

Political Science 740

Spring 2009

Seminar in International Relations

Professor: Dennis Pirages
dennis.pirages@unlv.edu

Office: WRI – B215

Hours: Mon. and Wed., 12:30 – 2:00; Tues. 3:00 – 5:00; and by appointment

Course Overview:

This Seminar is intended to be an introduction to key theoretical concerns in the field of international (global) relations. The goal of the Seminar is to explore how the field has evolved over time, the current research agenda, points of theoretical contention in the field, and the linkage among theory, practice, and issues in the contemporary world.

Grades and Requirements:

Participation (30%): You are expected to attend all seminars, prepare for them by reading assigned materials, and engage in lively discussion. You also will be expected to take responsibility for developing a discussion agenda of key issues raised by the reading materials and taking the lead in the seminar discussion on one occasion.

Written Assignments (70%): You will be required to complete two written assignments. The first (25%) is a 1500 word review essay that explores different perspectives on one of the course segments. The second (45%) is a research design or paper, which utilizes one or more of the theoretical perspectives explored in the course to address a contemporary research question or policy issue. This final paper should not be less than 5000 words in length.

Required Books:

Held and McGrew (2003) The Global Transformation Reader.
Ferguson and Mansbach (2004) Remapping Global Politics.
Mingst and Snyder (2007) Essential Readings in World Politics.
Hathaway and Koh (2003) Foundation of International Law and Politics.
Thompson (2001) Evolutionary Interpretations of World Politics.
Wendt (1999) Social Theory of International Politics.
Wallerstein (2005) The Modern World System in the Longue Duree.

Jan. 13: Introduction and Overview

Assignment: Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," in Essential Readings.
Chan (2002) "On Different Types of International Relations Scholarship,"
Journal of Peace Research.
North (1967) "Research Pluralism and the International Elephant,"
International Studies Quarterly.
Singer (1961) "The Level of Analysis Problem in International
Relations," World Politics.

Jan 20: The Realist Paradigm

Assignment: Morgenthau, "A Realist Theory," in Essential Readings.
Mearsheimer, "Anarchy and Struggle for Power," in Essential Readings.
Morgenthau, "The Balance of Power," in Essential Readings.
Waltz, "Theory of International Politics," in Foundations.
Waltz, Theory of International Politics. Chapter 1 (Google Scholar).
Waltz (2002) "Structural Realism after the Cold War," International
Security.
Kapstein (1995) "Is Realism Dead?" International Organization.
Vasquez (1997) "The Realist Paradigm," The American Political Science
Review.
Thucydides, "Melian Dialogue," in Essential Readings.

Additional Readings:

Bull (1977) The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics.
Waltz (1979) Theory of International Politics.
Waltz (1959) Man, the State and War.
Keohane (1986) Neorealism and Its Critics.
Mearsheimer (2001) The Tragedy of Great Power Politics.
Morgenthau (1985) Politics Among Nations.

Jan. 27: The Pluralist Paradigm and Linkage Politics

Assignment: Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics," in Essential Readings.
Keck and Sikkink, "Transnational Advocacy Networks in International
Politics," in Essential Readings.
Keohane, "Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge," in
Foundations.
Moravcsik, "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of
International Politics," in Foundations.
Gourevitch (1978) "The Second Image Reversed: The International
Sources of Domestic Politics," International Organization.
Garrett (1998) "Global Markets and National Politics," International
Organization.

Duffield (2007) “What are International Institutions?” International Studies Review.

Additional Readings:

Axelrod (1984) Evolution of Cooperation.
Keohane (1984) After Hegemony.
Baldwin (1993) Neorealism and Neoliberalism.
Keck and Sikkink (1998) Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics.
Rosenau and Czempiel (1992) Governance without Government: Order and Change in World Politics.
Keohane and Nye (1977) Power and Interdependence.

Feb. 3: World System Theory

Assignment: Wallerstein, ed., (2005) The Modern World System in the Longue Duree.
Wallerstein, “The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System,” in Essential Readings.
Galtung (1971) “A Structural Theory of Imperialism,” Journal of Peace Research.

Additional Readings:

Kapstein (2008) Economic Justice in an Unfair World.
Wallerstein (1974) The Modern World System I.
Chase-Dunn and Hall (1991) Core-Periphery Relations in Pre Capitalist Worlds.
Evans (1979) Dependent Development.
Tonelson (2000) The Race to the Bottom.

Feb. 10: Evolution and Cycles in Global Politics

Assignment: Thompson (2001) Evolutionary Interpretations of World Politics.
Thayer (2000) “Bringing in Darwin,” International Security.

