INTL 6200 (CRN: 26363) / Fall 2020

# Pre-Seminar in International Relations

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Office hours: By appointment (https://ryanpowers.youcanbook.me/).

Class meetings: Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.–9:15 p.m. in Candler Hall 117.

## Course Description

This course is a graduate-level field seminar on international politics designed for students in the Ph.D. program. 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.

### 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%
- Weekly discussion questions: 10%
- Three response papers: 20%
- Discussion lead: 20%
- Take-Home Final: 25%

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## 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.

- **Discussion Questions**. You will submit five discussion questions each week. We will use these to help guide our discussion. Open-ended questions relating to how the articles and books speak to one another, critique the logic of arguments, or question the applicability of evidence are preferred.

- **Response Papers**. You will write three 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 2,000 words. 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.
- **Discussion Lead.** You will lead the class discussion three times 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.
- **Take-home Final.** You will complete an open note take-home final that is designed to mimic the format of the Ph.D. comprehensive exam. The exam will ask you to synthesize and contextualize a major empirical question in or theoretical approach to the study of world politics. **The final will be distributed on April 30 at 8:00am and will be due May 4 at 11:59pm.**

### 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, January 7: 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, January 14: Theory and Hypothesis Testing in International Relations

    - King, Gary, Robert O Keohane, and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton University Press, 1994, Chapters 1, 3, and 6.
    - 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.
    - Fearon, James D. "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science." *World politics* 43, no. 2 (1991): 169–195.
    - 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.
    - Waltz, Kenneth N. *Theory of International Politics*. Waveland Press, 1979, Chapter 1.

3. Tuesday, January 21: Realist Approaches

    - Morgenthau, Hans J. *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle For Power and Peace*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf Inc, 1978, Chapter 1.
    - Waltz, Kenneth N. *Theory of International Politics*. Waveland Press, 1979, Chapters 5 and 6.
    - 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
    - Mearsheimer, John J, et al. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. WW Norton & Company, 2001, Chapters 1–2.
    - Braumoeller, Bear F. *The Great Powers and the International System: Systemic Theory in Empirical Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, 2013, Chapters 1–2.
    - Rose, Gideon. "Neoclassical Realism and Theories of Foreign Policy." *World politics* 51, no. 1 (1998): 144–172.

4. Tuesday, January 28: Anarchy and Hierarchy

- Bull, Hedley. *The Anarchical society: A Study of Order in World Politics*. Macmillan International Higher Education, 2012, Chapters 1–2.
- Milner, Helen. "The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique." *Review of International Studies* 17, no. 1 (1991): 67–85.
- 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.
- Jervis, Robert. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World politics* 30, no. 2 (1978): 167–214.
- DiCicco, Jonathan M, and Jack S Levy. "Power Shifts and Problem Shifts: The Evolution of the Power Transition Research Program." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 43, no. 6 (1999): 675–704.

5. Tuesday, February 4: The Social Construction of World Politics

   - Wendt, Alexander. *Social theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press, 1999, Chapter 4.
   - Haas, Peter M. "Introduction: Epistemic Communities and International Policy Coordination." *International Organization* 46, no. 1 (1992): 1–35.
   - Ruggie, John Gerard. "What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge." *International Organization* 52, no. 4 (1998): 855–885.
   - Finnemore, Martha, and Kathryn Sikkink. "International Norm Dynamics and Political Change." *International organization* 52, no. 4 (1998): 887–917.
   - Keck, Margaret E, and Kathryn Sikkink. *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Cornell University Press, 2014, Chapters 1 and 2.
   - Towns, Ann E. "Norms and social hierarchies: understanding international policy diffusion "from below"." *International Organization* 66, no. 2 (2012): 179–209.

