

GOVT 060: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Summer 2019 (July 8-August 8)

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Shubha Kamala Prasad

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Class location: ICC 102

Class days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Class time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Office Hours and Location: TBD

Course Description and Objectives:

This course has three objectives. First, the course provides an introduction to the major theories of international politics. We begin by asking what IR theories are and how they help us understand the world. We compare and contrast each theoretical approach's relative strengths and weaknesses.

Second, the class provides a basic history of major international events of the twentieth century. In particular, we review the history of World War I, World War II, and the Cold War in order to test the validity of different theoretical approaches to international politics.

Finally, this class evaluates the implications of theory and history for contemporary international issues. 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. We will examine theories and conceptual frames such that students will be better able to understand, explain, and develop practical approaches to crucial questions about war, peace, cooperation, global trade, economic development, human rights, environmental change, gender and war, nuclear weapons, and the rise of China.

Assessment:

Everyone enrolled in this course will be evaluated on the basis of their in-class participation. As a result, attendance is required with exceptions for emergencies and health-related concerns.

A mid-term examination evaluating your grasp of the theories taught in the first two parts of the course will be administered at the end of Week 3.

The final graded assignment will be a 1,000 word essay due on the last day of the course. The essay will ask you to apply theories of international relations to understand contemporary international relations policy questions. More details on this assignment will be distributed in class.

For resources on how to write academic papers, see:

<https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/>

<http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/general/general-advice/>

<https://writingcenter.georgetown.edu/>

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Grading:

In-class participation	20%
Mid-term Exam	40%
Final paper	40%
TOTAL	100%

Deadlines:

In-class participation will be continuously evaluated.

Mid-term exam: July 25 (in-class)

Final Paper: August 8 (to be submitted in class)

Procedures:

Attendance

Attendance is required with exceptions for health-related concerns or emergencies.

Exceptions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Readings

Required readings should be completed before the class for which they are assigned. Classes will be discussion oriented on the basis of the readings for the day, so having a good grasp of the material is important.

Office Hours

I will hold office hours each week to discuss substantive questions about readings, lectures, exams, and papers. The timings and location are in the syllabus.

Late Assignments

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 that they are late.

Grading Disputes

You may email me or meet me during office hours about a grading concern after a 48-hour waiting period. You are entitled to a satisfactory explanation for why you received a particular grade. If you are not satisfied with the explanation provided, you may submit a written explanation for why you believe that your work was graded incorrectly. The work will then be re-graded 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.” Action will be taken against cases of plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. Please only submit original work.

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Canvas

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

Course Outline:

Week 1 (July 8-11)

Part 1 - Theories of International Relations: Explaining Conflict and Cooperation

July 8: Introduction and Classical Realism

July 9: Neorealism and Anarchy

July 10: Classical Liberalism and Democratic Peace

July 11: Neoliberalism and Interdependence

Week 2 (July 15-18)

July 15: Constructivism: Ideas and Norms

Part 2 - Beyond the Big 3: More Theories of International Relations

July 16: The English School and the Society of States

July 17: Critical IR: Deconstructing the Structures

July 18: Gender and IR

Week 3 (July 22-25)

July 22: Copenhagen School and Securitization

July 23: Marxism and Hegemony

July 24: Theories of Foreign Policy: Bureaucratic, Organizational, and Psychological Approaches

July 25: Mid-term Exam

Week 4 (July 29-August 1)

Part 3 - International History

July 29: World War I & World War II

July 30: Cold War

Part 4 - International Political Economy

July 31: The International Economic System

August 1: Globalization and Development

Week 5 (August 5-8)

Part 5 - Global Governance

August 5: International Law and Human Rights

August 6: International Environmental Politics

August 7: WMD and Nuclear Proliferation

August 8: Conclusion (Final Papers are due in class)

Readings

In addition to the books and articles below, you should read the international affairs section of any major national newspaper, such as the *New York Times* or the *Washington Post*, on a daily basis. You might also consider reading policy analysis in publications like the *Economist*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Foreign Policy*. You should also try reading one major article from the front page or international affairs section of a leading newspaper/magazine of another country before every class. I've put together a preliminary list of international news sources available in English for you (see below). Feel free to explore more on your own (especially non-English language sources based on your language skills). The GU Library has resources for accessing [newspaper databases](#) for historical archives. Classes will often include references to contemporary events, so it is critical that you are aware of important current developments in the world.

International media sources:

<i>Al Jazeera</i>	<i>Mexico News Daily</i>
<i>BBC</i>	<i>Russia Today</i>
<i>Buenos Aires Times</i>	<i>The China Post</i>
<i>CBC</i>	<i>The Japan Times</i>
<i>Daily News Egypt</i>	<i>The Manila Times</i>
<i>Daily Nation</i>	<i>The Moscow Times</i>
<i>Dawn</i>	<i>The Rio Times</i>
<i>Der Spiegel</i>	<i>The Seoul Times</i>
<i>Global Times</i>	<i>The Straits Times</i>
<i>Le Monde</i>	<i>Turkish Policy Quarterly</i>
<i>Mail and Guardian</i>	<i>Vanguard News</i>
<i>The Hindu</i>	<i>Xinhua</i>
<i>The Jakarta Post</i>	

Book:

Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 12th or 13th Edition (New York: Prentice Hall, 2015 or 2017) [Older editions are also fine. Please make sure you cross-check the topic listed since the page numbers might be slightly different for each edition.]

