

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
030:260, SPRING 2006
T 2:30 – 5:20 PM, 337 SH

INSTRUCTOR:

Professor Sara McLaughlin Mitchell
307 SH
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Http: www.saramitchell.org
Office Hours: Monday 2-4pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to familiarize you with many of the broad themes and theoretical approaches in the international relations research literature, including Realism, Neorealism, Liberalism, Neoliberal Institutionalism, Rational Choice, Constructivism, the English School, Feminism, and Post-Structuralism. We will try to understand the development of the field of international relations, recognizing common themes and unresolved questions, learning how to evaluate arguments. This class will give you a broad theoretical grounding in the IR literature, which will prove extremely useful when you take other courses in the field of international relations, and when you take your preliminary exams.

REQUIRED TEXTS (Available at Iowa Bookstore or other online bookstores):

Axelrod, Robert. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation*. Basic Books.

Baldwin, David A. 1993. *Neorealism and Neoliberalism*. Columbia University Press.

Bull, Hedley. 2002. *The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics, Third Edition*. London: Macmillan.

Katzenstein, Peter J. (ed). 1996. *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Keohane, Robert O. 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton University Press.

Keohane, Robert O. 1986. *Neorealism and Its Critics*. Columbia University Press.

Lake, David A. and Robert Powell. 1999. *Strategic Choice and International Relations*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Tickner, J. Ann. 2001. *Gendering World Politics*. Columbia University Press.

Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Recommended Texts (These books provide general surveys of the field):

- Brecher, Michael and Frank P. Harvey. 2002. *Millennial Reflections on International Studies* (4 volumes). Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Carlsnaes, Walter, Thomas Risse, and Beth A. Simmons. 2002. *Handbook of International Relations*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Dougherty, James E. and Robert L. Pfaltzgraff Jr. 2001. *Contending Theories of International Relations, Fifth Edition*. New York: Longman.
- Viotti, Paul R. and Mark V. Kauppi. 1999. *International Relations Theory: Realism, Pluralism, Globalism, and Beyond, Third Edition*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Your final grade will be determined based on your performance on seminar papers, class attendance and participation, and a final exam.

1) Class Participation and Attendance (15%)

The quality of a graduate level seminar depends to a large extent on the efforts of the students. I expect that you will come to class each week prepared to discuss the required readings. Obviously it is impossible to participate in a seminar discussion if you are not in attendance. I expect no absences in the course, and I encourage you to discuss any circumstances with me that will preclude you from attending class. Given that 65% of your grade (participation and weekly papers) is related to the weekly readings, it is obviously essential to complete the readings each and every week!

2) Seminar papers (50%)

You should prepare a five page typed double-spaced essay reviewing and critiquing assigned weekly readings. You are required to write a total of 7 essays throughout the semester. I will hand out a sign-up sheet on the first day of class; please choose the topics you would like to write on. I will drop your lowest paper grade. The papers will be due in my mailbox (341 SH) by 12:00pm the same day as our class meeting. **I will not accept late papers under any circumstances.** Your final paper grade will be deducted by a half letter grade for any paper(s) that you do not complete.

When writing your essay (and in preparation for class), keep in mind the following points:

- a) What is the research question?
- b) What is the researcher's theoretical argument? What assumptions underlie this theory?
- c) Is the theory interesting? How does the argument fit into the literature? What does it tell us that we don't already know?
- d) Evaluation of the theory:
 - If the theory is tested, what consequences are tested, how are concepts measured, and what methods are used? Do these make sense?
 - Is there any evidence (other than anecdotal) that supports the theory? Is there evidence that falsifies it? What might you expect to see that would make you think the theory might be 'wrong'? Does the author provide you with enough of a structure to say this? In other words, is the theory falsifiable?

- e) What conclusions does the researcher draw? Does the researcher fully examine the implications of the theory? What are the most significant research findings?
- f) To what degree do you think the researcher has answered his/her question? Is this a good example of research? Why or why not? What are the possibilities for related research? How can the research be extended or applied elsewhere?
- g) How do the selections we read this week fit together? How do they fit into the course as a whole? Are we seeing progress in this research area? It will be difficult to review everything we read in any detail in a five page essay, thus you should focus on common themes and arguments and/or points of contention.

3) Final Exam (35%)

I will distribute the final exam on the last day of class, May 2nd. The exam consists of two components: a take-home written exam and an oral exam. The written exam will be similar in format to the doctoral preliminary exams administered in the Political Science department. The written exam will include a total of 4 questions, and you will be required to answer two questions, in no more than ten pages per question. The written portion of the exam will be due in my mailbox on Monday, May 8th by 12:00pm (noon). Each student will be required to sign up for a one-hour time slot for their oral exam during final exam week (May 9th – May 12th), and this will be conducted in my office 307 SH. The oral exam may cover any readings assigned in class.

