

**Political Science 7300: THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
**Graduate Seminar**  
**Autumn 2016**

Class Location: 012 Hayes Hall  
Class Time: Monday 12-2:45

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Office Hours: Tuesday 10-12

Course Description

This course introduces graduate students to important theoretical perspectives and debates in the field of international relations. We will cover works that address different levels of analysis and that span major theoretical paradigms and methodological approaches. We will discuss intellectual history as well as cutting-edge contributions to the field. Class sessions will be conducted in a seminar format, though I will offer occasional, brief lectures to introduce new topics or situate debates.

Course Requirements

The final grade will be based on the following components:

50% – two short papers, not to exceed six double-spaced pages (25% each)

30% – final exam (take-home)

10% – five one-page memos on a week's readings

10% – class participation, including contributions to discussion and presentations

More details on the papers and exam will be provided as the course proceeds.

Readings

Readings are available in the course texts, online through Carmen, and/or online through the library's journal collection. Students are expected to complete all of the assigned readings before the relevant class session.

For each reading, we will summarize the argument, discuss its contribution to IR, and probe the argument and evidence for strengths and weaknesses. The following questions can be used to guide your reading of each piece and will shape our discussion:

- What is the question or puzzle?
- What is the argument?
- What are the explicit or implicit assumptions?
- Who are the relevant actors?
- What motivates and constrains these actors?
- At what level of analysis is the argument?
- Where does the argument fit into the theoretical landscape of IR?
- What is the relative importance of agency versus structure?
- What evidence is provided in support of the argument and is it convincing?

### **Academic Honesty**

All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own unless collaboration is explicitly authorized. It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. You are also welcome to register with Student Life Disability Services to establish reasonable accommodations. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Course texts

- Robert Keohane. 1984. After Hegemony. Princeton University Press.  
 Kenneth Waltz. 1979. Theory of International Politics. McGraw-Hill.  
 (or Keohane, ed. 1986. Neorealism and Its Critics. Columbia University Press)  
 Alexander Wendt. 1999. Social Theory of International Politics. Cambridge University Press.

IO=*International Organization*; IS=*International Security*; WP=*World Politics*; EJIR=*European Journal of International Relations*; ISQ=*Int'l Studies Quarterly*; APSR=*Amer. Poli. Sci. Review*

**August 29 – Introduction to the Course and to the Field of IR**

- Robert Keohane. 2009. Political Science as a Vocation. PS: Political Science and Politics 42 (2), 359-363.  
 Daniel Maliniak, Amy Oakes, Susan Peterson, and Michael Tierney. 2011. "International Relations in the US Academy. International Studies Quarterly 55 (2): 437-464.  
 Alexander Wendt. 2001. What is IR for? Notes toward a post-critical view. In R. Wyn Jones, ed., Critical Theory and World Politics. Lynne Rienner.  
 Jack Snyder. 2004. One World, Rival Theories. *Foreign Policy* (Nov./Dec.)

**September 5 – No Class; Labor Day****September 12 – Levels of Analysis and Classical Realism***Levels of Analysis:*

- Kenneth Waltz. 1959. Man, the State, and War, pp. 16-41, 80-5, 159-65.  
 J. David Singer. 1961. The Level of Analysis Problem in International Relations. WP 14(1): 77-92.  
 Robert Jervis. 1976. Perception and Misperception in International Politics, ch. 1.  
 Alexander Wendt. 1999. Social Theory of Int'l Politics, chs. 1, 4.

*Classical Realism:*

- Thucydides. 431 BC. The Melian Dialogue, in The History of the Peloponnesian War.  
 (<http://www.wellesley.edu/ClassicalStudies/CLCV102/Thucydides--MelianDialogue.html>)  
 Hans Morgenthau. 1948. Politics among Nations, chs. 1, 3, 11, 14

**September 19 – Structural Realism and Anarchy**

- Waltz. 1979. Theory of International Politics, chs. 4-6 (reprinted in Keohane, ed. 1986. Neorealism and Its Critics, chs. 3-5).  
 Robert Jervis. 1978. Cooperation under the Security Dilemma, WP 30(2): 167-214.  
 John J. Mearsheimer. 2001. The Tragedy of Great Power Politics, chapters. 1-2.  
 Milner, Helen. 1991. The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique. Review of International Studies 17(1) 67-85.

