

PLSC 685 Theories in International Relations

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Yale University, Fall 2012

M 3:30 PM - 5:20 PM; Location: RKZ 02

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Office Hours: Monday 1:30-3 pm

- **Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to the major concepts and theories in the field of International Relations (IR). By the end of the course, you should be familiar with some of the major debates in the field, and be comfortable using IR concepts and theories to understand and explain events in international politics. The course is a reading-intensive seminar, and the weekly meetings will be structured around student-led presentations and discussions of the assigned readings for the week. The student presentations should build on the main arguments in the readings to raise questions for group discussion. All students should prepare notes on the readings, to enable discussion during class sessions. There are approximately 150-200 pages of required reading per week. The required readings are all available on-line through Yale Library's subscription to electronic databases such as JSTOR.
- **Requirements and Grading:** Grades for the course will be based on participation (30 %), midterm examination (20 %) and end-quarter examination (50 %). Participation consists of class attendance, completion of the readings, active participation in discussion, class presentations, and the submission of weekly discussion notes. Discussion notes are questions, comments, critiques, or examples that serve as notes for you to use in the class discussions. They need not be elaborate, they need not be typed or consist of full sentences, and they will not be graded. The midterm exam (20%) will be a take-home exam. It will consist of a 3-4 page essay that asks you to write on one of two questions. The final exam will ask you to complete two out of four questions in 5-7 pages total. Please format your exam submissions 12 pts, double-spaced.

Exams are open-book, individual work.

Course Outline and Syllabus

Week 1. Introduction

Introductory Remarks

Week 2. International Relations as a Discipline

Key Concepts: *Social Science, International Politics, Anarchy, Realism, World Society, Economic Interdependence*

Stephen M. Walt. International relations: One world, many theories. *Foreign Policy*, 110:5–21, 1998

Hedley Bull. *The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics*. Columbia, New York, 1977, pp 1-98.

John W. Meyer; John Boli; George M. Thomas; Francisco O. Ramirez “World Society and the Nation-State” *The American Journal of Sociology*, Volume 103, Issue 1 (Jul., 1997), 144-181.

Alexander Wendt. Anarchy is what states make of it. *International Organization*, 46:391–425, 1992

Week 3: Theorizing International Relations: War

Key Concepts:

War/Culture/Agents/Structures

Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chapter 13. Google books. <http://books.google.com/books?id=2oc6AAAAMAAJ&dq=leviathan%20hobbes&hl=En&pg=PA81#v=onepage&q=&f=false>

Kenneth Waltz. Anarchic orders and balances of power. In Robert Keohane, editor, *Neorealism and Its Critics*, pages 70–130. Columbia University Press, New York, 1986.

Walter LaFeber, “The Post September 11 Debate Over Empire, Globalization and Fragmentation” *Political Science Quarterly* 117 (1) Spring 2002: I-17.

Nuno Monteiro. Theory of unipolar politics, 2012. Mimeo, presented at book conference, Yale University, 2012, pp. 1-60

Week 4. Theorizing International Relations: War, Negotiations

Key Concepts:

War/Bargaining/Delegation

Kenneth N. Waltz, *Man, the State and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959): Excerpts.

Mearsheimer, John. 2001. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. NY: Norton. Chapters 1-2.

James Fearon. Rationalist explanations for war. *International Organization*, 49(3):379–414, 1995

Robert D. Putnam. Diplomacy and domestic politics: The logic of two-level games. *International Organization*, 42(3):427–460, 1988

Week 5. Regimes, Leaders and War

Key Concepts:

Domestic Political Audiences/Leaders/War

James Fearon. Domestic political audiences and the escalation of international disputes. *American Political Science Review*, 88(3):577–592, 1994

Michael Tomz. Domestic audience costs in international relations: An experimental approach. *International Organization*, 61:821–840, 2007.

Jessica Lea Weeks. Autocratic audience costs: Regime type and signaling resolve. *International Organization*, 62:35–64, 2008.

Daniel L. Byman and Kenneth M. Pollack, “Let Us Now Praise Great Men: Bringing the Statesman Back In” in *International Security* 25 (4) Spring 2001 107-146.

Week 6 More on War and Terrorism

D.A. Lake. Anarchy, hierarchy, and the variety of international relations. *International Organization*, 50(01):1–33, 1996

Keren Yarhi-Milo (Princeton), 2010, In the Eye of the Beholder: Leaders, Intelligence, and the Adversary's Intentions, Mimeo

Pape, Robert. 2006. Dying To Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism. Random House, New York: excerpts.