6. Tuesday, February 11: Signaling and Strategic Interactions

   - Lake, David A, and Robert Powell. *Strategic Choice and International Relations*. Princeton University Press, 1999, Chapter 1
   - Fearon, James D. "Signaling Foreign Policy interests: Tying Hands Versus Sinking Costs." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41, no. 1 (1997): 68–90.
   - Fearon, James D. "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes." *American political science review* 88, no. 3 (1994): 577–592.
   - Schultz, Kenneth A. "Domestic Opposition and Signaling in International Crises." *American Political Science Review* 92, no. 4 (1998): 829–844.

- Tomz, Michael. "Domestic Audience Costs in International Relations: An Experimental Approach." *International Organization* 61, no. 4 (2007): 821–840.
- 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.

7. Tuesday, February 18: Conflict

   - 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.
   - Gartzke, Erik. "War is in the Error Term." *International Organization* 53, no. 3 (1999): 567–587.
   - Levy, Jack S. "The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace." *Annual Review of Political Science* 1, no. 1 (1998): 139–165.

8. Tuesday, February 25: Cooperation

   - Axelrod, Robert. *The Evolution of Cooperation: Revised Edition*. Basic Books, 2009.
   - Adler, Emanuel. "The Emergence of Cooperation: National Epistemic Communities and the International Evolution of the Idea of Nuclear Arms Control." *International organization* 46, no. 1 (1992): 101–145.
   - Keohane, Robert O. *After hegemony*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984, Chapters 1-3
   - Fearon, James D. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation." *International organization* 52, no. 2 (1998): 269–305.
   - Carnegie, Allison. "States held hostage: Political Hold-up Problems and the Effects of International Institutions." *American Political Science Review* 108, no. 1 (2014): 54–70

9. Tuesday, March 3: Institutions and Compliance

   - Morrow, James D. "Modeling the Forms of International Cooperation: Distribution Versus Information." *International Organization* 48, no. 3 (1994): 387–423.
   - Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal. "The Rational Design of International Institutions." *International organization* 55, no. 4 (2001): 761–799.
   - Chayes, Abram, and Antonia Handler Chayes. "On Compliance." *International organization* 47, no. 2 (1993): 175–205.

- Downs, George W, David M Rocke, and Peter N Barsoom. "Is the Good News about Compliance Good News About Cooperation?" *International Organization* 50, no. 3 (1996): 379–406.
- Chaudoin, Stephen. "Promises or Policies? An Experimental Analysis of International Agreements and Audience Reactions." *International Organization* 68, no. 1 (2014): 235–256.
- Simmons, Beth A. *Mobilizing for Human Rights: International Law in Domestic Politics*. Cambridge University Press, 2009, Chapters 1–3.
- 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

10. Tuesday, March 10: **No Class — Spring Break**

11. Tuesday, March 17: International Political Economy

    - Lake, David A. "Open Economy Politics: A Critical Review." *The Review of International Organizations* 4, no. 3 (2009): 219–244.
    - Mansfield, Edward D, Helen V Milner, and B Peter Rosendorff. "Why Democracies Cooperate More: Electoral Control and International Trade Agreements." *International Organization* 56, no. 3 (2002): 477–513.
    - Gowa, Joanne, and Edward D. Mansfield. "Power Politics and International Trade." *American Political Science Review* 87, no. 2 (1993): 408–420.
    - Milner, Helen V., and Keiko Kubota. "Why the Move to Free Trade? Democracy and Trade Policy in the Developing Countries." *International Organization* 59, no. 1 (2005): 107–143.
    - Wellhausen, Rachel L. *The Shield of Nationality: When Governments Break Contracts with Foreign Firms*. Cambridge University Press, 2014, Chapters 1–3.
    - Farrell, Henry, and Abraham L Newman. "Weaponized Interdependence: How Global Economic Networks Shape State Coercion." *International Security* 44, no. 1 (2019): 42–79.