### September 26 – Extensions and Applications of Realism

- Stephen Krasner. 1976. State Power and the Structure of International Trade. WP 28(3): 317-43.
- Stephen Walt. 1985. Alliance Formation and the Balance of Power, IS 9(4).
- Randall Schweller. 1994. Bandwagoning for Profit: Bringing the Revisionist State Back In, IS 19(1).
- Charles Glaser. 1994/5. Realists as Optimists: Cooperation as Self-Help. IS 19(3).
- James Fearon. 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War, IO 49(3): 379-414.
- Randall Schweller. 2006. Unanswered Threats: A Neoclassical Realist Theory of Underbalancing. IS 29(2): 159-201.
- Braumoeller, Bear F. 2008. Systemic Politics and the Origins of Great Power Conflict. APSR 102(1): 77-93.

### October 3 – Neoliberal Institutionalism

- Arthur Stein. 1982. Coordination and Collaboration: Regimes in an Anarchic World. IO 36: 294-324.
- Kenneth Oye. 1985. Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies, WP 38: 1-24.
- Robert Keohane. 1984. After Hegemony, chs. 3-6.
- Beth A. Simmons. 2000. International Law and State Behavior: Commitment and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs. APSR 94(4): 819-35.
- Koremenos, Barbara. 2005. Contracting around Uncertainty. APSR 99(4): 549-65.

### October 10 – The Constructivist Challenge to Neo...ism

- Alexander Wendt. 1992. Anarchy Is What States Make of It, IO 46: 391-425.
- John Ruggie. 1998. What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge, IO 52(4): 855-85.
- Ted Hopf. 1998. The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory, IS 23(1): 171-200.
- Alexander Wendt. 1999. Social Theory of International Politics, ch. 3, 5-7
- Ian Hurd. 1999. Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics, IO 53(2): 379-408.

### *Paper #1 due Friday, October 14th*

### October 17 – Constructivism: Culture, Norms and Identity

- Richard Price & Nina Tannenwald. 1996. Norms and Deterrence: The Nuclear and Chemical Weapons Taboo. In Katzenstein, ed., The Culture of National Security, pp. 114-52.
- Finnemore & Sikkink. 1998. International Norm Dynamics and Political Change, IO 52(4)
- Alastair Iain Johnston. 2001. Treating International Institutions as Social Environments. ISQ 45(4): 487-516.
- Thomas Risse. 2000. “Let’s Argue: Communicative Action in World Politics. IO 54: 1-39.
- Mitzen, Jennifer. 2006. “Ontological Security in World Politics: State Identity and the Security Dilemma,” European Journal of International Relations 12(3): 341-70.
- Herrmann, Richard and Vaughn Shannon. 2001. Defending International Norms: The Role of Obligation, Material Interest, and Perception in Decision Making. IO 55(3): 621-54.

### October 24 – Liberalism Revisited: Domestic Politics and IR

- Robert Putnam. 1988. Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games, IO 42: 427-61.
- Andrew Moravcsik. 1997. Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics, IO 51:513-53.
- Bruce Russett. 1993. Grasping the Democratic Peace, chs. 1-2.
- Christopher Layne. 1994. Kant or Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace, IS 19(2): 5-49.
- Erik Gartzke. 2007. The Capitalist Peace. American Journal of Political Science 51(1): 166-91.
- Christopher Gelpi and Michael Griesdorf. 2001. Winners or Losers? Democracies in International Crises. APSR 95(3).
- Mitchell, Sara McLaughlin and Emilia Justyna Powell. 2009. Legal Systems and Variance in the Design of Commitments to the International Court of Justice. Conflict Management and Peace Science 26(2): 164-190.
- Reus-Smit, Christian. 2001. The Strange Death of Liberal International Theory. European Journal of International Law, 12(3), 573-593.

