

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

GOVT 006-021

MTWR 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Room: ICC 102

INSTRUCTOR: Megan A. Stewart, mas436@georgetown.edu

OFFICE HOURS: 3:00-4:00 PM Monday and Thursday after class, and by appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The ultimate aim of this course is to bring the theories of International Relations into dialogue with the events of the world, to apply, analyze and evaluate the former with the reality of the latter, and to broaden your understanding of both. In order to do so, the course has three major components.

First, the course provides an introduction to the major theories of international politics. We begin by asking what theories are and how they help us understand the world. Then, we will examine theories designed to answer the most important questions about international politics: What determines stability and change in international politics? Why do states go to war? What are the prospects for international cooperation? Are democratic states more peaceful than authoritarian regimes? What role do international institutions, such as the United Nations, play in managing international politics? How has globalization altered the nature of international politics and the international economy? What are emerging threats, and do these threats alter the international system, if at all?

Second, the class provides a basic history of major international events of the twentieth century. Not only is this history intrinsically important, but it is with this empirical foundation that we will begin to apply theories of international relations, evaluate them and analyze their utility in understanding international political phenomena. For this class, we will focus on World War I, the interwar period, World War II, the Cold War and the Second Gulf War.

Finally, this class will move evaluates the implications of theory and history for contemporary international politics by focusing on three aspects of the International Relations sub-field: International Law, International Political Economy and International Security. This class is not a current events class, but a primary objective is to provide students with the tools to analyze current events in a rigorous, theoretically-informed manner.

REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance

Attendance at all class lectures is required.

Readings

Required readings should be completed before the class for which they are assigned. The exams and review essay will require you to have a strong comprehension of the material covered in both the readings and the lectures.

Examinations

There will be an in-class midterm examination on **Monday, July 20**, and an in-class final examination on **Thursday, August 6**.

Essay Assignment

There will be one 1000 to 2500 word essay. The essay is due in hard copy at the beginning of class on **Thursday, July 30**. The essay will ask you to apply theories of international relations to contemporary international relations policy questions. More details on this assignment will be distributed in class

Course Outline

Introduction and Key Concepts	July 6-7
Theories of International Relations	July 8-9, 13
Evaluating Contending Theories	July 14-15
Midterm Review and Paper Assignment	July 16
Midterm Examination	July 20
International Law	July 21
International Political Economy	July 22
Coercion	July 23
International Security	July 27-July 30
Paper Due	July 30
International Relations in the 21st Century	August 3-4
Final Exam Review	August 5
Final Exam	August 6

PROCEDURES:

Office Hours

I will hold office hours each week to discuss substantive questions about readings, lectures, exams, and papers. As a general rule of thumb, if you have a substantive question that probably requires more than one or two sentences to answer thoroughly, I recommend that you come to office hours, email me a time to meet or save the question for class. This will be better for everyone because it not only saves time, but I will also be able to sit with you and work through the material in a much more comprehensive way, and in a way that I know will be clear to you. Moreover, people in class probably will have the same questions, and if you ask the question in section, other people will benefit as well. If you have administrative or organizational questions, however, I encourage you to email me first.

Late Essays

Deadlines are strict. No extensions will be granted in the absence of a genuine emergency or documented illness. Predictable events, such as a heavy workload or extracurricular activities, are not normally considered grounds for an extension. All appeals for extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for each day they are late.

Grading

Grades will be based on the absolute merit of your work, so there is no grading curve employed in this class. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Participation	10%
Midterm Examination	25%
Essay	30%
Final Examination	35%

Grading Disputes

You may email me about a grading concern after a 48-hour waiting period. You are entitled to a satisfactory explanation for why you received the grade you received. If you are not satisfied with the explanation provided by me, you may submit a written explanation for why you believe that your work was misgraded. The work will then be regraded by me with the understanding that I may ultimately issue a grade that is better, the same, or worse than the original grade.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism or other acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. As defined by the Georgetown University Honor Council, plagiarism is “the act of passing off as one’s own the ideas or writings of another.”

