INTL 6200 (CRN: 30751) / Fall 2019

Pre-Seminar in International Relations

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Class meetings: Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m.–3:15 p.m. in Caldwell Hall 0203.

Course Description

This course is a graduate-level field seminar on international politics. In this course, we will review the dominant approaches to studying international relations and the application of those approaches to a wide variety of substantive issue areas (war, human rights, environment, trade, migration, etc). We will put particular emphasis on critically evaluating the theoretical arguments advanced by IR scholars and the evidence that they marshal in support for those arguments. Throughout, our goal will be to practice reading international relations scholarship with an eye towards translating and applying its insights to contemporary international policy problems. This course is a requirement for the Masters in International Policy (MIP) and a prerequisite for a number of other MIP courses, but should also be of interest to advanced undergraduates in Political Science and International Affairs.

Course Materials

There are no required textbooks for this course. Those readings that are not readily available online or via the library will be posted on the eLearning Commons.

Grading and Expectations

Grade Composition

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Class attendance and participation: 25%
- Five response papers: 25%
- Discussion lead: 10%
- Issue Report: 30%
- Final Presentation: 10%

Version: 08/14/2019

Grading Scale

- 94–100: A
- 90–93: A-
- 87–89: B+
- 84–87: B
- 80–83: B-
- 77–79: C+
- 74–77: C
- 70–73: C-
- 67–69: D+
- 64–67: D
- 60–63: D-
- Less than 59: F

Attendance and Participation

Your attendance and participation in class discussions is vital to our success this semester. I will take attendance at each class meeting. You must let me know in advance and provide documentation excusing your absence to avoid a grade penalty.

You should come to class having read the assigned work closely enough to actively participate in a detailed and critical discussion of the arguments and evidence presented by the authors. I also expect you to come to class already familiar with the major international news stories of the day. You get access to both *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* as part of your student activities fees. Failing to actively participate in class discussions will result in a participation grade penalty for the day.

The use of electronic devices during our class meetings is not prohibited, but is *strongly* discouraged. All noise-making electronics should be silenced and, where possible, set to "Do Not Disturb" for the duration of our class meetings.

Assignments

Assignments should be submitted online to the eLearning Commons. Late assignments will not be accepted without documentation of illness or bereavement.

- **Response Papers**. You will write five response essays over the course of the semester in which you critically evaluate one or more of a given week's assigned readings. A successful response essay will *quickly* summarize the major claims of a given reading, discuss how those claims are evaluated empirically, and then

identify several strengths or weaknesses of the argument and/or the empirical evidence used to support that argument. Each essay should be about 1,000 words and conclude with at least two ideas for in-class discussion questions. Response papers are due at 6 p.m. the evening before we discuss the readings about which you have written. They should be uploaded to the eLearning Commons and your suggested questions should be posted to the discussion board.

- **Discussion Lead.** You (and perhaps a colleague or two) will lead the class discussion one week during the semester. You will be responsible for selecting discussion questions from among those submitted by your colleagues, generating several of your own, and moderating our review and critique of each of the readings. You will sign up for a discussion slot on the first day of class.

- **Issue Report**. You will write a 20-25 page issue report for policy makers and practitioners summarizing the causes and consequences of a contemporary international policy problem from the perspective of an international relations scholar. Your brief should identify the relevant actors and stakeholders, specify their interests, and outline the strategies that those actors are likely to use to pursue those interests. Your goal is to clearly and efficiently communicate to those not steeped in the IR literature why IR scholars believe the problem exists and persists as well as policy changes that would help manage, mitigate, or resolve the problem. You will thus summarize and critically evaluate the theoretical arguments in the literature and any relevant empirical findings. Proposed policy changes *must* be theoretically-motivated and accompanied by ideas for evaluating their effectiveness upon implementation. You should include a 1-2 page executive summary at the beginning of the brief aimed at senior policy makers. I will distribute a detailed assignment sheet in the first few weeks of class.

- **Final Presentation**. You will give a 10 minute presentation summarizing your issue brief to the class at the end of the semester.

Accommodations

In accordance with UGA policy, "[s]tudents with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment." More information about accommodations that are available to students with disabilities is available from the Disability Resource Center.

Academic Integrity and Professional Conduct

I expect you to do your own work and to abide by University of Georgia's policies on academic integrity and professional conduct. In part, these policies state:

> As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A

Culture of Honesty" found at: https://honesty.uga.edu/Academic-Honesty-Policy/. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

Course Outline

The UGA Course Syllabus Policy requires me to include the following statement: "The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviation announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary."