Christopher Gelpi (Duke University) and Nazli Avdan (Oxford University), 2010, "The Multilateral Flow of Transnational Terrorism, 1968-2007", Mimeo

Week 7 Ties That Bind? Economic Interdependence, Democracy and War

Key Concepts: *Trade/Liberalism/Organizations/War*

Immanuel Kant. 1795. Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch. <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/kant/kant1.htm>

John R. Oneal and Bruce M. Russett. "The Classical Liberals Were Right: Democracy, Interdependence, and Conflict, 1950-1985" *International Studies Quarterly*, Volume 41, Issue 2 (June, 1997), 267-293.

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder. Democratization and the danger of war. *International Security*, 20(1):5-38, 1995

E. Gartzke. The capitalist peace. *American Journal of Political Science*, 51(1):166-191, 2007

A. Dafoe. Statistical critiques of the democratic peace: Caveat emptor. *American Journal of Political Science*, 55(2):247-262, 2011

MIDTERM

Week 8. Managing the Global Economy

Key Concepts: *International Finance/Trade Policy/Institutions*

Keohane, Robert O. After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984), pp. 5-135.

M. Tomz, J.L. Goldstein, and D. Rivers. Do we really know that the wto increases trade? comment. *The American Economic Review*, 97(5):2005-2018, 2007

M. Kim. Costly procedures: Divergent effects of legalization in the gatt/wto dispute settlement procedures. *International Studies Quarterly*, 52(3):657–686, 2008

Ruggie, John Gerard. 1998. Constructing the World Polity: Essays on International Institutionalization. New York: Routledge. pp 62-84.

Week 9. Managing the Global Economy, Continued

Key Concepts: *International Lending/Trade Policy/Institutions*

Bailey, Michael, Judith Goldstein, and Barry R. Weingast, “The Institutional Roots of American Trade Policy: Politics, Coalitions, and International Trade,” *World Politics* 49, no. 3 (April 1997): 309-338.

Kenneth Scheve and Matthew Slaughter. Labor market competition and individual preferences over immigration policy. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 83:133–145, 2001

J. Lawrence Broz and Michael Brewster Hawes. Congressional politics of financing the international monetary fund. *International Organization*, 60:367–399, 2006

Week 10. Governance Without The State: Regulatory Regimes, International Law, Grass-Root Movements

Key Concepts: *International Regimes/Environment/Human Rights/IMF*

Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders: Networks in International Politics* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998): 1-38.

Daniel Thomas. 1999. “The Helsinki Accords and Political Change in Eastern Europe” in *The Power of Human Rights: International Norms and Domestic Change* edited by Thomas Risse, Stephen C. Ropp, Kathryn Sikkink, Steve C. Ropp (Cambridge University Press) pp. 205-234.

Beth Simmons. International law and state behavior: Commitment and compliance in international monetary affairs. *American Political Science Review*, 94(4):819–835, 2000

Jana von Stein. Do treaties constrain or screen? selection bias and treaty compliance. *American Political Science Review*, 99:611–622, 2005

Week 11. The “New” Violence: Civil War and Intervention

Key Concepts: *Intervention/Civil War/Terrorism/Failed States*

Fearon, James and David Laitin. 2003. “Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War.” *American Political Science Review* 97:75-90.

Stephen Krasner. Troubled societies, outlaw states, and gradations of sovereignty. Manuscript, Stanford University, 2002

James Fearon and David Laitin. Neotrusteeship and the problem of weak states. *International Security*, 28:5–43, 2004

Jason Lyall. Do democracies make inferior counterinsurgents? reassessing democracy’s impact on war outcomes and duration. *International Organization*, 64(01):167–192, 2010

Week 12

Key Concepts: *Intervention*

Michael Doyle and Nicholas Sambanis. *Making War and Building Peace: United Nations Peace Operations*. Princeton, Princeton, NJ, 2006 pp. 1-23 and pp. 69-138.

M. Barnett. Evolution without progress? humanitarianism in a world of hurt. *international Organization*, 63(4):621–663, 2009

Michael Barnett and Martha Finnemore. The politics, power, and pathologies of international organizations. *International Organization*, 53(4):699–732, 1999

Week 13. International Relations at the Turn of a Century: Some New Paradigms, Plenty of New Actors, and the Coming Anti-American Revolt

Key Concepts: *Culture Clash/Terrorism/New Deterrence*

Samuel P. Huntington, “Clash of Civilizations” *Foreign Affairs* 72 (3) Summer 1993: 22-49.

Doyle, Michael. 2007. Anticipatory Self-Defense. Tanner Lectures 1 and 2.

Richard Jordan et al, 2009, “One discipline or many? Trip survey of international relations faculty in ten countries”, Mimeo

FINAL EXAM:

The final exam is taken over a 24 hour period, where the download time is determined by you, within the limits set by exam week - upload to classesv2 when done, no later than 24 hrs after initial download.