Blackboard

A Blackboard site has been created for this class. You can access the site at <http://campus.georgetown.edu>. On the site, you will find announcements, the syllabus, pdf copies of the readings, lecture slides, and information about assignments.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

In addition to the books and articles below, you should read the international affairs section of a major national newspaper, such as the *New York Times* or the *Washington Post*, on a daily basis. You might also consider reading the *Economist*, which is generally considered the best weekly news magazine available. Lectures will often include references to contemporary events, so it is critical that you are aware of important developments in international affairs.

The following required text is available at the Georgetown University Bookstore:

Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 12th Edition (Boston, Mass.: Pearson, 2014).

All readings for this class are either located in the Art and Jervis volume or posted on Blackboard, noted with (Bb).

Introduction and Key Concepts

July 6–What is International Relations?

Jack Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories,” *Foreign Policy*, No. 145 (November/December 2004), pp. 53-62. (Bb)

Alexander L. George, *Bridging the Gap: Theory and Practice in Foreign Policy* (Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 1993), Chapter 1-2, pp. 3-29. (Bb)

July 7–The Anarchic World

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chapters 13-15 (Bb)

Kenneth N. Waltz, “The Anarchic Structure of World Politics” (A&J, pp. 33-51)

Theories of International Relations

July 8–Realism and Neo-Realism

Thucydides, “The Melian Dialogue in History of the Peloponnesian War (A&J, pp. 7-12).

Robert Jervis, “Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma” (A&J, pp. 79-98).

Stephen M. Walt, “Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning,” (A&J, pp. 110-117).

Kenneth N. Waltz, “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*,

Vol. 18, No. 4 (Spring 1988), pp. 615-628.

Robert Gilpin, "The Theory of Hegemonic War," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 18, No. 4 (Spring 1988), pp. 591-613.

Barbara F. Walter. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51.3 (1997): 335-364. (Bb)

July 9—Liberalism and the Democratic Peace

Immanuel Kant. "Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch" (1795). (Bb).

Michael W. Doyle, "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs" (A&J, pp. 98-110)

Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and War," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 74, No. 3 (May-June 1995), pp. 79-97. (Bb)

Robert O. Keohane, "International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work" (A&J, pp. 134-140)

Kenneth A. Oye, "The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics" (A&J, pp. 67-79)

Helen Milner. "The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique." *Review of International Studies* (1991): 67-85. (Bb)

July 13—Constructivism and Alternative Approaches

Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," (A&J, pp. 59-66)

Ian Hurd, "Legitimacy in International Politics," (A&J, pp. 12-14)

Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink. "International Norm Dynamics and Political Change." *International Organization*. Vol. 52, Iss. 04, (September 1998), p. 887-917.

Graham T. Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 63, No. 3 (September 1969), pp. 689-718. (Bb)

Recommended: Daniel Kahneman and Jonathan Renshon, "Why Hawks Win," *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2007). (Bb)

Evaluating Contending Theories

July 14–World War I & World War II

David Stevenson, *Cataclysm: The First World War as Political Tragedy* (New York: Basic Books, 2004) Chapter 1: The Destruction of Peace, pp. 3-35 (Bb)

Gordon A. Craig and Alexander L. George, *Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Problems of Our Time*, 3rd Edition (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995). Chapter 3: Balance of Power, 1815-1914: Three Experiments, pp. 25-42. (Bb).

Woodrow Wilson, “The Fourteen Points,” Address to the U.S. Congress, January 8, 1918. (Bb)

Gerhard L. Weinberg, *A World at Arms: A Global History of World War II* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994). Chapter 1: From One War to Another, pp. 6-47 (Bb)

July 15–The Cold War & Second Gulf War

George F. Kennan, “The Long Telegram,” February 22, 1946. (Bb)

John Lewis Gaddis, “The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International System,” *International Security*, Vol. 10, No. 4 (Spring 1986), pp. 99-142. (Bb)

