

INTA 6102, Monday 6:00-8:45 pm, G-17

Prof. Katja Weber

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Office Hours: Monday 5-6pm, Tuesday 1:15-2:15pm, & by appointment

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The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities that may also manifest here as they do in the broader society.

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.

Learning Objective:

Students will be able to interpret, critique and apply the "levels of analysis" debate central to the study of international politics. This particular learning objective is in service of the Master's Degree program overall objectives of 1) teaching international problem solving/analytic skills, by which graduates should be able to apply qualitative and quantitative methodologies and problem solving skills; 2) effective written communication skills.

Assessment Methods:

This learning objective will be assessed independent of the other course grades during the semester.

- 1) In week two of the semester, as an in-class exercise, students will be asked to write one paragraph reflecting on the following question: Given your current understanding of international relations theory, what does the "levels of analysis" debate entail and how useful is it to our understanding of international politics?

- 2) During the final week of classes students, in an in-class exercise, once again, will be tasked with a writing assignment reflecting on the following levels-of-analysis exercise: International relations scholars, for decades, have engaged in the “levels of analysis” debate, arguing about how many levels of analysis can be observed in the international environment, whether one should study them in a particular order, and whether it is imperative to always study all levels of analysis. Focusing on World War II, give examples of hypotheses that address the outbreak of this particular war using each level of analysis. Discuss whether any level is superior to help us understand this particular case and whether your finding is generalizable to other puzzles in international politics.

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 purchase the following texts.

Required Texts:

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

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

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.

Scott, Gregory M. and Stephen M. Garrison, *The Political Science Student Writer's Manual and Reader's Guide* (8th edition), New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017.

In addition to the books listed above there will be readings that can be accessed on Canvas (C)

Each student will give **1 formal presentation** 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 double-spaced 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% |

Honor Code:

The Georgia Tech Honor Code is available online: <http://www.honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9>. If caught cheating, you will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code.

Students with Disabilities:

Georgia Tech is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities through the ADAPTS program (<http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/>). Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate his/her educational opportunities. Students with disabilities must be registered with the ADAPTS-Disability Services Program prior to receiving accommodations in this course. The ADAPTS-Disability Services Program is located in Smithgall Student Services Building, phone 404-894-2564 or TDD only 404-894-1664.

READINGS:

I. Introduction (August 19)

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

II. Theories and Methods (August 26)

* **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.) (C)

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

* **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. (C)

-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.

(September 2) Labor Day (no Class)

III. Neorealism (September 9)

* **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 16)

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

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

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. (C)

-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 23)

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

* **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 (C)

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

-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 30)

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

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

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

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

-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 7) 1st paper due!!!

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

-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**: "Coordination and Collaboration: Regimes in an Anarchic World", in Stephen D. Krasner, ed.: *International Regimes*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983.

* **Katja Weber**: "Hierarchy Amidst Anarchy: A Transaction Costs Approach to International Security Cooperation," *International Studies Quarterly*, vol.41, Summer, 1997:321-340. (C)

Oct. 14 FALL RECESS (no class)

VIII. Regimes (October 21)

* **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. (C)

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

IX. Constructivism (October 28)

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

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/ac01/6040ac8ee05b79528ef6e561101a518127b5.pdf>

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

* **Peter Katzenstein**, ed.: *The Culture of National Security*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996, chapters 1-2; 4, 9 & 12. (C)

-Katja Weber and Paul Kowert: *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 (November 4)

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

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

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

* **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. (C)

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

-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 11)

* **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 (C)

* **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 (C)

* **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 (C)

* **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(C)

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

XII. Ideas in International Politics and the Responsibility to Protect (November 18)

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

* **Alex Bellamy:** "The Responsibility to Protect—Five Years On," *Ethics and International Affairs*, 24, no. 2 (2010), pp. 143-169. (C)

* **Alex Bellamy and Mark Beeson:** “The Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia: Can ASEAN Reconcile Humanitarianism and Sovereignty”? *Asian Security*, 6, no. 3 (2010), pp. 262-279. (C)

XIII. Non-Western IR Theory? (November 25) 2nd paper due!!!

* Ole Wæver, “The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline: American and European Developments in International Relations,” *International Organization*, Vol. 52, No. 4 (1998), pp. 687–727. (C)

* 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. (C)

-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.

XIV. (December 2) Wrap-up

Nunn Film and discussion