Additional Readings:

Goldstein (1988) Long Cycles: Prosperity and War in the Modern Age.
Kennedy (1987) The Rise and Fall of Great Powers.
Olson (1982) The Rise and Decline of Nations.
Corning (2003) Nature’s Magic: Synergy in Evolution and the Fate of Humankind.
Diamond (2005) Collapse: How Societies Choose or Fail to Succeed.
Modelski, Devezas, and Thompson (2007) Globalization as Evolutionary Process.

Feb. 17: The Ecopolitical Perspective

- Assignment: Pirages (1977) "The Ecological Perspective in the Social Sciences," International Studies Quarterly.
Urdal (2007) "A Clash of Generations? Youth Bulges and Political Violence," International Studies Quarterly.
Nel and Righarts (2008) "Natural Disasters and the Risk of Violent Civil Conflict," International Studies Quarterly.
Friedman, "The First Law of Petropolitics," in Essential Readings.
Ross (2001) "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" World Politics.

Additional Readings:

- Kahl (2008), States, Scarcity and Civil Strife in the Developing World.
Hobhouse (1989) Forces of Change.
Deudney, (2008) Bounding Power: Republican Security Theory from the Polis to the Global Village.
Choucri (1993) Global Accord: Environmental Challenges and International Responses.
Pirages and Degeest (2004) Ecological Security: An Evolutionary Perspective on Globalization.
Homer Dixon (1999) Environment, Scarcity, and Violence.
Smith (2002) The Health of Nations.
Sprout and Sprout (1971) Toward a Politics of Planet Earth.
Klare (2001) Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict.

Feb.24 The Constructionist Perspective – Feminism

- Assignment: Wendt (1999) Social Theory of International Politics.
Locher and Prugl (2001) "Feminism and Constructivism," International Studies Quarterly.
Tickner, "Man, the State and War," in Essential Readings.
Ruggie, "What Makes the Work Hang Together," in Foundations.
Finnemore, "National Interests in International Security," in Foundations.
Parsons (2002) "Showing Ideas as Causes: The Origins of the European Union," International Organization.

Additional Readings:

- Ruggie (1998) Constructing the World Polity.
Onuf (1989) World of Our Making.
Lapid and Kratochwil (1996) The Return of Culture and Identity in International Relations Theory.
Finnemore (1996), National Interests and International Security.

March 3: International Political Economy

Assignment: Gilpin, "The Nature of Political Economy," in Essential Readings.
Milner, "Globalization, development and International Institution," in Essential Readings.
Raybendra and Sagger (2000) "Suggestions for the Creation of a New Financial Architecture," Development and Change.
Wade (2002) "US Hegemony and the World Bank: The Fight over People and Ideas," Review of International Political Economy.
Momani (2004) "American Politicization of the International Monetary Fund," Review of International Political Economy.
Woods and Lombardi (2006) "Uneven Patterns of Governance: How Developing Countries are Represented in the IMF," Review of International Political Economy.
Seabrock (2007) "Legitimizing Gaps in the World Economy: Explaining Sources of the IMF's Legitimacy Crisis," International Politics.
Rapkin and Strand (2006) "Reforming the IMF's Weighted Voting System," The World Economy.

Additional Readings:

Rosecrance (1986) The Rise of the Trading State.
Gilpin (2000) Challenge of Global Capitalism.
Cohen (2008) International Political Economy: An Intellectual History.
Barnett and Finnemore (2004) Rules for the World: International Organizations in Global Politics.
Tabb (2004) Economic Governance in the Age of Globalization.
Buirra (2006) Reforming the Governance of the IMF and World Bank.
Woods (2006) The Globalizers: The IMF, World Bank, and Their Borrowers.
Jensen (2008) Nation States and the Multinational Corporation.

March10: Explaining War and Conflict

Assignment: Von Clausewitz, "War as an Instrument of Policy," in Essential Readings.
Schelling, "The Diplomacy of Violence," in Essential Readings.
Jervis, "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma," in Essential Readings.
Posen, "The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict," in Essential Readings.
Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations," in Essential Readings.
Valentino, "Final Solutions," in Essential Readings.
Pape, "The Strategic Logic," in Essential Readings.
Ross, "Oil, Drugs and Diamonds," in Essential Readings.
Graeger (1996) "Environmental Security," Journal of Peace Research.
Adamson (2006) "Crossing Borders: International Migration and National Security," International Security.