John J. Mearsheimer, “Why We Will Miss the Cold War,” *The Atlantic*, No. 134 (August 1990), pp. 35-50. (Bb)

Kenneth M. Pollack, “Next Stop Baghdad?,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 81, No. 2 (March/April 2002), pp. 32-47. (Bb)

John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, “An Unnecessary War,” *Foreign Policy*, No. 134 (January/February 2003), pp. 51-59. (Bb)

James Fallows, “Blind into Baghdad,” *The Atlantic Monthly*, Vol. 293, No. 1. (January/February 2004), pp. 52-74. (Bb)

Recommended: Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth, “Power, Globalization, and the End of the Cold War: Evaluating a Landmark Case for Ideas,” *International Security* Vol. 25, No. 3 (Winter 2000), pp. 5-53. (Bb)

July 16–Midterm Review and Paper Assigned

July 20–Midterm Examination

July 21–International Law: Theory and Concepts

Rhoda E. Howard and Jack Donnelly, “Human Rights in World Politics” (A&J, pp. 362-373)

Michael Walzer, “The Triumph of Just War Theory (and the Dangers of Success),” *Social Research*, Vol. 69, No. 4 (Winter 2002), pp. 925-944. (Bb)

Stanley Hoffman, “The Use and Limits of International Law” (A&J, pp. 130-133).

Garrett Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons” (A&J, pp. 408-413)

Peter M. Haas. ”Do Regimes Matter? Epistemic Communities and Mediterranean Pollution Control.” *International Organization* 43.03 (1989): 377-403. (Bb).

Recommended: Margaret Keck and Sikkink. “Transnational Activist Networks.” (A&J, pp. 378-383)

July 22–International Political Economy: The Economic System and Its Development

Robert Gilpin, “The Nature of Political Economy,” (A&J, pp. 212-226).

Kenneth N. Waltz, “Globalization and Governance” (A&J, pp. 426-436).

Jeffrey Frankel, “Globalization of the Economy” (A&J, pp. 242-256).

Moiss Nam, “What Globalization Is and Is Not,” (A&J, pp. 261-265).

Nita Rudra, “Are Workers in the Developing World Winners or Losers in the Current Era of Globalization?” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 40.3 (2005): 29-64. (Bb)

July 23–Coercion

Robert Pape, “Why Economic Sanctions Do Not Work,” *International Security*, Vol. 22, No. 2 (Autumn 1997), pp. 90-110. (Bb)

Kimberly Ann Elliott, “The Sanctions Glass: Half Full or Completely Empty?” *International Security*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (Summer 1998), pp. 50-65.

David A. Baldwin, “The Power of Positive Sanctions,” *World Politics*, Vol. 24, No. 1 (October 1971), pp. 19-38. (Bb)

Thomas C. Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence,” (A&J, pp. 152-164).

Erica Chenoweth and Maria Stephan, “Why Civil Resistance Works,” (A&J, pp. 189-194)

International Security

July 27–Interstate War and Weapons of Mass Destruction

James D. Fearon, “Rationalist Explanations for War (A&J, pp. 52-59)

The World Bank, “The Shape of Violence Today,” (A&J, pp. 194-199).

Robert J. Art, “The Four Functions of Force,” (A&J, pp. 145-151).

Robert J. Art, “The Fungibility of Force,” (A&J, pp. 174-188)

Kenneth N. Waltz, “Nuclear Myths and Political Realities,” *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 84, No. 3 (September 1990), pp. 731-745. (Bb)

Nina Tannenwald, “The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use.” *International Organization* 53.3 (1999): 433-468. (Bb)

Recommended: Sumit Ganguly, “Nuclear Stability in South Asia,” *International Security*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (Fall 2008), pp. 45-70. (Bb)

Recommended: S. Paul Kapur, “Ten Years of Instability in a Nuclear South Asia,” *International Security*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (Fall 2008), pp. 71-94. (Bb)

July 28–Intrastate War: Civil War and Insurgency

Central Intelligence Agency. “The Counter-Insurgency Manual.” (Bb)

