

Introduction to International Relations

POL S 521

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Winter 2015

Class Time: Thursday, 1:30-4:20 p.m.
Class Location: Mary Gates Hall 097
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Course Objective

This is a core course for doctoral students seeking to specialize in the International Relations subfield. My objective is to expose you to important concepts, themes, and debates in this subfield. This would allow you to assess the state of the art and identify specific issues you wish to examine in more depth in your own work. Importantly, this course seeks to prepare you for the IR comprehensive exam.

Readings

I will assign six articles for every session. The PDFs of these articles are available via Canvas.

Course Expectations

This doctoral seminar requires active student participation. You are expected to energetically and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions and to the collective learning processes.

Student Presentations

For every session, students will present and critique the assigned articles. The discussant-presenter is expected to prepare a two page (single-spaced) summary and critique of article, and email it to the class by Thursday, 9:00 am.

How to structure your article memo? Assume a prominent journal has requested you to review the assigned article. Share your evaluation of the article with the class. The discussant-presenter should budget about 10-15 minutes for the in-class presentation. To minimize transaction costs, I will assign articles.

I strongly recommend that you save all the memos generated in this course because they will be very helpful in preparing for the IR comprehensive exam.

Class Participation

To have a meaningful discussion, please review all readings prior to the class. Those not assigned to present any reading should email a 2-3 discussion questions. This one page "Discussion Questions" memo should reach me by Thursday, 9:00 am. Please provide short discussion on how your questions relate to the theoretical or empirical issues raised in the assigned readings. You are encouraged to relate these readings to articles/books you may have reviewed in other seminars. As scholars you must learn to cumulate knowledge: drawing connections with readings in different seminars is therefore a very good exercise.

Research Proposal

A five page (single-spaced) research proposal is due March 12. Treat this as a first cut for a grant proposal or your MA/PhD proposal. One page proposal outline is due February 26. The research proposal could be structured as follows:

- Research Puzzle: What is the central issue you want to study and why is it theoretically important? It might be helpful to identify your dependent variable(s), independent variable(s), and the logic connecting the two.
- Research Context: How does your topic speak to the IR literature? What are relevant concepts or models? What are the research contributions?
- Research Design: What is the appropriate research strategy to examine your research puzzle? What are your hypotheses? Are they falsifiable? What are your data requirements? How would you analyze and interpret the data?
- Contributions: What new theoretical insights your research is expected to provide? What are the implications for future IR research?

Evaluation

Article critique:	30 points
Key questions memos	30 points
Class participation:	20 points
Research proposal:	20 points

Class Schedule

Session 1, January 8

World Politics and International Relations: An Introduction

- Kenneth Waltz. 1988. The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 18(4).
- Robert Cox. 1981. Social Forces, States and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 10(2): 126-155.
- David Lake. 1996. Anarchy, Hierarchy and the Variety of International Relations. *International Organization*, 50(1): 1-33.
- Alexander Wendt. 1992. Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics. *International Organization*, 46 (Spring): 391-425.
- Kenneth Waltz. 2000. Structural Realism after the Cold War. *International Security*, 25(1).
- Calvert Jones. 2014. Exploring the Microfoundations of International Community: Toward a Theory of Enlightened Nationalism. *International Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming.

Session 2, January 15

Cooperation under Anarchy

- Robert Jervis. 1978. Cooperation under the Security Dilemma. *World Politics*, 30: 167-214.
- Robert Axelrod. 1981. The Emergence of Cooperation among Egoists. *The American Political Science Review*, 75(2).
- Joanne Gowa. 1989. Rational Hegemons, Excludable Goods, and Small Groups: An Epitaph for Hegemonic Stability Theory? *World Politics*, 41(3).
- Stephan Krasner. 1991. Global Communications and National Power: Life on the Pareto Frontier. *World Politics*, 43(3): 336-366.
- Jack Levy. 1997. Prospect Theory, Rational Choice, and International Relations. *International Studies Quarterly*, 41(1): 87-112.
- Terry Moe. 2005. Power and Political Institutions. *Perspectives on Politics*, 3(2): 215-233.