1. Tuesday, August 20, 2019: Preliminaries

    - Review the 2014 Teaching, Research, and International Policy Faculty Survey results posted at: https://trip.wm.edu/charts/#/questions/37. These results represent responses from IR scholars at U.S. colleges and universities. Pay particular attention to the questions on paradigm, methodological tools, issues that are of greatest strategic importance to the U.S. today, and the relationship between the academy and the policy process.

2. Tuesday, August 27, 2019: Paradigms and Progress

    - Wohlforth, William C. "Realism." In *The Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, edited by Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal, 131–149. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.
    - Moravcsik, Andrew. "The New Liberalism." In *The Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, edited by Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal, 234–254. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 200.
    - Lake, David A. "Why "Isms" are Evil: Theory, Epistemology, and Academic Sects as Impediments to Understanding and Progress." *International Studies Quarterly* 55, no. 2 (2011): 465–480.
    - Mearsheimer, John J, and Stephen M Walt. "Leaving Theory Behind: Why Simplistic Hypothesis Testing is Bad for International Relations." *European Journal of International Relations* 19, no. 3 (2013): 427–457.
    - Bennett, Andrew. "The Mother of All isms: Causal Mechanisms and Structured Pluralism in International Relations Theory." *European Journal of International Relations* 19, no. 3 (2013): 459–481.
    - Healy, Kieran. "Fuck Nuance." *Sociological Theory* 35, no. 2 (2017): 118–127.

3. Tuesday, September 03, 2019: Anarchy and Hierarchy

    - Waltz, Kenneth N. *Theory of International Politics*. Waveland Press, 1979, Chapters 5–7.
    - Keohane, Robert O. *After hegemony*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984, Chapters 1–6.

- Wendt, Alexander. "Anarchy is What States Make of it: The Social Construction of Power Politics." *International organization* 46, no. 2 (1992): 391–425.
- Lake, David A. "Anarchy, hierarchy, and the variety of international relations." *International organization* 50, no. 1 (1996): 1–33.
- Towns, Ann E. "Norms and social hierarchies: understanding international policy diffusion "from below"." *International Organization* 66, no. 2 (2012): 179–209.

4. Tuesday, September 10, 2019: Conflict

   - Jervis, Robert. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World politics* 30, no. 2 (1978): 167–214 .
   - Fearon, James D. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International organization* 49, no. 3 (1995): 379–414.
   - Glaser, Charles L. "The Security Dilemma Revisited." *World politics* 50, no. 1 (1997): 171–201.
   - Powell, Robert. "War as a commitment problem." *International organization* 60, no. 1 (2006): 169–203.
   - Dafoe, Allan, Jonathan Renshon, and Paul Huth. "Reputation and Status as Motives for War." *Annual Review of Political Science* 17 (2014): 371–393.

5. Tuesday, September 17, 2019: Cooperation

   - Axelrod, Robert. *The Evolution of Cooperation: Revised Edition*. Basic Books, 2009.
   - Mearsheimer, John J. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International security* 19, no. 3 (1994): 5–49.
   - Keohane, Robert O, and Lisa L Martin. "The promise of institutionalist theory." *International security* 20, no. 1 (1995): 39–51.
   - Fearon, James D. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation." *International organization* 52, no. 2 (1998): 269–305.
   - Abbott, Kenneth W, and Duncan Snidal. "Why States Act Through Formal International Organizations." *Journal of conflict resolution* 42, no. 1 (1998): 3–32.

6. Tuesday, September 24, 2019: Domestic Politics

   - Putnam, Robert D. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-level Games." *International Organization* 42, no. 3 (1988): 427–460.
   - Martin, Lisa L. *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*. Princeton University Press, 2000, Chapters 1–4.
   - Reiter, Dan, and Allan C. Stam. *Democracies at War*. Princeton University Press, 2002, Chapters 1–3.

- Tomz, Michael. "Domestic Audience Costs in International Relations: An Experimental Approach." *International Organization* 61, no. 4 (2007): 821–840.
- Tomz, Michael R., and Jessica L.P. Weeks. "Public Opinion and the Democratic Peace." *American Political Science Review* 107, no. 4 (2013): 849–865.
- Weeks, Jessica L.P. *Dictators at War and Peace*. Cornell University Press, 2014, Chapters 1–3.