Berry Posen. “The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict,” *Survival*, Vol. 35, No. 1 (1993), pp. 27-47. (Bb)

James Fearon and David Laitin. “Ethnicity, Insurgency and Civil War.” *American Political Science Review*. Vol 97. No. 1 (February 2003). (Bb)

****Read pages 74-82, 88-89.*

Paul Collier, Anke Hoefler, and Dominic Rohner, “Beyond Greed and Grievance: Feasibility and Civil War,” *Oxford Economic Papers*, Vol. 61 (2009), pp. 1-27. (Bb)

****Read pages 1-5, 11-16.*

Jeremy Weinstein. “Resources and the Information Problem in Rebel Recruitment,” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 49, No. 4 (August 2005), pp. 598-624. (Bb)

****Read pages 598-608.*

July 29–International Actors and Domestic Conflict: Intervention, Reconstruction and Nation-Building

Daniel Byman. “The Changing Nature of State Sponsorship of Terrorism,” *Brookings Institution Report*, (2009). (Bb).

****Read pages 3-5, 25-31 and at least one country from pages 7-23.*

Alexander B. Downes, “To the Shores of Tripoli? Regime Change and its Consequences,” (A&J, pp. 346-352).

Kofi Annan, “Reflections on Intervention,” (A&J, pp. 328-332).

Richard Betts, “The Delusion of Impartial Intervention,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 73, No. 6 (November-December 1994), pp. 20-33. (Bb)

David M. Edelstein, “Occupational Hazards: Why Military Occupations Succeed or Fail,” *International Security*, Vol. 29, No. 1 (Summer 2004). (Bb)

****Read pages 49-58*

Recommended: Frontline video “The Triumph of Evil”

See: www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/evil/

Recommended: Samantha Power, “Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen,” *The Atlantic Monthly* (September 2001), pp. 84-108. (Bb)

July 30–Non-State Actors in World Politics: Terrorism and Emerging Threats

Paper Assignment Due in Hard Copy at Beginning of Class

Bruce Hoffman, “What is Terrorism?” (A&J, pp. 164-173).

Barack Obama, “Dealing with the Current Terrorist Threat,” (A&J, pp. 319-327).

Audrey Kurth Cronin, “Ending Terrorism,” (A&J, pp. 313-319).

Phil Williams, “Transnational Organized Crime and the State,” (A&J, pp. 384-395).

Recommended: Jessica T. Mathews, “Redefining Security,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 68, No. 2 (Spring 1989), pp. 162-177. (Bb)

International Relations in the 21st Century

August 3–Post-Cold War International System

Robert Jervis, “The Era of Leading Power Peace” (A&J, pp. 292-306).

Robert J. Art, “The United States and the Rise of China” (A&J, pp. 306-313).

Arvind Subramanian, “The Inevitable Superpower: Why China’s Dominance Is a Sure Thing,” (A&J, pp. 467-474).

G. John Ikenberry, “The Future of the Liberal World Order,” (A&J, pp. 436-443).

Barry R. Posen, “Emerging Multipolarity: Why Should We Care,” (A&J, pp. 451-459).

Recommended: Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth, “International Relations Theory and the Case Against Unilateralism,” *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 3, No. 3 (September 2005), pp. 509-524. (Bb)

August 4–Conclusions and the Future of the International System

Global Trends 2030: Alternative Worlds, Executive Summary, pp. i-xiv. (Bb)

David C. Kang, “Hierarchy and Hegemony in International Politics,” (A&J, pp. 117-120).

YOU WILL BE ASSIGNED ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TO READ:

Herbert Lin, “Cyber Conflict and National Security,” (A&J, pp. 395-407).

Alan Dupont, “The Strategic Implications of Climate Change,” (A&J, pp. 459-467).

Thomas Schelling, “A World Without Nuclear Weapons?” (A&J, pp. 492-495).

Michael Cox, “Power Shifts, Economic Change, and the Decline of the West?,” (A&J, pp. 483-491).

August 5–Final Exam Review

August 6–Final Examination