Session 3, January 22

Regimes and international institutions

- Stephan Haggard and Beth A. Simmons. 1987. Theories of International Regimes. *International Organization*, 41(3).
- Kenneth Abbott and Duncan Snidal 2000. Hard and Soft Law in International Governance. *International Organization*, 54: 421-456.
- Barbara Koremenos, Charles Lipson and Duncan Snidal. 2001. The Rational Design of International Institutions. *International Organization*, 55: 761-799.
- Judith Kelley. 2004. International Actors on the Domestic Scene: Membership Conditionality and Socialization by International Institutions. *International Organization*, 58(3): 425-457.
- Sara McLaughlin Mitchell and P. Hensel. 2007. International Institutions and Compliance with Agreements. *American Journal of Political Science*, 51: 721-737.
- James Vreeland. 2008. Political Institutions and Human Rights: Why Dictatorships enter into the United Nations Convention Against Torture. *International Organization*, 62(1): 65-101.

Session 4, January 29

International Organizations

- Michael Barnett and Martha Finnemore. 1999. The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations. *International Organization*, 53: 699-732.
- Daniel Nielson and Michael Tierney. 2003. Delegation to International Organizations: Agency Theory and World Bank. Environmental Reform. *International Organization*, 57(2): 241-276.
- Alexander Thompson. 2006. Coercion through IOs: The Security Council and the Logic of Information Transmission. *International Organization*, 60(1): 1-34.
- Julia Gray. 2009. International Organization as a Seal of Approval. *American Journal of Political Science*, 53(4): 931-49.
- Alexandru Grigorescu. 2010. The Spread of Bureaucratic Oversight Mechanisms across Intergovernmental Organizations. *International Studies Quarterly*, 54: 871-886.

- Jonas Tallberg, Thomas Sommerer, Theresa Squatrito and Christer Jönsson. 2014. Explaining the Transnational Design of International Organizations. *International Organization*, 68: 741-774.

Session 5: February 5

Inter-State Conflict

- James Fearon. 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization*, 49: 379-414.
- Dan Reiter and Allan Stam. 1998. Democracy, War Initiation, and Victory. *The American Political Science Review*, 92(2): 377-389.
- Brett Ashley Leeds. 2003. Do Military Alliances Deter Aggression? The Influence of Military Alliances on the Initiation of Militarized Interstate Disputes. *American Journal of Political Science*, 47(3): 427-39
- M. Crescenzi. 2007. Reputation and Interstate Conflict. *American Journal of Political Science*, 51: 382–396.
- David Lake. 2010. Two Cheers for Bargaining Theory: Assessing Rationalist Explanations of the Iraq War. *International Security*. 35(3): 7-52.
- Jeff D. Colgan and Jessica L.P. Weeks. 2014. Revolution, Personalist Dictatorships, and International Conflict. *International Organization*, forthcoming.

Session 6: February 12

Why Peace?

- David Lake. 1992. Powerful Pacifists: Democratic States and War. *American Political Science Review*, 86(01): 24-37.
- John O'Neal and Bruce Russett. 1999. The Kantian peace: The Pacific Benefits of Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations, 1885–1992. *World Politics*, 52(1): 1-37.
- Michael Doyle and Nicholas Sambanis. 2000. International Peacebuilding: A Theoretical and Quantitative Analysis. *American Political Science Review*, 779-801.
- Virginia Page Fortna. 2003. Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace. *International Organization*, 57(2): 337-72.
- Erik Gartzke. The Capitalist Peace. 2007. *American Journal of Political Science*, 51(1):166-191.

- Jeff Carter and Glenn Palmer. 2014. Keeping the Schools Open While the Troops are Away: Regime Type, Interstate War, and Government Spending. *International Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming.