7. Tuesday, October 01, 2019: Leaders

   - Renshon, Jonathan, Allan Dafoe, and Paul Huth. "Leader Influence and Reputation Formation in World Politics." *American Journal of Political Science* 62, no. 2 (2018): 325–339.
   - McManus, Roseanne W. "Making it personal: The Role of Leader-Specific Signals in Extended Deterrence." *The Journal of Politics* 80, no. 3 (2018): 000–000.
   - Horowitz, Michael C, and Allan C Stam. "How Prior Military Experience Influences the Future Militarized Behavior of Leaders." *International Organization* 68, no. 3 (2014): 527–559.
   - Dafoe, Allan, and Devin Caughey. "Honor and war: Southern US presidents and the effects of concern for reputation." *World politics* 68, no. 2 (2016): 341–381.
   - Saunders, Elizabeth. "The Political Origins of Elite Support for War: How Democratic Leaders Manage Public Opinion," 2015.

8. Tuesday, October 08, 2019: Environment and Climate Change

   - Bättig, Michèle B., and Thomas Bernauer. "National Institutions and Global Public Goods: Are Democracies More Cooperative in Climate Change Policy?" *International Organization* 63, no. 2 (2009): 281–308.
   - Broz, J. Lawrence, and Daniel Maliniak. "Malapportionment, Gasoline Taxes, and Climate Change," 2010.
   - Aklin, Michaël, and Johannes Urpelainen. "The Global Spread of Environmental Ministries: Domestic–International Interactions." *International Studies Quarterly* 58, no. 4 (2014): 764–780.
   - Tingley, Dustin, and Michael Tomz. "Conditional Cooperation and Climate Change." *Comparative Political Studies* 47, no. 3 (2014): 344–368.
   - Allan, Bentley B. "Producing the Climate: States, Scientists, and the Constitution of Global Governance Objects." *International Organization* 71, no. 1 (2017): 131–162.

9. Tuesday, October 15, 2019: Human rights and human security

   - Simmons, Beth A. *Mobilizing for Human Rights: International Law in Domestic Politics*. Cambridge University Press, 2009, Part I

- Barry, Colin M, K Chad Clay, and Michael E Flynn. "Avoiding the Spotlight: Human Rights Shaming and Foreign Direct Investment." *International Studies Quarterly* 57, no. 3 (2013): 532–544
- Murdie, Amanda. *Help or harm: The human security effects of international NGOs*. Stanford University Press, 2014, Chapters 2,3, and 5
- Lupu, Yonatan. "The Informative Power of Treaty Commitment: Using the Spatial Model to Address Selection Effects." *American Journal of Political Science* 57, no. 4 (2013): 912–925
- Fariss, Christopher J. "Respect for Human Rights has improved over time: Modeling the changing standard of accountability." *American Political Science Review* 108, no. 2 (2014): 297–318
- Murdie, Amanda M, and David R Davis. "Shaming and blaming: Using Events Data to Assess the Impact of Human Rights INGOs." *International Studies Quarterly* 56, no. 1 (2012): 1–16

10. Tuesday, October 22, 2019: Nuclear Weapons

- Wilson, Ward. "The Winning Weapon? Rethinking Nuclear Weapons In Light Of Hiroshima." *International Security* 31, no. 4 (2007): 162–179
- Monteiro, Nuno P, and Alexandre Debs. "The Strategic Logic Of Nuclear Proliferation." *International Security* 39, no. 2 (2014): 7–51.
- Solingen, Etel. "The Political Economy of Nuclear Restraint." *International Security* 19, no. 2 (1994): 126–169.
- Hymans, Jacques E.C. *Achieving Nuclear Ambitions: Scientists, Politicians, and Proliferation*. Cambridge University Press, 2012, Chapters 1 and 2.
- Press, Daryl G., Scott D. Sagan, and Benjamin A. Valentino. "Atomic Aversion: Experimental Evidence on Taboos, Traditions, and the Non-Use of Nuclear Weapons." *American Political Science Review* 107, no. 1 (2013): 188–206.

11. Tuesday, October 29, 2019: Trade and Migration

- Gowa, Joanne, and Edward D. Mansfield. "Power Politics and International Trade." *American Political Science Review* 87, no. 2 (1993): 408–420.
- Farrell, Henry, and Abraham L Newman. "Weaponized Interdependence: How Global Economic Networks Shape State Coercion." *International Security* 44, no. 1 (2019): 42–79.
- Carnegie, Allison, and Nikhar Gaikwad. "Public Opinion on Geopolitics and Trade: Theory and Evidence," 2017.
- Pandya, Sonal S., and Rajkumar Venkatesan. "French Roast: Consumer Response to International Conflict — Evidence From Supermarket Scanner Data." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 98, no. 1 (2016): 42–56.
- Leblang, David. "Familiarity Breeds Investment: Diaspora Networks and International Investment." *American Political Science Review* 104, no. 3 (2010): 584–600.

