

INTERNATIONAL THEORY

**Political Science 550
Winter 2012**

Instructor

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Lecture

T/R 3:00 – 4:18
Hitchcock 35

Sections

Course Description

‘International theory’ is concerned with theoretical reflection on the factual, ethical, and/or legal aspects of international politics, or international relations (IR) theory, international political theory, and international legal theory respectively. In this course we will focus predominantly on the first, but with growing emphasis on the second and third as the course progresses. Part I deals with the traditional problem of international life, of maintaining order and peace among the Great Powers in a condition of anarchy. Part II calls the assumption of anarchy into question by looking at hierarchical structures in the international system, organized around the North-South axis. Part III addresses the simultaneous rise of the individual and global problems in world politics, and the ethical challenges of system governance that this creates. Throughout, an effort will be made to illustrate the relevance of theoretical debates for the real world, but in the end this is a course about ideas not information, and students will be evaluated accordingly.

Requirements

There are no books for this class, only articles and chapters available on Carmen. Students are responsible for all readings on the syllabus except those designated as optional. There will be three in-class closed-book exams, two midterms and a final, with review sheets distributed before each. Attendance in lecture is strongly recommended, and class participation there is welcome and encouraged, but not required. In addition, students are expected to attend one discussion section each week, and will be given credit for this toward their final grade.

Grade Schedule

Midterm I:	30%
Midterm II:	30%
Final Exam:	30%
Section:	10%

CALENDAR

T Jan 3: Course Introduction

ANARCHY

R Jan 5: The Problem of Order in Great Power Politics

Donnelly, Jack (2005) – “Realism,” in Scott Burchill, et al., *Theories of International Relations*, 3rd ed. (New York: Palgrave), pp. 29-54.

Waltz, Kenneth (1989) – “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory,” in Robert Rotberg and Thomas Rabb, eds., *The Origins and Prevention of Major Wars*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), pp. 39-52.

T Jan 10: Realism and the Balance of Power

Mearsheimer, John (1994/5) – “The False Promise of International Institutions,” *International Security*, 19(3), 5-49.

R Jan 12: Power Transitions and Hegemonic War

Subramanian, Arvind (2011) – “The Inevitable Superpower: Why China’s Dominance is a Sure Thing,” *Foreign Affairs*, 90(5), 66-78.

Mearsheimer, John (2010) – “The Gathering Storm: China’s Challenge to US Power in Asia,” *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, 3, 381-396.

Glaser, Charles (2011) – “Will China’s Rise Lead to War? Why Realism Does Not Mean Pessimism,” *Foreign Affairs*, 90(2), 80-91.

T Jan 17: Liberalism and the Democratic Peace

Burchill, Scott (2005) – “Liberalism,” in Scott Burchill, et al., *Theories of International Relations*, 3rd ed. (New York: Palgrave), pp. 55-83.

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

R Jan 19: Neo-Liberal Institutionalism

Stein, Arthur (1982) – “Coordination and Collaboration: Regimes in an Anarchic World,” *International Organization*, 36(2), 299-324.

Keohane, Robert and Lisa Martin (1995) – “The Promise of Institutional Theory,” *International Security*, 20(1), 39-51.

T Jan 24: Constructivism and the Power of Ideas

Wendt, Alexander (1995) – “Constructing International Politics,” *International Security*, 20(1), 71-81.

Hurd, Ian (1999) – “Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics,” *International Organization*, 53(2), 379-408.

Mearsheimer, John (1995) – “A Realist Reply,” *International Security*, 20(1), 82-93.

R Jan 26: Midterm I

HIERARCHY

T Jan 31: The Four Faces of Power, and Then Some

Gaventa, John (1980) – “Power and Participation,” Chapter 1 in Gaventa, *Power and Powerlessness* (Oxford: Clarendon Press), pp. 3-32.

Nye, Joseph (2004) – “Soft Power and American Foreign Policy,” *Political Science Quarterly*, 119(2), 255-270.

R Feb 2: Military Preponderance and the NPT

Daalder, Ivo and Jan Lodol (2008) – “The Logic of Zero: Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons,” *Foreign Affairs*, 87(6), 80-96.

Tertrais, Bruno (2010) – “The Illogic of Zero,” *The Washington Quarterly*, 33(2), 125-138.

