**PS 439G-001**

**Theories of International Relations (Spring 2015)**

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1631 Patterson Office Tower (859) 257-4234

Class Meeting: 9:30-10:45 AM Classroom Building-234

Office Hours: T-TH 11 AM – 12 PM, oba

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with many of the broad themes and theoretical approaches in international relations, with specific focus on Realism, Neorealism, Liberalism, Neoliberal Institutionalism. The course will also focus on the role of theory in international relations, types of theory, and theory development. While most of this class deals with abstract material, students should exit the course with a greater understanding of not only the major theories of IR, but how they help explain the behavior of states and leaders.

**Course Texts**

Required

Carr, Edward H. 1964. *The Twenty Years’ Crisis, 1919-1939.* New York: Harper Torchbooks.

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.

Russett, Bruce M. and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations.* Norton Publishing.

Waltz, Kenneth N. 1954. *Man, the State, and War: A Theoretical Analysis.* New York: Columbia University Press.

**Course Requirements and Assignments**

*Preparation and Participation (20%)*

This is not a lecture course; the majority of class time will be devoted to group discussion of the readings. Students are expected to arrive prepared to discuss the weekly reading assignments, meaning all of the readings must be completed before you come to class. Class preparation will be measured through approximately six to ten (unannounced) quizzes given at the very beginning or ending of class periods, which together will be worth 10% of the total course grade; each student's quiz grade will be determined by dropping the lowest quiz score. Participation will be evaluated on both the quality and quantity of comments. Attendance is not enough to earn the points for this course requirement, students who do not participate in the class discussion will receive no participation points. Students should come prepared to answer questions as well as ask questions regarding each of the readings. Class participation is worth 10% of the total course grade.

**Note:** any student who misses more than 1/5th of scheduled course meetings with excused absences will receive an E for the entire course. Students have one week from the time of any excused absence to speak with the instructor regarding the absence and provide appropriate (tier II or greater) documentation.

*Research Paper (30%)*

Each student is required to write one 10-12 page original research paper examining the theory of IR followed by a specific state leader. Paper details are provided on a separate handout. A hard copy of the paper is due at the beginning of class on **April 23rd**. Any paper turned in after the start of class will be penalized 10% for every 12 hours, or part thereof, that the paper is late.

*Midterm and Final Examinations (25% each)*

There will be two examines in this class. Both exams will be short answer and/or essay format. The midterm will be held in class on **March 10th**. The final will be held on **May 7th at 8 AM**. Make-up exams will be permitted only under the gravest of circumstances and with appropriate documentation (tier 2 or higher). Any make-up exams must be taken prior to the exam being returned to the class. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor so that the instructor can schedule a time for the make-up exam.

**Note:** no one may take the final early, so make end of the semester travel plans accordingly.

**Grading Policy**

Final course grades will be assigned using the following scale:

A 100% - 90%

B 89.9% - 80%

C 79.9% - 70%

D 69.9% - 60%

E 59.9% - 0%

In order to receive a passing grade in this course, ALL COURSE WORK MUST BE COMPLETED. Any student who does not complete the Research Paper, or take both the Midterm and the Final Exam, will receive an automatic grade of E.

A student wishing to appeal any grade given in this class must make their request in writing prior to meeting with the instructor. The written appeal must be typed and clearly state the reason(s) the student feels the grade they received is incorrect. Appeals that just ask for more points will not be considered by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to re-grade the entire exam or assignment once an appeal is made, this may result in an increase or decrease in the score a student receives.

**Plagiarism and Cheating**

Students are advised to retain all notes and drafts for all work until after they receive their final grade. Students should also be aware that the instructor takes matters of plagiarism and cheating very seriously and is prone to imposing the most severe penalty allowed by university rules, which includes, but is not limited to, issuing an automatic grade of 0.0 for the entire course.

**Special Needs**

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a **Letter of Accommodation** from the disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, jkarnes@email.uky.edu).

**Classroom Expectations**

I expect all students to behave professionally in this class. If you miss a class you are still responsible for the information covered, and the instructor **will not** provide you with notes. I expect all students who attend class to arrive on time and ready to start class. It is disrespectful to the instructor and your classmates to show up late. During class please refrain from all disruptive behavior, including (but not limited to) reading newspapers, sleeping, talking during lecture, using cell phone, and insulting classmates or the instructor.

**Readings**

Most of the readings come from the required texts, listed above, and can be purchased at one of the bookstores that service UK. Other readings will either be posted on the course black board page or can be accessed from www.jstor.org. You will need to be on a UK computer or internet connection to gain access to jstor. Once on jstor you may search by title or author and limit the search to political science journals under the advanced search option. If you are unfamiliar with jstor please ask for help immediately, inability to access the readings is not an acceptable excuse for not having the readings completed. Journals articles are also available in the UK library.