- Peters, Margaret E. "Open Trade, Closed Borders Immigration in the Era of Globalization." *World Politics* 67, no. 1 (2015): 114–154.

12. Tuesday, November 05, 2019: Money and Finance

    - Frieden, Jeffry A. *Currency politics: The Political Economy of Exchange Rate Policy*. Princeton University Press, 2014, Chapters 1–4.
    - Wellhausen, Rachel L. *The shield of nationality: When Governments Break Contracts with Foreign Firms*. Cambridge University Press, 2014, Chapters 1–4.
    - Tomz, Michael. *Reputation and International Cooperation: Sovereign Debt Across Three Centuries*. Princeton University Press, 2012, Chapters 1–3.
    - Pandya, Sonal S. *Trading Spaces: Foreign Direct Investment Regulation, 1970–2000*. Cambridge University Press, 2014, Chapters 1–3.

13. Tuesday, November 12, 2019: Aid

    - Alesina, Alberto, and David Dollar. "Who Gives Foreign Aid to Whom and Why?" *Journal of Economic Growth* 5, no. 1 (2000): 33–63.
    - Nielson, Daniel L., and Michael J. Tierney. "Delegation to International Organizations: Agency Theory and World Bank Environmental Reform." *International Organization* 57, no. 2 (2003): 241–276.
    - Kuziemko, Ilyana, and Eric Werker. "How Much is a Seat on the Security Council Worth? Foreign Aid and Bribery at the United Nations." *Journal of political economy* 114, no. 5 (2006): 905–930.
    - Milner, Helen V., and Dustin H. Tingley. "The Political Economy of US Foreign Aid: American Legislators and the Domestic Politics of Aid." *Economics & Politics* 22, no. 2 (2010): 200–232.
    - Nielsen, Richard A., Michael G. Findley, Zachary S. Davis, Tara Candland, and Daniel L Nielson. "Foreign Aid Shocks as a Cause of Violent Armed Conflict." *American Journal of Political Science* 55, no. 2 (2011): 219–232.
    - Carnegie, Allison, and Nikolay Marinov. "Foreign Aid, Human Rights, and Democracy Promotion: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *American Journal of Political Science* 61, no. 3 (2017): 671–683.

14. Tuesday, November 19, 2019: Emerging Issues

    - Fuhrmann, Matthew, and Michael C Horowitz. "Droning on: Explaining the Proliferation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles." *International organization* 71, no. 2 (2017): 397–418
    - Kaag, John, and Sarah Kreps. *Drone warfare*. John Wiley & Sons, 2014
    - Lindsay, Jon R. "Stuxnet and the Limits of Cyber Warfare." *Security Studies* 22, no. 3 (2013): 365–404
    - Washington Post Monkey Cage Symposium on Cybersecurity (link on eLC)

15. Tuesday, November 26, 2019: Bridging the Gap

    - Avey, Paul C, and Michael C Desch. "What do policymakers want from us? Results of a survey of current and former senior national security decision makers." *International Studies Quarterly* 58, no. 2 (2014): 227–246
    - Peterson, Susan, Ryan Powers, and Michael Tierney. "Memo to Bridging the Gap Partners Meeting." 2017. Memo presented at Carnegie Corporation of New York in Spring of 2018.
    - Desch, Michael. "Technique Trumps Relevance: The Professionalization of Political Science and the Marginalization of Security Studies." *Perspectives on Politics* 13, no. 2 (2015): 377–393
    - Voeten, Erik. "Rigor Is Not the Enemy of Relevance." *Perspectives on Politics* 13, no. 2 (2015): 402–403
    - Maliniak, Daniel, Susan Peterson, Ryan Powers, and Michael J. Tierney. "Uncertainty, Access, and Incentives: Explaining the Theory-Practice Divide in International Relations." In *A Seat at the Table: (When) Can International Relations Scholars Influence Foreign and International Policy?*, edited by Daniel Maliniak, Susan Peterson, Ryan Powers, and Michael J. Tierney. Manuscript, 2018

16. Tuesday, December 03, 2019: **Final Presentations**

17. Tuesday, December 10, 2019: **Issue Reports Due (upload in eLC)**