CLASS SCHEDULE

A master copy of the required readings (except books, marked with asterisk) will be available in my office (including those available on JSTOR). Check out the readings from me, please make a copy, and return them to me (or print them on your own). Many of the readings are available electronically (through JSTOR or other library sources); search for the journal title in the University of Iowa Libraries Catalog.

Week #1 (January 17th): Epistemology: How Should We Study International Relations?

- Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*, Chapter 1 (“Laws and Theories”). This is reprinted in Keohane, Robert O. 1986. *Neorealism and Its Critics*. Columbia University Press, pages 27-46.
- *Bull, Hedley. 1966. “International Theory: The Case for a Classical Approach.” *World Politics*, 28(3): 361-376. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Singer, J. David. 1970. “The Incomplete Theorist: Insight without Evidence.” In Klaus Knorr and James N. Rosenau (eds.), *Contending Approaches to International Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- *Dessler, David. 1991. “Beyond Correlations: Toward a Causal Theory of War.” *International Studies Quarterly*, 35(3): 337-355. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Zinnes, Dina A. 1980. “Three Puzzles in Search of a Researcher.” *International Studies Quarterly*, 24: 315-342. (Available on JSTOR)

Week #2 (January 24th): Realism and Neorealism

- Keohane, Robert O. 1986. *Neorealism and Its Critics*. Columbia University Press. Chapters 1, 3-7 (Note: Chapters 2-5 reprint Chapters 1 & 4-6 in Waltz, Kenneth N. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*. New York: McGraw-Hill.)
- *Waltz, Kenneth N. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*. Chapter 8 (pp. 161-193). New York: McGraw-Hill.
- *Gilpin, Robert. 1988. "The Theory of Hegemonic War." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 18 (Spring): 591-614. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Mearsheimer, John J. 2001. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. New York: Norton. Pages 1-54.

Week #3 (January 31st): Neoliberal Institutional Challenges

- Keohane, Robert O. 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-6
- Axelrod, Robert. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation*. Basic Books. Chapters 1-4, 6-7
- *Axelrod, Robert and Robert O. Keohane. 1985. "Achieving Cooperating Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions." *World Politics*, 38(1): 226-254.

Week #4 (February 7th): Neoliberal Institutional Challenges II

- Baldwin, David A. 1993. *Neorealism and Neoliberalism*. Columbia University Press. Chapters 1, 5-8, 11-12 (pp.3-25, 116-233, 269-338)
- *Mearsheimer, John J. 1994-95. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security*, 19(3): 5-49. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa L. Martin. 1995. "The Promise of Institutional Theory." *International Security*, 20(1): 39-51. (Available on JSTOR)

Week #5 (February 14th): Liberalism and Morality in World Politics

- *Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics." *International Organization*, 51(4): 513-553.
- *Zacher, Mark W. and Richard A. Matthew. 1995. "Liberal International Theory: Common Threads, Divergent Strands." Pages 107-150 in Charles E. Kegley, ed., *Controversies in International Relations Theory*. New York: St. Martins Press.
- *Doyle, Michael W. 1986. "Liberalism and World Politics." *American Political Science Review*, 80(4): 1151-1169. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York: W.W. Norton, Chapters 1-2.
- *Morgenthau, Hans J. 1967. *Politics Among Nations*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. Chapter 16 (pp. 236-263)
- *Kegley, Charles W. Jr. and Gregory A. Raymond. *When Trust Breaks Down: Alliance Norms and World Politics*. University of South Carolina Press. Chapter 2 (pp. 28-40)

Week #6 (February 21st): Radical Approaches/Post-Structuralism

- Keohane, Robert O. 1986. *Neorealism and Its Critics*. Columbia University Press. Chapters 8-10 (pp. 204-321).
- Viotti, Paul R. and Mark V. Kauppi. 1999. *International Relations Theory: Realism, Pluralism, Globalism, and Beyond, Third Edition*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. Chapter 4, pp. 341-364 (“Globalism: Dependency and the Capitalist World-System”)
- *Lapid, Yosef. 1989. "The Third Debate: On the Prospects of International Theory in a Post-Positivist Era." *International Studies Quarterly*, 33(3): 235-254. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Smith, Steve. 1999. “Positivism and Beyond.” Pp. 38-54 in Paul R. Viotti and Mark V. Kauppi (eds.), *International Relations Theory: Realism, Pluralism, Globalism, and Beyond, Third Edition*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- *Harvey, Frank P. and Michael Brecher (eds.). 2002. *Critical Perspectives in International Studies*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp. 27-44 (Smith), 56-77 (Cox)

