

International Relations Theory

Fall 2012

INTA 6102A S, Tuesday 6:05-8:55 pm, G-17

Prof. Katja Weber

404-894-5409

katja.weber@inta.gatech.edu

Office Hours: T 5-6:00pm, Th 1:30-2:30pm and by appointment

Habersham Bldg. 148

Course Description:

The objective of this course is to introduce you to the major theories of international relations. We will examine why international actors behave the way they do and ask which theoretical frameworks are best equipped to account for conflict and cooperation in the international environment.

Course Requirements:

This course is taught as a seminar and thus requires **active class participation**. Each student will have to do **all** of the **assigned readings** (indicated by an asterisk on the syllabus) **for each class** and **participate** fully in class discussions. [Additional readings are included for students with a special interest in a particular area.] It is a good idea to write and bring to class a short summary and several written questions about each reading.

Please note that you are subject to Georgia Tech's Honor Code.

Please purchase the following texts at the Engineer's bookstore or the campus bookstore.

Required Texts:

-Acharya, Amitav. *Whose Ideas Matter?* Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2009.

-Bellamy, Alex. *Global Politics and the Responsibility to Protect: From Words to Deeds*. New York: Routledge, 2011.

-Gulick, Edward V. *Europe's Classical Balance of Power*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1967.

-Katzenstein, Peter, ed. *The Culture of National Security*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996.

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

- Keohane, Robert O., ed. *Neorealism and Its Critics*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1986.
- Krasner, Stephen D., ed. *International Regimes*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983.
- Lipson, Charles. *Doing Honest Work in College: How to Prepare Citations, Avoid Plagiarism, and Achieve Real Academic Success*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004.
- Stein, Arthur A. *Why Nations Cooperate: Circumstance and Choice in International Relations*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1990.
- Weber, Katja. *Hierarchy Amidst Anarchy*. Albany: SUNY Press, 2000.

In addition to the books listed above there will be a reading packet that I will make available to you. Readings from this Reader are marked with an "(R)". And, you will find readings on electronic reserve in the library, marked "(E)." The password for the latter is: n19q3ye6.

Each student will give one formal presentations of a week's readings in class. This presentation will lay out the authors' arguments, explain their strengths and weaknesses, and will serve as a takeoff point for further analysis by the rest of the class.

Each student will also write two review essays (no more than 5 pages each), assessing and critiquing two of the course readings. (The readings must be from different weeks and the essays have to be handed in at the beginning of the class period during which the respective readings are to be discussed). Please note that your task is not to write a book review. Rather, the objective of your essay is to come up with your own original thesis (reacting to the argument in the work under review).

Your course grade will be as follows:

Course participation	25%
Class presentation	25%
First Essay	25%
Second Essay	25%

READINGS:

I. Introduction (August 21)

- syllabus; autobiographies; how to make sense of your readings?
- assign presentation topics

II. Theories and Methods (August 28)

* **Alexander L. George:** "Case Studies and Theory Development: The Method of Structured, Focused Comparison," in Paul Gordon Lauren, ed., *Diplomacy*. New York: The Free Press, 1979, pp. 43-68. (Especially pp. 54-68.) (E)

* **J. David Singer:** "The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations," in Ikenberry, ed., pp. 67-80. (E)

* **Robert Jervis:** "Perception and the Level of Analysis Problem," in Jervis, *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1976, pp. 13-31. (E)

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

-Jack L. Snyder: "Richness, Rigor, and Relevance in the Study of Soviet Foreign Policy," *International Security* 9 (Winter 1984/85), pp. 89-108.

-Marion J. Levy: "'Does It Matter If He's Naked?' Bawled the Child," in *Contending Approaches to International Relations*, eds. Klaus Knorr and James N. Rosenau, pp. 87-106. Especially pp. 92-106.

-Arthur Stinchcombe: *Constructing Social Theories*. New York: Harcourt Brace, 1968.

III. Neorealism (September 4)

* **Robert O. Keohane**, ed.: *Neorealism and Its Critics*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1986, chaps. 1-7, 11

chap 1: Keohane. "Realism, Neorealism and the Study of World Politics," pp. 1-26.

chap 2: Waltz. "Laws and Theories," pp. 27-46

chap 3: Waltz. "Reductionist and Systemic Theories," pp. 47-69.

chap 4: Waltz. "Political Structures," pp. 70-97.

chap 5: Waltz. "Anarchic Orders and Balances of Power," pp. 98-130.

chap 6: Ruggie. "Continuity and Transformation in the World Polity: Toward a Neorealist Synthesis," pp. 131-157.

chap 7: Keohane. "Theory of World Politics: Structural Realism and Beyond," pp. 158-203.

chap 11: Waltz. "Reflections on Theory of International Politics: A Response to My Critics," pp. 322-345.