Fisher, David and Nigel Biggar (2011) – “Was Iraq an Unjust War? A Debate on the Iraq War and Reflections on Libya,” *International Affairs*, 87(3), 687-707.

T Feb 7: Power and Development

Kacowicz, Arie (2007) – “Globalization, Poverty, and the North-South Divide,” *International Studies Review*, 9(4), 565-580.

Birdsall, Nancy and Francis Fukuyama (2011) – “The Post-Washington Consensus: Development after the Crisis,” *Foreign Affairs*, 90(2), 45-53.

[One more reading TBA](#)

R Feb 9: Civilization and Otherness

Fidler, David (2001) – “The Return of the Standard of Civilization,” *Chicago Journal of International Law*, 2, 137-157.

Murden, Simon (2005) – “Culture in World Affairs,” in John Baylis and Steve Smith, eds., *The Globalization of World Politics*, 3rd ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press), pp. 539-553.

Lindsay, James (2009) – “The Case for a Concert of Democracies,” *Ethics & International Affairs*, 23(1), 5-11.

T Feb 14: American Empire, or Liberal?

Cox, Michael (2005) – “Empire by Denial: The Strange Case of the United States,” *International Affairs*, 81(1), 15-30.

Lake, David (2010) – “Making America Safe for the World: Multilateralism and the Rehabilitation of US Authority,” *Global Governance*, 16(4), 471-484.

Ikenberry, John (2011) – “The Future of the Liberal World Order,” *Foreign Affairs*, 90(3), 56-68.

R Feb 16: Midterm II

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

T Feb 21: Human Security, Cosmopolitanism and the UN

Nussbaum, Martha (1994) – “Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism” and “Reply,” [The Boston Review](#).

Martin, Mary and Taylor Owen (2010) – “The Second Generation of Human Security: Lessons from the UN and EU Experience,” *International Affairs*, 86(1), 211-224.

Barnett, Michael (1997) – “Bringing in the New World Order: Liberalism, Legitimacy and the United Nations,” *World Politics*, 49(4), 526-551.

Menon, Rajan (2009) – “Pious Words, Puny Deeds: The ‘International Community’ and Mass Atrocities,” *Ethics & International Affairs*, 23(3), 235-246.

R Feb 23: Democratic Deficits and Global Civil Society

Kaldor, Mary (2003) – “The Idea of Global Civil Society,” *International Affairs*, 79(3), 583-593.

Bexell, Magdalena, et al. (2010) – “Democracy in Global Governance: The Promises and Pitfalls of Transnational Actors,” *Global Governance*, 16(1), 81-101.

T Feb 28: Intervention and the Responsibility to Protect

Smith, Michael (1998) – “Humanitarian Intervention: An Overview of the Ethical Issues,” *Ethics and International Affairs*, 112, 63-80.

Western, John and Joshua Goldstein (2011) – “Humanitarian Intervention Comes of Age,” *Foreign Affairs*, 90(6), 48-59.

Waltzer, Michael (2011) – “On Humanitarianism,” *Foreign Affairs*, 90(4), 69-80.

R Mar 1: Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism, and International Law

Birdsall, Andrea (2010) – “The ‘Monster that We Need to Slay’? Global Governance, the United States, and the International Criminal Court,” *Global Governance*, 16, 451-469.

Two other readings TBA

T Mar 6: Global Warming

“Overview” and “International Action” (2011), in *Climate Change 101: Understanding and Responding to Global Climate Change*, Pew Center on Global Climate Change.

Gardiner, Stephen (2006) – “A Perfect Moral Storm: Climate Change, Intergenerational Ethics and the Problem of Moral Corruption,” *Environmental Values*, 15, 397-413.

R Mar 8: Why a World State is Inevitable

Craig, Campbell (2008) – “The Resurgent Idea of World Government,” *Ethics and International Affairs*, 22(2), 133-140.

Optional:

Cabrera, Luis (2010) – “World Government: Renewed Debate, Persistent Challenges,” *European Journal of International Relations*, 16(3), 511-530.

T Mar 13: Final Exam, 1:30-3:18

Required Statement on Academic Misconduct

I expect all of your work in this course to be your own. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the university’s Committee on Academic Misconduct, which investigates or establishes procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of wrongdoing wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).

Disability Services

If you need an accommodation based on a disability, contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in developing accommodation strategies. It is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; (<http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu>).