Week #7 (February 28th): The English School

- Bull, Hedley. 2002. *The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics, Third Edition*. London: Macmillan. Parts 1 and 2, pages 3-222.
- *Dunne, Tim. 1999. “A British School of International Relations.” Pp. 395-424 in Jack Hayward, Brian Barry, and Archie Brown (eds.), *The British Study of Politics in the Twentieth Century*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Week #8 (March 7th): Constructivism I

- Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Week #9 (March 14th): Spring Break

Week #10 (March 21st): No class, International Studies Association Meeting

Week #11 (March 28th): Constructivism II

- Peter J. Katzenstein (ed). 1996. *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*, New York: Columbia University Press. Chapters 2 (Jepperson, Wendt, and Katzenstein), 4 (Price and Tannenwald), 7 (Johnston), 10 (Risse-Kappen), and 12 (Kowert and Legro).
- *Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. “International Norm Dynamics and Political Change.” *International Organization*, 52(4): 887-917.
- *Mitchell, Sara McLaughlin. 2002. “A Kantian System? Democracy and Third Party Conflict Resolution.” *American Journal of Political Science*, October, 46(4): 749-759.

Week #12 (April 4th): Feminism

- Tickner, J. Ann. 2001. *Gendering World Politics*. Columbia University Press.

- *Goldstein, Joshua S. 2001. *War and Gender*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pages 34-57.
- *Murphy, Craig N. 1996. "Seeing Women, Recognizing Gender, Recasting International Relations." *International Organization*, 50(3): 513-538. (Available on JSTOR)

Week #13 (April 11th): Rational Choice & Prospect Theory

- *Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 1981. *The War Trap*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. Chapters 1-2 (pp. 1-45)
- Lake, David A. and Robert Powell. 1999. *Strategic Choice and International Relations*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-3, 7 (pp. 3-114, 197-228)
- *Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization*, 49(3): 379-414. (Available on JSTOR)
- *McDermott, Rose. 2001. *Risk-Taking in International Politics*. Chapter 2 (pages 15-44).
- *Walt, Stephen M. 1999. "Rigor or Rigor Mortis? Rational Choice and Security Studies" *International Security* 23(4): 5-48.

Week #14 (April 18th): Foreign Policy & the Agent-Structure Debate

- *Allison, Graham T. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review*, 63(3): 689-718. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Bendor, Jonathan and Thomas H. Hammond. 1992. "Rethinking Allison's Models." *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 86, No. 2. pp. 301-322. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Fearon, James D. 1998. "Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy, and Theories of International Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 1: 289-313. Palo Alto, CA: Annual Reviews. (Available at www.annualreviews.org)
- *Baldwin, David A. 2000. "Success and Failure in Foreign Policy." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 3: 167-182. Palo Alto, CA: Annual Reviews. (Available at www.annualreviews.org)
- *Putnam, Robert D. 1988. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games." *International Organization*, 42(3): 427-460. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Wendt, Alexander. 1987. "The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory." *International Organization*, 41: 335-370. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Dessler, David. 1989. "What's at Stake in the Agent-Structure Debate?" *International Organization*, 43(3): 441-473. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Carlsnaes, Walter. 1992. "The Agency-Structure Problem in Foreign Policy Analysis." *International Studies Quarterly*, 36(3): 245-270. (Available on JSTOR)

Week #15 (April 25th): Comparing Approaches: The Democratic Peace

- *Maoz, Zeev. and Bruce Russett. 1993. "Normative and Structural Causes of Democratic Peace, 1946-1986." *American Political Science Review*, 87(3): 624-638. (Available on JSTOR)

- *Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, James D. Morrow, Randolph M. Siverson, and Alastair Smith. 1999. "An Institutional Explanation of the Democratic Peace." *American Political Science Review*, 93(4): 791-807.
- *Huntley, Wade L. 1996. "Kant's Third Image: Systemic Sources of the Liberal Peace." *International Studies Quarterly*, 40(1): 45-76. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Peceny, Mark. 1997. "A Constructivist Interpretation of the Liberal Peace: The Ambiguous Case of the Spanish-American War." *Journal of Peace Research*, 34(4): 415-430. (Available on JSTOR)
- *Caprioli, Mary. 2000. "Gendered Conflict." *Journal of Peace Research*, 37(1): 51-68.
- *Farber, Henry S. and Joanne Gowa. 1995. "Politics and Peace." *International Security*, 20(2): 123-146. (Available on JSTOR)

