

International Relations Theory

Political Science 370, section 001

Winter semester 2008

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Office hours:
TTh 10-11:30 AM
781 SWKT

Class:
MWF 4-4:50
346 MARB

Syllabus version 0.2 - revised January 4, 2008.

Course description

This course is an introduction to several major theoretical debates in international relations. International relations is a subfield of political science concerned primarily with the ways in which sovereign states relate to each other— in cooperation, competition, and conflict. The theories discussed in this class attempt to describe, analyze, and evaluate international relations in the past and present. They also offer predictions and prescriptions for the future. By studying these theories, students can gain both a better understanding of the world around them and a greater capacity to affect the world for good. Students should see this course not just as a means to acquire specialized knowledge, but also as an opportunity to develop important academic and life skills, including critical thinking and communication.

For more information on the learning outcomes sought by the department of political science, as well as the department's statement of purpose, please visit the following web page: [https://learningoutcomes.byu.edu/wiki/index.php/Political Science BA](https://learningoutcomes.byu.edu/wiki/index.php/Political_Science_BA)

Required texts

Three books are required for purchase. Reading assignments will be drawn almost exclusively from these texts, and students are expected to bring them to class.

1. Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, International politics: Enduring concepts and contemporary issues, 8th ed. (New York: Pearson Longman, 2004).
2. Paul R. Viotti and Mark V. Kauppi, eds., International relations theory: Realism, pluralism, globalism, and beyond, 3rd ed. (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1999).
3. Michael E. Brown, Owen R. Cote, Jr., Sean M. Lynn-Jones, and Steven E. Miller, eds., Theories of war and peace (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1998).

There are three other books which you may find useful in this course. Stephen Van Evera's *Guide to Methods* will help you understand what theories are and how to test them. The *Turabian Manual for Writers* is usually used as a guide to style and format for writing papers, but you will find it is full of other helpful ideas, including an invaluable explanation of how to develop a research question. (Many of you will have purchased an earlier edition of the *Turabian manual*

for your Political Science 200 class. Please consider purchasing the 2007 edition, which is superior in every way.) Both of these books are strongly recommended, but not required.

- Stephen Van Evera, Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science (Cornell: Cornell University Press, 1997).
- Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers, 7th ed., rev. Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, and the University of Chicago Press editorial staff (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2007).

The final book is published by BYU's Kennedy Center for International Studies, and is a compilation of papers presented at a conference on moral perspectives on international relations. We will be reading several excerpts from this book later in the course. The excerpts will be available online through the Blackboard course website, and so the book will not be required for purchase. However, the entire book is excellent, and students interested in writing on this subject should consider buying it.

- Kerry M. Kartchner and Valerie M. Hudson, eds., Wielding the Sword While Proclaiming Peace: Views from the LDS Community on Reconciling the Demands of National Security with the Imperatives of Revealed Truth (Provo, UT: David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies, 2004).

Course requirements

Twenty percent of your total grade will be determined by your participation in class. Although this class is somewhat large, I expect every student to be actively involved. To this end, please make sure you read each day's assignment prior to coming to class. Students should be aware that several unannounced quizzes have been planned, and should prepare accordingly. Tardy students will not get extra time to finish their quizzes.

Four examinations will together comprise another forty percent of your total grade (ten percent each). These exams will test students' knowledge of the theories presented in the readings and discussed in class. All exams will be administered in the testing center; students will have 90 minutes to complete each exam. No books or notes are permitted. (The final exam in the course will follow the same format as the previous three, and will likewise be administered in the testing center. The final examination will not be comprehensive.)

The final forty percent of the total class grade will come from papers. Over the semester, students will write four short theory critiques and one research paper. There are five units in the course. On the second-to-last class day of each unit, a paper is due. Students who have not signed up to turn in a research paper for this unit will instead turn in a theory critique.

Paper due dates :

- Unit 1 - Realism - Wednesday, January 30
- Unit 2 - Pluralism / Liberalism - Monday, February 25

- Unit 3 - Globalism - Wednesday, March 19
- Unit 4 - Normative perspectives on IR - Monday, March 31
- Unit 5 - Contemporary foreign policy challenges - Friday, April 11

For the theory critiques, students will summarize the theory (or theories) presented in one of the required readings, and discuss its merits and defects. Theory critiques are to be brief (3-5 pp.), but carefully thought out. Each is worth 5% of the final course grade. The research paper is worth 20% of the total class grade, and should be 10-12 pages in length. Students are relatively free to choose the unit for which they will write a research paper, but no more than one quarter of the class will be permitted to write a research paper on any given unit.

Students will receive further instructions regarding the paper assignments in later class periods, but all students should carefully follow the Memo on Writing, distributed on the first day of class with the syllabus, and available online on the Blackboard course website.

Schedule of class readings

For each day of class, there are assigned readings. Students should come to class having studied these texts and prepared themselves for a discussion. Note: Due to space limitations, reading assignments from the three required books are presented here using an abridged citation format, as noted here:

IP = International politics: Enduring concepts and contemporary issues

IRT = International relations theory: Realism, pluralism, globalism, and beyond

TWP = Theories of war and peace

GM = Guide to methods for students of political science

Mon., Jan. 7	0. Theory and international relations “Theory, images, and international relations: An introduction,” (<u>IRT</u> 1-28).
Weds., Jan. 9	Stephen Van Evera, “Hypotheses, laws, and theories: A user’s guide,” (<u>GM</u> 7-48).
Fri., Jan. 11	1. Introduction to the Realist perspective “Realism: The state, power, and balance of power,” (<u>IRT</u> 55-99).
Mon., Jan. 14	Thucydides, “The Melian dialogue,” (<u>IRT</u> 100-105). Niccolo Machiavelli, “On princes and the security of their states,” (<u>IRT</u> 105-107). Thomas Hobbes, “Of the natural condition of mankind,” (<u>IRT</u> 108-110). Hans J. Morgenthau, “Six principles of political realism,” (<u>IP</u> 7-14).
Weds., Jan. 16	Kenneth Waltz, “The anarchic structure of world politics,” (<u>IP</u> 29-49). Robert Gilpin, “War and change in world politics,” (<u>IRT</u> 145-153).

