

THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Political Science 4300

Fall 2014
TuTh 2:20PM - 3:40PM
Hitchcock Hall 0031

Professor Randall Schweller
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Course Description

The course introduces undergraduates to the major theoretical issues and paradigms in the field of international relations. The course is divided into three parts. In part one, three theoretical perspectives are covered: realism, liberalism, and constructivism. In parts two and three, these three perspectives are used as theoretical lenses to examine the current age of US primacy, how others are reacting to it, and what comes next.

Course Requirements: Midterm: essay exam (50% of final grade); Final: essay exam (50% of final grade).

Required Texts

1. Richard K. Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace* 3rd or 4th edition (Longman, 2005).
2. G. John Ikenberry, ed., *America Unrivaled: The Future of the Balance of Power* (Cornell University Press, 2002).
3. Randall Schweller, *Maxwell's Demon and the Golden Apple: Global Discord in the New Millennium* (Baltimore, Md.: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).

Part 1: Theories of International Relations

1. ANARCHY

Thomas Hobbes, "The State of Nature and the State of War," in Betts.

2. THE SECURITY DILEMMA AND THE OFFENSE-DEFENSE BALANCE

Robert Jervis, "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma," in Betts.

Jack Levy, "The Offensive/Defensive Balance of Military Technology," in Betts.

3. REALISM: CAUSES OF WAR

Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue," in Betts.

Edward Hallett Carr, "Realism and Idealism," in Betts.

Kenneth N. Waltz, "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory," in Betts.

Robert Gilpin, "Hegemonic War and International Change," in Betts

Niccolo Machiavelli, "Doing Evil in Order to Do Good," in Betts.

Geoffrey Blainey, "Power, Culprits, and Arms," in Betts.

4. BALANCE OF POWER, POLARITY, AND POWER-TRANSITION THEORY:

No readings, just lecture.

5. THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF REALISM:

No readings, just lecture.

6. INSTITUTIONAL LIBERALISM: HOW INSTITUTIONS FACILITATE COOPERATION AND PREVENT WAR

Woodrow Wilson, "Community of Power vs. Balance of Power," in Betts.

7. REPUBLICAN LIBERALISM: THE DEMOCRATIC PEACE

Immanuel Kant, "Perpetual Peace," in Betts.

Michael W. Doyle, "Liberalism and War" or "Liberalism and World Politics," in Betts.

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and War," in Betts.

8. COMMERCIAL LIBERALISM: ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE AND PEACE

Norman Angell, "The Great Illusion," in Betts.

Robert O. Keohane and Joseph S. Nye, "Power and Interdependence," in Betts.

Geoffrey Blainey, "Paradise Is a Bazaar," in Betts.

Kenneth Waltz, "Structural Causes and Economic Effects," in Betts.

9. SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIVISM: THE ROLE OF IDEAS, IDENTITY, AND NORMS

Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," in Betts.

Martha Finnemore, "Constructing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention," in Betts.

MIDTERM REVIEW SESSION

MIDTERM

Part 2: The Unique Structure of Unipolarity: Reactions to U.S. Global Predominance

10. WHAT IS UNIPOLARITY AND WHAT ARE ITS CONSEQUENCES?

G. John Ikenberry, Michael Mastanduno, and William C. Wohlforth, "Introduction: Unipolarity, State Behavior, and Systemic Consequences," *World Politics*, Vol. 61, No. 1 (January 2009), pp. 1-27.

Robert Jervis, "Unipolarity: A Structural Perspective," *World Politics*, Vol. 61, No. 1 (January 2009), pp. 188-213.

G. John Ikenberry, "Introduction," in Ikenberry, pp. 1-28.

11. WHY STATES WILL BALANCE AGAINST US POWER

Kenneth Waltz, "Structural Realism after the Cold War," in Ikenberry, pp. 29-67.

Charles Kupchan, "Hollow Hegemony or Stable Multipolarity," in Ikenberry, pp. 68-97.

12. WHY STATES WILL NOT BALANCE AGAINST US POWER

William Wohlforth, "U.S. Strategy in a Unipolar World," in Ikenberry, pp. 98-118.

Josef Joffe, "Defying History and Theory," in Ikenberry.

G. John Ikenberry, "Democracy, Institutions, and American Restraint," in Ikenberry, pp. 213-238.

13. GLOBAL GOVERNANCE REFORM: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

Stewart Patrick, "Prix Fixe and à la Carte: Avoiding False Multilateral Choices," *The Washington Quarterly*, Vol. 32, No. 4 (October 2009),

Part 3: What's Next? Visions of a Post-American Era

14. THE END OF HISTORY?

Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History," in Betts.

John Mueller, "The Obsolescence of Major War," in Betts.

John Mearsheimer, "Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War," in Betts.

Samuel Huntington, "A Clash of Civilizations?" in Betts.

15. US GRAND STRATEGY: RETRENCHMENT OR STAY THE COURSE?

John Mearsheimer, "America Unhinged," *The National Interest*, No. 129 (Jan./Feb. 2014), pp. 9-30.

Stephen G. Brooks, G. John Ikenberry, and William C. Wohlforth, "Don't Come Home, America: The Case against Retrenchment," *International Security*, Vol. 37, No. 3 (Winter 2012-13): 7-51.

Robert Pape, "Empire Falls," *The National Interest* (Jan/Feb 2009).

16. THE FUTURE OF US-CHINA RELATIONS: CONFLICT OR HARMONY?

Aaron Friedberg, "The Future of U.S.-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" *International Security*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (Fall 2005).

Yuen Foong Khong, "Primacy or World Order? The United States and China's Rise—A Review Essay," *International Security*, Vol. 38, No. 3 (Winter 2013/14), pp. 153-75

17. A POST-AMERICAN WORLD: WHAT COMES NEXT?

Randall Schweller, *Maxwell's Demon and the Golden Apple: Global Discord in the New Millennium*

Richard Haass, "The Age of Nonpolarity: What Will Follow U.S. Dominance," *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2008).

John Ikenberry and Ann-Marie Slaughter, "A World of Liberty Under Order," in Betts.

Azar Gat, "The Return of Authoritarian Great Powers," *Foreign Affairs* (July/August 2007).

Fareed Zakaria, "Economics Trumps Politics," in Betts.

18. FINAL REVIEW SESSION

19. FINAL EXAM: Monday, Dec. 15, 2014 2:00pm-3:45pm

Academic Misconduct

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://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp).

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.