Week #16 (May 2nd): Reflections, Comparisons, and Evaluations of IR Theories

- *Katzenstein, Peter J., Robert O. Keohane, and Stephen D. Krasner. 1998. "International Organization and the Study of World Politics." *International Organization*, 52(4): 645-685
- *Fearon, James D. and Alexander Wendt. 2002. "Rationalism v. Constructivism: A Skeptical View." Pp. 52-72 in Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse, and Beth A. Simmons (eds.), *Handbook of International Relations*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- *Legro, Jeffrey W. and Andrew Moravcsik. 1999. "Is Anybody Still a Realist?" *International Security* 24 (2): 5-55.
- *Waever, Ole. 1998. "The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline: American and European Developments in International Relations." *International Organization*, 52(4): 687-727.
- *Zalewski, Marysia. 2002. "Feminism and/in International Relations: An Exhausted Conversation? Or Feminists Doing International Relations: The Cut(ing) Edge of Contemporary Critical Theory and Practice?" Pp. 201-216 in Frank P. Harvey and Michael Brecher (eds.). *Critical Perspectives in International Studies*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- *Lake, David A. 2002. "Progress in International Relations: Beyond Paradigms in the Study of Institutions." Pp. 135-152 in Frank P. Harvey and Michael Brecher (eds.). *Realism and Institutionalism in International Studies*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- *Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 2002. "Accomplishments and Limitations of a Game-Theoretic Approach to International Relations." Pp. 59-80 in Frank P. Harvey and Michael Brecher (eds.), *Evaluating Methodology in International Studies*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

**The Political Science Department of The University of Iowa
Professor Michael Lewis-Beck, Chair, 341 Schaeffer Hall, 335-2358**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Instructors will make reasonable accommodations for students with physical, mental or learning disabilities. Students with disabilities which may require some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements are to inform the instructor (after class or during the instructor's office hours) so that appropriate arrangements may be made.

It is the student's responsibility to contact Student Disability Services, 3100 Burge Hall (335-1462) and obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request form (SAAR). The form will specify what course accommodations are judged reasonable for that student. An instructor who cannot provide the accommodations specified, or has concerns about the accommodations, must contact the Student Disability Services counselor who signed the request form within 48 hours of receiving the form from the student.

DEPARTMENTAL/COLLEGIATE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

A student who has a complaint against any member of the college's teaching staff is responsible for following the procedures described in the Student Academic Handbook, which is available on the web site of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml/. The student should attempt to resolve the issue with the faculty member or teaching assistant involved. Lacking a satisfactory outcome, the student can turn to the department chair, whose name is listed above along with contact information. (If the complaint concerns a teaching assistant, the student should contact the supervising faculty member first.) If a satisfactory outcome still is not obtained, the student can turn to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Complaints may concern inappropriate faculty conduct (including inappropriate course materials), incompetence in oral communication, inequities in assignments, scheduling of examinations at other than authorized and published times, failure to provide disability accommodations, or grading grievances. In complaints involving the assignment of grades, it is college policy that grades cannot be changed without the permission of the department concerned.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

You are expected to be honest and honorable in your fulfillment of assignments and in test-taking situations. Plagiarism and cheating are serious forms of academic misconduct. Examples of them are given in the Student Academic Handbook: www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml. The department of Political Science works with individual instructors to detect plagiarism and cheating and to ensure that appropriately serious punishments are applied. An instructor who suspects a student of plagiarism or cheating must inform the student (preferably in writing) as soon as possible after the incident has been observed or discovered. Instructors who detect cheating or plagiarism may decide, in consultation with the departmental executive officer, to reduce the student's grade on the assignment or the course, even to assign an F. The instructor writes an account of the chronology of the plagiarism or cheating incident for the departmental executive officer who sends an endorsement of the written report of the case to Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A copy of the report will be sent to the student.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Your responsibilities to this class-and to your education as a whole-include attendance and participation. This syllabus details specific expectations the instructor may have about attendance and participation. You have a responsibility to help create a classroom environment where all may learn. At the most basic level, this means you will respect the other members of the class and the instructor and treat them with the courtesy you hope to receive in return.

ENROLLED COURSES OUTSIDE YOUR COLLEGE

Taking a course outside the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences means that class policies on matters such as requirements, grading, and sanctions for academic dishonesty are governed by the College where the course resides. Students wishing to add or drop this course after the official deadline must receive the approval of the Dean of that College. Details of the University policy of cross enrollments may be found at: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~provost/deos/crossenroll.doc>

PLUS-MINUS GRADING

All the department's instructors can append plus or minus grades to the letter grades they assign for the course. If the instructor does not specifically indicate in the syllabus that he or she will not assign pluses or minuses, students should assume that this form of grading will be used.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATION

For each semester hour of credit that a Political Science course carries, students should expect to spend approximately two hours per week outside of class preparing for class sessions. That is, in a three-credit-hour course, instructors design course assignments on the assumption that students will spend six hours per week in out-of-class preparation.

Please visit the Political Science Department's web site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~polisci/>. It is frequently updated with new events and procedures in our department, changes in the Schedule of Courses, plus TA and faculty office hours when available. You also may find current information on pre-advising and registration. Our Vernon Van Dyke Computing Facility (Political Science ITC) is located in room 21 Schaeffer Hall. Available hours are listed at our web site and also posted outside room 21.