-Robert O. Keohane and Joseph S. Nye: *Power and Interdependence: World Politics in Transition*. Boston: Little & Brown, 1977, pp. 3-37.

IV. Polarity and the Balance of Power (September 11)

* **Ernst Haas**: "The Balance of Power: Prescription, Concept or Propaganda?" *World Politics* 5 (1953), pp. 442-477. (E)

* **Kenneth Waltz**: *Theory of International Politics*. New York: Random House, 1979, parts of chaps. 7-8. (R)

chap. 7: "Structural Causes and Economic Effects," pp. 129-38.

chap. 8: "Structural Causes and Military Effects," pp. 161-76.

* **Karl Deutsch and J. David Singer**: "Multipolar Power Systems and International Stability," in James Rosenau, ed., *International Politics and Foreign Policy: A Reader in Research and Theory*, revised ed. New York: The Free Press, 1969, pp. 315-324. (E)

-John Mearsheimer: "Back to the Future: Instability in Europe After the Cold War," in Lynn-Jones and Miller, eds., pp. 141-192.

-Randall L. Schweller: "Tripolarity and the Second World War," *International Studies Quarterly* 37/1 (March 1993), pp. 73-103.

-Arnold Wolfers: "The Balance of Power in Theory and Practice," in Wolfers, *Discord and Collaboration*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1962, pp. 117-32.

V. Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning (September 18)

* **Thucydides**: *History of the Peloponnesian War*, translated by Rex Warner. New York: Penguin Books, 1954, pp. 35-87. (E)

* **Edward V. Gulick**: *Europe's Classical Balance of Power*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1955, 1967, entire text.

* **Stephen Walt**: *The Origins of Alliances*. Ithaca: Cornell, 1987, chapters 1 & 2 on Buzzport

* **Thomas Christensen and Jack Snyder**: "Chained Gangs and Passed Bucks: Predicting Alliance Patterns in Multipolarity." *International Organization* 44/2, (Spring 1990), pp. 137-168. (E)

-Mancur Olson and Richard Zeckhauser: "An Economic Theory of Alliances," in Bruce Russett, ed., *Economic Theories of International Politics*, pp. 25-49.

VI. Hegemony and Beyond (September 25)

* **A.F.K. Organski**: "The Power Transition," in A.F.K. Organski, *World Politics*, 2nd ed. New York: Knopf, 1958, pp. 338-376. (E)

* **George Modelski**: "The Long Cycle of Global Politics and the Nation-State," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 20 (April 1978), pp. 214-235. (E)

* **Stephen D. Krasner**: "State Power and the Structure of International Trade," *World Politics* 28 (April 1976), pp. 317-347. (E)

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

-Brian Healy and Arthur Stein: "The Balance of Power in International History," *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 17 (March 1973), pp. 33-62.

VII. International Cooperation (October 2) 1st paper due!!!

* **David Baldwin**, ed.: *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1993, chaps. (chapter 1 & 5 **R**; chapter 11 **E**)

-chap 1: Baldwin. "Neoliberalism, Neorealism, and World Politics," pp. 3-28.

-chap 5: Grieco. "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the Newest Liberal Institutionalism," pp. 116-142.

-chap 11: Keohane. "Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge After the Cold War," pp. 269-300.

* **Arthur A. Stein**: *Why Nations Cooperate: Circumstance and Choice in International Relations*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press, 1990, entire text.

* **Katja Weber**: *Hierarchy Amidst Anarchy: Transaction Costs and Institutional Choice*. Albany: SUNY, 2000, entire text.

VIII. Regimes (October 9)

* **Stephen D. Krasner**, ed.: *International Regimes*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983, entire text.

* **Peter M. Haas**: "Do Regimes Matter? Epistemic Communities and Mediterranean Pollution Control," *International Organization* 43/3 (Summer 1989), pp. 377-403. (E)

-Andreas Hasenclever, Peter Mayer, and Volker Rittberger: *Theories of International Regimes*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

October 16 FALL RECESS NO CLASS!

IX. Constructivism (October 23)

* **David Dessler**: "What's at Stake in the Agent-Structure Debate?" *International Organization* 43/3 (Summer 1989), pp. 441-473. (R)

* **Alexander Wendt**: "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics," *International Organization* 46/2 (Spring 1992), pp. 391-425. (E)

* **Peter Katzenstein**, ed.: *The Culture of National Security*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996, chapters 1-2; one chapter from part I & II each; chapter 12.