12. Tuesday, March 24: International Organizations

    - 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.
    - Pevehouse, Jon C. *Democracy From Above: Regional Organizations and Democratization*. Cambridge University Press, 2005, Chapters 1–3.
    - Barnett, Michael N, and Martha Finnemore. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations." *International organization* 53, no. 4 (1999): 699–732.
    - Voeten, Erik. "The Political Origins of the UN Security Council's Ability to Legitimize the Use of Force." *International Organization* 59, no. 3 (2005): 527–557.

- Johns, Leslie. "A Servant of Two Masters: Communication and the Selection of International Bureaucrats." *International Organization* 61, no. 2 (2007): 245–275.
- Pratt, Tyler. "Angling for influence: Institutional Proliferation in Development Banking."

13. Tuesday, March 31: Domestic Politics

    - Moravcsik, Andrew. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A liberal Theory of International Politics." *International Organization* 51, no. 4 (1997): 513–553
    - 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 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.

14. Tuesday, April 7: Psychological Approaches

    - Kertzer, Joshua D, and Dustin Tingley. "Political Psychology in International Relations: Beyond the Paradigms." *Annual Review of Political Science* 21 (2018): 319–339.
    - McManus, Roseanne W. "Crazy Like a Fox? Are Leaders with Reputations for Madness More Successful at International Coercion?" *British Journal of Political Science*, 2019, 1–19.
    - Levy, Jack S. "Prospect Theory, Rational choice, and International Relations." *International Studies Quarterly* 41, no. 1 (1997): 87–112.
    - Berejikian, Jeffrey D. "A Cognitive Theory of Deterrence." *Journal of Peace Research* 39, no. 2 (2002): 165–183.
    - Rathbun, Brian C. "Before hegemony: Generalized Trust and the Creation and Design of International Security Organizations." *International Organization* 65, no. 2 (2011): 243–273.
    - Hafner-Burton, Emilie M, Stephan Haggard, David A Lake, and David G Victor. "The Behavioral Revolution and International Relations." *International Organization* 71, no. S1 (2017): S1–S31.

15. Tuesday, April 14: Reputation and Status

    - Dafoe, Allan, Jonathan Renshon, and Paul Huth. "Reputation and Status as Motives for War." *Annual Review of Political Science* 17 (2014): 371–393.

- Weisiger, Alex, and Keren Yarhi-Milo. "Revisiting Reputation: How Past Actions Matter in International Politics." *International Organization* 69, no. 2 (2015): 473–495.
- Tomz, Michael. *Reputation and international cooperation: Sovereign Debt Across Three Centuries.* Princeton University Press, 2012, Chapters 1–2.
- Paul, Thazha V, Deborah Welch Larson, and William C Wohlforth. *Status in World Politics*. Cambridge University Press, 2014, Chapters 1 and 5.
- Renshon, Jonathan. "Status Deficits and War." *International Organization* 70, no. 3 (2016): 513–550, Chapters 1–2.

16. Tuesday, April 21: 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.
    - Hymans, Jacques E.C. *Achieving Nuclear Ambitions: Scientists, Politicians, and Proliferation*. Cambridge University Press, 2012, Chapters 1 and 2.

17. Tuesday, April 28: Gender and International Relations

    - Tickner, J Ann. "You Just Don't Understand: Troubled Engagements Between Feminists and IR Theorists." *International Studies Quarterly* 41, no. 4 (1997): 611–632
    - Keohane, Robert O. "Beyond dichotomy: Conversations Between International Relations and Feminist Theory." *International Studies Quarterly* 42, no. 1 (1998): 193–197
    - Reiter, Dan. "The Positivist Study of Gender and International Relations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 59, no. 7 (2015): 1301–1326
    - Sjoberg, Laura, Kelly Kadera, and Cameron G Thies. "Reevaluating Gender and IR Scholarship: Moving Beyond Reiter's Dichotomies Toward Effective Synergies." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 62, no. 4 (2018): 848–870
    - Carpenter, R Charli. "'Women and Children First': Gender, Norms, and Humanitarian Evacuation in the Balkans 1991–95." *International Organization* 57, no. 4 (2003): 661–694