February 17

No Class (Make up session will be scheduled)

Session 7, February 26

Civil Wars

- James Fearon and David Laitin. 2003. Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War. *American Political Science Review*, 97(1): 75-90.
- Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. 2004. Greed and Grievance in Civil War. *Oxford Economic Papers*, 56: 563-95.
- James Fearon. 2004. Why do Some Civil Wars Last so Much Longer than Others?. *Journal of Peace Research*, 41(3): 275-301.
- Miguel, Edward, Shanker Satyanath, and Ernest Sergenti. 2004. Economic Shocks and Civil Conflict: An Instrumental Variables Approach. *Journal of Political Economy*, 112(4): 725-753.
- Philip Roessler. 2011. The Enemy Within: Personal Rule, Coups, and Civil War in Africa. *World Politics*, 63: 300-346.
- Benjamin Bagozzi. 2014. On Malaria and the Duration of Civil War. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, forthcoming.

Session 8, March 5

Domestic and International Interactions

- Robert Putnam. 1988. Diplomacy and Domestic Politics. *International Organization*, 42(3): 427-460.
- Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. International Norm Dynamics and Political Change. *International Organization*, 52(4): 887-917.
- Zachary Elkins and Beth Simmons. 2004. The Globalization of Liberalization: Policy Diffusion in the International Political Economy. *American Political Science Review*, 98: 171-190.

- Laurence R. Helfer and Erik Voeten. 2014. International Courts as Agents of Legal Change: Evidence from LGBT Rights in Europe . *International Organization*, 68: 77-110.
- Michael Aklin and Johannes Urpelainen. 2014. The Global Spread of Environmental Ministries: Domestic–International Interactions. *International Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- Susan D. Hyde and Nikolay Marinov. 2014.. Information and Self-Enforcing Democracy: The Role of International Election Observation. *International Organization*, 68: 329-359.

Session 9: March 12

Non-State Actors

- Alexander Cooley and James Ron. 2002. The NGO Scramble: Organizational Insecurity and the Political Economy of Transnational Action. *International Security*, 27: 5–39.
- Susan Sell and Aseem Prakash. 2004. Using Ideas Strategically. *International Studies Quarterly*, 48(1): 143-175.
- Michael Findley, Daniel Nielson and J.C. Sharman. 2013. Using Field Experiments in International Relations: A Randomized Study of Anonymous Incorporation. *International Organization*, 67: 657-693.
- Benjamin Brake and Peter Katzenstein. 2013. Lost in Translation? Nonstate Actors and the Transnational Movement of Procedural Law. *International Organization*, 67: 725-757.
- Moonhawk Kim, Amy Liu, Kim-Lee Tuxhorn, David S. Brown and David Leblang. 2014. Lingua Mercatoria: Language and Foreign Direct Investment. *International Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- Sonal Pandya. 2014. Democratization and Foreign Direct Investment Liberalization, 1970–2000. *International Studies Quarterly*, 58(3): 475-488.

Session 10, Date to be decided (Make up class for Feb 16)

Environmental, Labor and Human Rights

- Brian Greenhill, Layna Mosley, and Aseem Prakash. 2009. Trade and Labor Rights: A Panel Study, 1986-2002. *American Political Science Review*. 103(4): 669-690.

- Hunjoon Kim and Kathryn Sikkink. 2010. Explaining the Deterrence Effect of Human Rights Prosecutions for Transitional Countries. *International Studies Quarterly*, 54: 939–963.
- Amanda Murdie and David Davis. 2012. Shaming and Blaming: Using Events Data to Assess the Impact of Human Rights INGOs. *International Studies Quarterly*, 56(1): 1-16.
- Aseem Prakash and Matthew Potoski. 2014. Global Private Regimes, Domestic Public Law: ISO 14001 and Pollution Reduction. *Comparative Political Studies*, 47(3): 369 – 394.
- Peksen Dursun, Timothy Peterson and A. Cooper Drury. 2014. Media-driven Humanitarianism? News Media Coverage of Human Rights Abuses and the Use of Economic Sanctions. *International Studies Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- Eilstrup-Sangiovanni Mette and Teale Phelps Bondaroff. 2014. From Advocacy to Confrontation: Direct Enforcement by Environmental NGOs. *International Studies Quarterly*, 58(2): 348-361.

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