### October 31 – Non-State Actors and Private Authority

- Kal Raustiala. 1997. States, NGOs and International Environmental Institutions. ISQ 41: 719-40.
- Margaret Keck & Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics: Introduction. *Activists Beyond Borders*, chap. 1.
- Thomas Risse. 2002. Transnational Actors in World Politics. In Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse, and Beth Simmons, eds., *Handbook of International Relations* (London: Sage), pp. 255–274.
- Deborah Avant, Martha Finnemore and Susan Sell. 2010. Who Governs the Globe? Chapter 1 of *Who Governs the Globe?* Cambridge University Press.
- Wendy H. Wong and Sarah S. Stroup. 2013. Come Together? Different Pathways to International NGO Centralization. *International Studies Review* 15(2): 163-84.
- Jessica F. Green. 2013. Order out of Chaos: Public and Private Rules for Managing Carbon. *Global Environmental Politics* 13(2); 1-25.

### November 7 – Delegation and Supranationalism

- Kenneth Abbott and Duncan Snidal. 2000. Hard and Soft Law in International Governance. IO 54(3): 421-56.
- Michael Barnett & Martha Finnemore. 1999. The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations. IO 53(4): 699-732.
- Karen Alter. 2008. Agent or Trustee: International Courts in their Political Context. *European Journal of International Relations* 14 (1): 33-63.
- Catherine Weaver. 2007. The World Bank and the Bank's World. *Global Governance* 13(4): 493-512.
- Brian C. Rathbun. 2011. Before Hegemony: Generalized Trust, International Cooperation and the Design of International Organizations. *International Organization* 45(2): 243-273.

**November 14 – Power, Hierarchy and Networks**

- Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall. 2005. Power in International Relations. *IO* 59(1): 39-75.
- Anne-Marie Slaughter. 2004. Sovereignty and Power in a Networked World Order. *Stanford Journal of International Law* 40: 283-327.
- Daniel Nexon and Thomas Wright. 2007. What's at stake in the American empire debate? *American Political Science Review* 101(2): 253-271.
- Lake, David. 2007. Escape from the state of nature: Authority and hierarchy in world politics. *International Security* 32(1), 47-79.
- Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, Miles Kahler, and Alexander H. Montgomery. 2009. Network Analysis for International Relations. *International Organization* 63(3): 559-592.
- Stacie Goddard. 2009. Brokering change: Networks and Entrepreneurs in International Politics. *International Theory* 1(2): 249-281.
- Charli Carpenter. 2011. Vetting the Advocacy Agenda: Networks, Centrality and the Paradox of Weapons Norms. *International Organization* 65(1).

***Paper #2 due Friday, November 18th***

**November 21 – The Profession**

Everything you wanted to know about being an IR academic

**November 28 – Theoretical Paradigms: Islands, Competitors or Synthesis?**

- Peter Katzenstein and Rudra Sil. 2008. Eclectic Theorizing in the Study and Practice of International Relations. In Reus-Smit and Snidal, eds., *Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, pp. 109-30. Oxford University Press.
- James Fearon & Alexander Wendt. 2002. Rationalism v. Constructivism: A Skeptical View, in Carlsnaes, Risse & Simmons, eds., *Handbook of International Relations*, pp. 52-72.
- Samuel Barkin. 2003. Realist Constructivism. *International Studies Review* 5(3): 325-42.
- Jonathan Mercer. 2005. Rationality and Psychology in International Politics. *IO* 59(1): 39-75.
- David Lake. 2013. Theory is Dead, Long Live Theory: The End of the Great Debates and the Rise of Eclecticism in International Relations. *European Journal of International Relations* 19(3): 558-578

**December 5 – No Class****December 12 – Final Exam**

The final exam will be sent out on December 12<sup>th</sup> (Monday). The exam questions will be emailed to you at 9 a.m. and must be returned by 5 p.m. the same day.