: A final course exam/paper will be assigned.

Class Policies to Note:

Cell phones must be turned off during class time. If a phone rings once inadvertently, please turn it off immediately. Should a student answer a cell phone **for any reason** during class, he or she will be asked to leave and not to return to that class. If personal circumstances require that a student be available to receive calls during class time, he or she should explain the circumstances to the professor and **not attend** class.

Computers or portable devices may only be used in class, with instructor permission, to take notes.

Any rescheduling and/or extensions of exams and/or papers that are not completed at the designed time must be discussed **before** the deadline to receive a rescheduling/extension. The professor designates late papers as Fs unless discussed prior to deadline. **Papers will not be accepted as a computer file through email.**

Plagiarism whether from digital or printed sources will not be tolerated. Failure to give credit in footnotes for other's ideas, failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another source, and/or failure to acknowledge another author's conclusions will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of university regulations.

Absence from class will be excused for up to 3 meetings, after which points will be deducted.

LECTURES

Readings with * can be found in the documents section of the class blackboard site. All others (IR) are from the text book.

Week 1 Introduction

1/13-15

(IP) Part I, pp. 1-7

*Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories"

Week 2 Mapping the field I: The major theories of international relations come in four varieties: Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism (or critical theory), and Dependency (to be discussed week 7). This week we will start with discussion of realism and move to forms of liberalism. Why do states behave the way they do?

1/20

MLK Day

1/22

*Thomas Hobbes, Selections from *The Leviathan*

(IR) Kenneth Waltz, "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics," p.35

Week 3: Mapping the field II: A major difference among the approaches is the question of cooperation and the extent of anarchy, its sources, and limits.

1/27-29

(IR) Hans Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism," p.14

(IR) J. Ann Tickner, "A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism," p.22

*John Locke, Selections, pp.329-346
(IR) Michael Doyle, "Kant, Liberal Legacies and Foreign Affairs," p.111

Week 4 **Mapping the field III:** Critical theory or constructivism challenges both liberal and realist conceptions of world order and change.

2/3-5 (IR) Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is what states make of it" pp. 70-79
*Martha Finnemore, "Legitimacy, Hypocrisy, and the Social Structure of Unipolarity: Why Being a Unipole Isn't All It's Cracked Up to Be"

Case Study:

(IR) Robert Art, "The United States and the Rise of China," pp. 393-397.
(IR) Arvind Subramanian, "The Inevitable Superpower: Why China's Dominance is a Sure Thing," p. 578

Week 5 **International Actors and their Relations**

2/10 (IR) Phil Williams, "Transnational Organized Crime and the State," pp. 489-501
(IR) Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Activist Networks"
*Jessica T. Mathews, "Power Shift," *Foreign Affairs*, 76;1 (Jan. - Feb., 1997)

2/12 **EXAM I**

Week 6 **International Conflict: Old Wars and New Wars**

2/17-19 *Charles Tilly, "How War Made States, and Vice Versa"
*Mary Kaldor, "New and Old Wars"

Case Study:

*Ian, Lustick, "The Absence of Middle Eastern Great Power."

Week 7 **(Weak) States in Africa**

2/24-26 *Robert Jackson and Carl Roseberg, "Why Africa's Weak States Persist," *World Politics* (October 1982)

Film: The Ambassador

Week 8 **Global Political Economies:** This week the global economy will be discussed by first introducing a final major strand of international thought, Marxism.

3/3-5 (IR) Robert Gilpin, "The Nature of Political Economy" pp. 265-281
*Karl Marx, Selections from *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts* and *Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*

Case Study:

*Theotonio Dos Santos, "The Structure of Dependence" *The American Economic Review* (May 1970)
*Anne Pitcher, "Lions, Tigers, and Emerging Markets: Africa's Development

Dilemmas,” *Current History*

Week 9 Spring Break

3/10-12 BREAK

Week 10 Debates over Globalization

3/17-19 *Lant Pritchett, “Divergence Big Time”
(IR) Robert Wade, “Financial Regime Change”
(IR) Dani Rodrik, “Trading in Illusions”
(IR) Moises Naim, “What Globalization is and is not”
(IR) John Micklethwait and Adrian Woolridge, “Why the Globalization Backlash is Stupid”

Case Study: “Is Wal-mart Good for America?” Frontline Program Video (available thru KSL reserves)

Week 11 Democratic Peace Theory

3/24 *Bruce Russett, *Grasping the Democratic Peace: Principles for a Post-Cold War World* (Princeton University Press, 1993), p. 3-23
*Fareed Zakaria, “The Rise of Illiberal Democracy,” *Foreign Affairs* 76.6 (1997), pp. 22-43.

3/26 **EXAM II**

Week 12 Intervention and Nation building

3/31-4/2 (IR) Michael Barnett and Jack Snyder, “The Grand Strategies of Humanitarianism”
(IR) Alexander Downes, “To the Shores of Tripoli?”
*Jon Western and Joshua Goldstein, “Humanitarian Intervention Comes of Age,” *Foreign Affairs*, Nov-Dec. 2011
*Benjamin Valentino, “The true costs of Humanitarian Intervention,” *Foreign Affairs*, Nov-Dec. 2011

Case Study:

*Jason Brownlee, “Can the US Nation Build?” *World Politics*

Week 13 Terrorism: Threat Measurement and Legal Politics

4/7-9 *Grenville Byford, “The Wrong War.”
*John Mueller and Mark Stewart, “The Terrorism Delusion: America’s Overwrought Response to September 11,” *International Security* (2012)
(IR) Robert Pape, “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism”

Case Study:

*Kal Raustiala, “Offshoring the war on Terror,” in *Does the Constitution Follow*

the Flag? (Oxford University Press, 2009).

Week 14 US Policy Post-9/11: Militarization of American Policy

4/14-16 Joy Rohde, “Epilogue: Militarization without End,” in *Armed with Expertise: The Militarization of American Social Research During the Cold War*, pp. 148-156.

Case Study:

*Dana Priest and Willian Arken, “Top Secret America: A Hidden World, Growing Beyond Control,” *Washington Post*

<http://projects.washingtonpost.com/top-secret-america/articles/a-hidden-world-growing-beyond-control/>

Week 15 US, Israel, and the Israel Lobby

4/21-23 *Case Study:*

*Stephen Walt and John Mearshimer, “The Israel Lobby,” *London Review of Books*

Robert C. Lieberman, “The Israel Lobby and American Politics,” *Perspectives on Politics* (June 2009)

Walt and Mearshimer, “The Blind Man and the Elephant in the Room: Robert Lieberman and the Israel Lobby,” *Perspectives on Politics* (June 2009)

Week 16

4/28 TBA