Articles:

All the articles that are listed below will be available online on Canvas.

Week 1 (July 8-11)

Part 1 - Theories of International Relations: Explaining Conflict and Cooperation

July 8

Introduction and Classical Realism

Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue" in *History of the Peloponnesian War* (A&J, pp. 7-11)

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Hans J. Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism" (A&J, pp. 15-20)

July 9 **Neorealism and Anarchy**

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

Stephen M. Walt, "Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning" (A&J, pp. 110-116)

July 10 **Classical Liberalism and Democratic Peace**

Michael W. Doyle, "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs" (A&J, pp. 98-109)

Michael Tomz, and Jessica Weeks. 2013. "Public Opinion and the Democratic Peace." *American Political Science Review* Vol. 107, No. 3, pp. 849-865

July 11 **Neoliberalism and Interdependence**

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. 67-78)

Week 2 (July 15-18)

July 15 **Constructivism: Ideas and Norms**

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)

Part 2 - Beyond the Big 3: More Theories of International Relations

July 16 **The English School and the Society of States**

Hedley Bull, "The Concept of Order in World Politics" in *The Anarchical Society: The Study of Order in World Politics*, Fourth Edition, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 3-21

Barry Buzan, "From International System to International Society: Structural Realism and Regime Theory Meet the English School." *International Organization* Vol. 47, No. 3, pp. 327-352

July 17 **Critical IR: Deconstructing the Structures**

Richard Devetak, "Critical theory." *Theories of International Relations*, 3 (2005): 137-160.

Mohammed Ayoob. 2002. "Inequality and Theorizing in International Relations: The Case of Subaltern Realism." *International Studies Review*, Vol. 4, No. 3, pp 27-48.

July 18

Gender and IR

J. Ann Tickner, "A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism" (A&J, pp. 21-32)

V. Spike Peterson, "Feminist theories within, invisible to, and beyond IR." *The Brown Journal of World Affairs* 10.2 (2004): 35-46.

Week 3 (July 22-25)

July 22

Copenhagen School and Securitization

Lene Hansen and Helen Nissenbaum. "Digital disaster, cyber security, and the Copenhagen School." *International Studies Quarterly* 53, no. 4 (2009): 1155-1175.

July 23

Marxism and Hegemony

Vincent Ferraro, "Dependency theory: An introduction." *The development economics reader* 12, no. 2 (2008): 58-64.

Andres Velasco, "Dependency theory." *Foreign Policy* 133 (2002): 44.

July 24

Theories of Foreign Policy: Bureaucratic, Organizational, and Psychological Approaches

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

James Goldgeier and Philip Tetlock. 2001. "Psychology and International Relations Theory," *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 4, pp. 67-92.

July 25

Mid-term Exam

Week 4 (July 29-August 1)

Part 3 - International History

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July 29 **World War I & World War II**
Keir A. Lieber, "The new history of World War I and what it means for international relations theory." *International Security* 32, no. 2 (2007): 155-191.

Woodrow Wilson, "The Fourteen Points," Address to the U.S. Congress, January 8, 1918.

July 30 **Cold War**

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.

William Wohlforth. 1998. "Reality Check: Revising Theories of International Politics in Response to the End of the Cold War," *World Politics*, Vol. 50, No. 4, pp. 650-680

Part 4 - International Political Economy

July 31 **The International Economic System**

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

Helen Milner. 1998. "International Political Economy: Beyond Hegemonic Stability," *Foreign Policy*, No. 110, pp. 112-123.

August 1 **Globalization and Development**

Jeffrey Frankel, "Globalization of the Economy" (A&J, pp. 242-255)

Pankaj Ghemawat, "Why the World Isn't Flat" (A&J, pp. 256-260)

Arvind Subramanian, "The Inevitable Superpower: Why China's Dominance Is a Sure Thing" (A&J 467-473)

Week 5 (August 5-8)

Part 5 - Global Governance

August 5 **International Law and Human Rights**

Rhoda E. Howard and Jack Donnelly, "Human Rights in World Politics" (A&J, pp. 362-372)

Gareth Evans and Mohamed Sahnoun. 2002. "The Responsibility to Protect." *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 81, No. 6, pp. 99-110.

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August 6

International Environmental Politics

Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons" (A&J, pp. 501-506)

Alan Dupont, "Strategic Implications of Climate Change" (A&J, pp. 459-466)

August 7

WMD and Nuclear Proliferation

Matthew Kroenig, "Think Again: American Nuclear Disarmament," *Foreign Policy* (September/October 2013)

Scott D. Sagan, "The perils of proliferation: Organization theory, deterrence theory, and the spread of nuclear weapons." *International Security* 18, no. 4 (1994): 66-107.

August 8

Conclusion: Simulation Exercise (Final Papers are due)

Simulation Exercise – Students will be asked to react to a hypothetical international situation. The outcome of the exercise will then be assessed by the entire class based on the IR theories learnt during the course.