**Schedule**

Below is a tentative schedule for this course. The instructor reserves the right to alter this schedule based on the pace of course discussion, class understanding of the material, and special interests of the class on specific subjects.

January 15th – No class

Southern Political Science Association Meeting

January 20th – 22nd **Introduction, Types of Theory, Good Theory, What is Theory, Review of IR Concepts**

Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff – 1-26 (on Black Board)

**Note: 19th – Martin Luther King Day** (UK closed)

January 27th – 29th **Types of Theory, What is Theory (continued),**

Waltz, *Neorealism and Its Critics*, Chapter 2.

Bull, Hedley. 1966. “International Theory: The Case for a Classical Approach.” *World Politics* 18(3): 361-377.

Dessler, David. 1991. “Beyond Correlations: Towards a Causal Theory of War.” *International Studies Quarterly*, 35 (3): 337-355.

Zinnes, Dina A. 1980. “Three Puzzles in Search of a Researcher.” *International Studies Quarterly*, 24: 315-342.

February 3rd – 5th **Levels of Analysis** – **First Image**

Singer, J. David. 1961. “The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations.”

*World Politics* 14(1): 77-92.

Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff – 26-33 (on Black Board)

Waltz *Man, the State, and War,* chapters 1, 2, and 3

Stoessinger – 251-265 (on Black Board)

February 10th – 12th **Levels of Analysis** – **Second Image**

Waltz *Man, the State, and War,* chapters 4 and 5

February 17th – 19th **Levels of Analysis** – **Third Image and Comparisons**

Waltz *Man, the State, and War,* chapters 6, 7, and 8

Lobell, Steven E. 1999. “Second Image Reversed Politics: Britain’s Choice of Freer Trade or Imperial Preference.” *International Studies Quarterly* 43(4): 671-693.

Fearon, James D. 1998. “Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy, and Theories of International Relations.” *Annual Review of Political Science*, 1: 289-313. (<http://arjournals.annualreviews.org/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev.polisci.1.1.289>)

Interested students might also want to try Ray, James Lee. 2001. “Integrating Levels of Analysis in World Politics.” *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 13(4): 355-388. [available at http://sitemason. vanderbilt.edu/files/g/gDf5Ty/levels.pdf] – but be warned, this is a very complex piece.

February 24th – 26th **Realism/Classical Realism**

Morgenthau, Hans, J. 1973. *Politics Among Nations*. Chapters 1, 3, and 32 (on black board)

Carr *The Twenty Years’ Crisis* Chapters 1- 4

March 3rd – 5th **Realism/Classical Realism** **(Continued)**

Carr *The Twenty Years’ Crisis* Chapters 5-7, and 9.

Mearsheimer, John J. 2001. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. New York: Norton.

pages 1-54. (on black board)

March 10th – 12th **Realist Ethics**

Readings – TBA

**MIDTERM March 10th (In Class)**

March 17 – 19 **No Class (Spring Break)**

March 24th – 26th **Neorealism/Structural Realism**

Waltz, *Neorealism and Its Critics*, Chapters 3-5.

Telbami, S. (2002) “Kenneth Waltz, Neorealism, and Foreign Policy” *Security Studies*, 11:3, 158 – 170 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/714005344>)

For critiques of Neorealism read *Neorealism and Its Critics* Chapters 8 and 9

March 31st – April 2nd **Liberalism**

Doyle, Michael W. 1986. “Liberalism and World Politics.” *American Political Science*

*Review* 80(4): 1151-1169.

Doyle, Michael W. 1997. “Liberalism” in *Ways of War and Peace*. [Copy from me]

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. (copy from me).

**Note:** No Class on the 2nd – Western Political Science Association Conference.

April 7th – 9th **Liberalism (Continued) and Neoliberalism**

Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. “Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics.” *International Organization*, 51(4): 513-553.

Keohane, *After Hegemony* Chapters 1-3.

April 14th – 16th **Neoliberalism (Continued)**

Keohane, *After Hegemony* Chapters 4-6, and 11.

Mearsheimer, John. 1994-5. “The False Promise of International Institutions.” *International Security*, 19(3): 5-49.

Keohane, Robert, and Lisa L. Martin. 1995. “The Promise of Institutionalist Theory.” *International Security*, 20(1): 39-51.

April 21st – 23rd **Liberal/Neoliberal Peace**

Russett and Oneal, *Triangulating Peace* Chapters 1-4

**Research Papers Due** April 23rd (start of class)

April 28th – 30th **Liberal/Neoliberal Peace (Continued)**

Russett and Oneal, *Triangulating Peace* Chapters 5-8

May 7th **Final**

**8 AM in class**