-Katja Weber: *Cultures of Order: Leadership, Language and Social Reconstruction in Germany and Japan*. Albany: SUNY Press, 2007.

-Audie Klotz: "Norms Reconstituting Interests: Global Racial Equality and U.S. Sanctions Against South Africa," *International Organization* 49/3 (Summer 1995), pp. 451-478.

Audie Klotz and Cecilia Lynch, *Strategies for Research in Constructivist International Relations*. M.E. Sharpe, 2007

-R.B.J. Walker: *Inside/Outside: International Relations as Political Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

-Alexander Wendt: "The Agent Structure Problem in International Relations Theory," *International Organization* 41 (1987), pp. 335-370.

-Alexander Wendt and Daniel Friedheim: "Hierarchy Under Anarchy: Informal Empire and the East German State," *International Organization* 49 (1995), pp. 689-721.

X. Personality and Perception (October 30)

* **Saul Friedlander and Raymond Cohen**: "The Personality Correlates of Belligerence in International Conflict," *Comparative Politics* 7 (January 1975), pp. 155-186. (E)

* **Michael Roskin**: "From Pearl Harbor to Vietnam: Shifting Generational Paradigms of Foreign Policy," in Ikenberry, pp.351-371. (E)

* **Robert Jervis:** "Hypotheses on Misperception," in Ikenberry, G. John, ed. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1989. pp. 515-535.(R)

* **Irving L. Janis:** "Escalation of the Vietnam War: How Could it Happen?" in Ikenberry, G. John, ed. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1989. pp. 506-535. (R)

-Richard Samuels. *Machiavelli's Children*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003 (entire text).

-Jack S. Levy: "Misperception and the Causes of War: Theoretical Linkages and Analytical Problems," *World Politics* 36 (October 1983), pp. 76-99.

-Arthur A. Stein: "When Misperception Matters," *World Politics* 34 (July 1982), pp. 505-526.

XI. Bureaucratic Politics (November 6)

* **Graham T. Allison:** "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," in Ikenberry, G. John, ed. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1989, pp. 415-459.(R)

* **Graham T. Allison and Morton H. Halperin:** "A Paradigm and Some Policy Implications," in Ikenberry, G. John, ed. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1989, pp. 377-408.(R)

* **James C. Thomson:** "How Could Vietnam Happen? An Autopsy," in Ikenberry, G. John, ed. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1989, pp. 502-512.(R)

* **Stephen D. Krasner:** "Are Bureaucracies Important? Or Allison Wonderland," in Ikenberry, G. John, ed. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1989, pp. 459-471.(R)

-Graham T. Allison: *Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1971, pp. 10-66.

XII. Feminism (November 13)

* **Rebecca Grant and Kathleen Newland,** eds. *Gender and International Relations*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1991, chaps. 2-4. (R)

chap. 2: Grant. "The Sources of Gender Bias in International Relations Theory," pp. 9-26.

chap. 3: Tickner. "Hans Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism: A Feminist Reformulation," pp. 27-40.

chap. 4: Keohane. "International Relations Theory: Contributions of a Feminist Standpoint," pp. 41-50.

* **Christine Sylvester**, *Feminist Theory and International Relations in a Postmodern Era*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995. chap. 2. (E)

-Cynthia H. Enloe: *Bananas, Beaches, and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Relations*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1989.

-Cynthia H. Enloe: *The Morning After: Sexual Politics at the End of the Cold War*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993.

-V. Spike Peterson and Anne Sisson Runyan, eds.: *Global Gender Issues*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1993.

-Christine Sylvester: *Feminist Theory and International Relations in a Postmodern Era*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994.

-J. Ann Tickner: *Gender in International Relations: Feminist Perspectives on Achieving Global Security*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1992.

XIII. Ideas in International Politics and the Responsibility to Protect (November 20)

* **Amitav Acharya**. *Whose Ideas Matter?* Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2009, entire text.

* **Alex Bellamy**. *Global Politics and the Responsibility to Protect: From Words to Deeds*. New York: Routledge, 2011, entire text.

XIV. (November 27) Non-Western IR Theory?

* **Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan**, "Conclusion: On the possibility of a non-Western IR theory in Asia," *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* Volume 7 (2007): 427-38.

-find an article by a non-Western scholar that gives a non-Western perspective of international relations; bring a copy of the article and write a brief synopsis that can be shared with your classmates.

XV. (December 4) Wrap-up

Nunn Film and discussion