Henderson and Singer (2000) "Civil War in the Post-colonial World 1946-1992," Journal of Peace Research.
Harff and Gurr (1998) "Systematic Early Warning of Humanitarian Emergencies," Journal of Peace Research.
Collier (2000) "Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and Their Implications for Policy," The World Bank.
Fearon and Laitin (2003) "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," The American Political Science Review.

Additional Readings:

Van Evera (1999) Causes of War.
Huntington (1996) Clash of Civilization and the Remaking of World Order.
Senese and Vasquez (2008) The Steps to War.
Tilly and Tarrow (2008) Contentious Politics.
Singer and Geller (1998) Nations At War: A Scientific Study of International Conflict 1816-1990.
Nolutshungu (1996) Margins of Insecurity.
Davies and Gurr (1998) Preventive Measures: Building Risk Assessment and Crisis Early Warning Systems.
Miall, Ramsbothan and Woodhouse (1999) Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The Prevention, Management and Transformation of Deadly Conflicts.

March 17: Explaining Peace

Assignment: Kant, "To Perpetual Peace," in Essential Readings.
Fukuyama, "The End of History," in Essential Readings.
Boehmer, Gartzke and Nordstrom (2004) "Do International Organizations Promote Peace?" World Politics.
Owen (1994) "How liberalism Produces Democratic Peace," International Security.

Additional Readings:

Brown et al. (1996) Debating the Democratic Peace.
Russett (1993) Grasping the Democratic Peace.
Kant (1957) Perpetual Peace.
Boulding (2000) Cultures of Peace: The Hidden Side of History.
Doyle (1997) Ways of War and Peace.
Rapoport (1992) Peace: An Idea Whose Time has Come.

March 24: Foreign Policy Decision-Making

Assignment: Schafer and Walker (2006) "Democratic Leaders and the Democratic Peace," International Studies Quarterly.
Schafer and Crichlow (2002) "The Process--Outcome Connection in Foreign Policy Decision-making," International Studies Quarterly.
Kennan, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," in Essential Readings.
Jervis, "Hypotheses on Misperception," in Essential Readings.
Hermann and Hermann (1989) "Who Makes Foreign Policy Decisions and How: An Empirical Inquiry," International Studies Quarterly.
Kahneman (2007) "Why Hawks Win," Foreign Policy.

Additional Readings:

Lebow (1991) Between Peace and War.
Jervis (1976) Perception and Misperception in International Politics.
Steinbrunner (1974) The Cybernetic Theory of Decision.
Janis (1972) Victims of Groupthink.
Allison and Zelikow (1999) Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis.

March 31: International Law and Organizations

Assignment: Hathaway and Koh (2005) Foundations of International Law and Politics. Section I and Section IV, A, D, E, F.
Weiss et al. (2007) The United Nations and Changing World Politics. Chapters 1, 4.

Additional Readings:

Pease (2007) International Organizations: Perspectives on Governance in the 21st Century.
Joyner (2005) International Law in the 21st Century: Rules for Global Governance.
Slaughter (2004) A New World Order.
Simmons and Oudratt (2001) Managing Global Issues: Lessons Learned.
Nye and Donahue (2000) Governance in Globalizing World.
Rittbenger (1993) Regime Theory and International Relations.
Florini (2000) The Third Force: The Rise of Transnational Civil Society.

April 14: Change in Global Politics – Assessing Global Futures

Assignment: Ferguson and Mansbach (2004) Remapping Global Politics.
Wendt (2001) "Driving with the Rearview Mirror," International Organization.
Cozette (2000) "What Lies Ahead: Classical Realism on the Future of International Relations," International Studies Review.

Additional Readings:

Falk (1975) A Study of Future Worlds.

Bell (1997) Foundations of Future Studies (2 Vols).

Inglehart and Welzel (2005) Modernization Cultural Change and Democracy.

Hughes and Hillebrand (2006) Exploring and Shaping International Futures.

Choucri and Robinson (1978) Forecasting in International Relations.

April 21: From International to Global Politics

Assignment: Naim, “The Five Wars of Globalization,” in Essential Readings.
Held and McGrew (2003) The Global Transformation Reader.
Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 4, 8, 11, 13, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28,
32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 48.

Additional Readings:

Bhagwati (2004) In Defense of Globalization.

Ohmae (2005) The Next Global Stage.

Palan (2003) The Offshore World.

Rosenau (2003) Distant Proximities: Dynamics Beyond Globalization.

Hoogvelt (2001) Globalization and the Post-Colonial Globalization World: The New Political Economy of Development.

Zacher and Sutton (1996) Governing Global Networks: International Regimes for Transportation and Telecommunications.

April 28: Summary and Paper Presentations.