Fri., Jan. 18	Realism: Theories on conflict and cooperation Stephen Van Evera, "Offense, defense, and the causes of war," (<u>TWP</u> 55-93). Stephen M. Walt, "Alliances: Balancing and bandwagoning," (<u>IP</u> 96-103).
Mon., Jan. 21	Holiday; no classes.
Weds., Jan. 23	John J. Mearsheimer, "Back to the future: Instability in Europe after the cold war," (<u>TWP</u> 3-54).
Fri., Jan. 25	Charles L. Glaser, "Realists as optimists: Cooperation as self-help," (<u>TWP</u> 94-136).
Mon., Jan. 28	Realism: Critical views J. Ann Tickner, "A critique of Morgenthau's principles of political realism," (<u>IP</u> 15-28).
Weds., Jan. 30	Robert O. Keohane, "Theory of world politics: Structural realism and beyond," (<u>IRT</u> 153-183).
Fri., Feb. 1	Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is what states make of it," (<u>IRT</u> 434-458).
Mon., Feb.4	2. Introduction to the Pluralist perspective "Pluralism: Decision making, transnationalism, and interdependence," (<u>IRT</u> 199-232).
Weds., Feb. 6	Steven E. Ratner, "International law: The trials of global norms," (<u>IP</u> 581-586). Robert O. Keohane, "International institutions: Can interdependence work?" (<u>IP</u> 119-126).
Fri., Feb. 8	Andrew Moravcsik, "Taking preferences seriously: A liberal theory of international politics," (<u>IRT</u> 246-256). Ernst B. Haas, "Multilateralism, knowledge, and power," (<u>IRT</u> 319-330).
Mon., Feb.11	Pluralism: Democracy and peace Michael W. Doyle, "Kant, liberal legacies, and foreign affairs," (<u>IP</u> 83-95). John M. Owen, "How liberalism produces democratic peace," (<u>TWP</u> 137-175).
Weds., Feb. 13	Christopher Layne, "Kant or cant: The myth of the democratic peace," (<u>TWP</u> 176-220).
Fri., Feb. 15	Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and the danger of war," (<u>TWP</u> 221-256).
Mon., Feb. 18	Holiday; no classes.

TUES., Feb. 19	Pluralism: Beyond unitary state actors Robert Jervis, "Perception and misperception in international politics," (<u>IRT</u> 257-268). Ole R. Holsti, "Crisis decision making," (<u>IRT</u> 269-279).
Weds., Feb. 20	Graham T. Allison, "Conceptual models and the Cuban missile crisis," (<u>IRT</u> 280-296).
Fri., Feb. 22	Judith Goldstein and Robert O. Keohane, "Ideas and foreign policy," (<u>IRT</u> 297-306). Rhoda E. Howard and Jack Donnelly, "Human rights in world politics," (<u>IP</u> 546-557).
Mon., Feb. 25	Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational activist networks," (<u>IP</u> 532-538). Adam Roberts, "The United Nations and international security," (<u>IP</u> 127-135).
Weds., Feb. 27	Alexander Wendt, "Constructing international politics," (<u>TWP</u> 416-426). Carl Kaysen, "Is war obsolete? A review essay," (<u>TWP</u> 441-463).
Fri., Feb. 29	3. Introduction to Globalism Robert Gilpin, "The nature of political economy," (<u>IP</u> 267-282).
Mon., Mar. 3	"Globalism: Dependency and the capitalist world system," (<u>IRT</u> 341-364).
Weds., Mar. 5	J. A. Hobson, "The economic taproot of imperialism," (<u>IRT</u> 365-368). Immanuel Wallerstein, "Patterns and perspectives of the capitalist world-economy," (<u>IRT</u> 369-376).
Fri., Mar. 7	Martin Wolf, "Will globalization survive?" (<u>IP</u> 325-334).
Mon., Mar.10	Globalism: Managing globalization Jeffrey Frankel, "Globalization of the international economy," (<u>IP</u> 309-324). Dani Rodrik, "Trading in illusions," (<u>IP</u> 365-373).
Weds., Mar. 12	Bruce R. Scott, "The great divide in the global village," (<u>IP</u> 311-323). Geoffrey Garrett, "Globalization's missing middle," (<u>IP</u> 355-360).
Fri., Mar. 14	John Micklethwait and Adrian Woolridge, "Why the globalization backlash is stupid," (<u>IP</u> 361-368). Kenneth N. Waltz, "Globalization and governance," (<u>IP</u> 335-346).
Mon., Mar. 17	Globalism: Globalization and conflict Robert I. Rotberg, "Failed states, collapsed states, weak states: Causes and indicators," (<u>IP</u> 451-458). Moises Naim, "The five wars of globalization," (<u>IP</u> 558-567).

Weds., Mar. 19	Dale C. Copeland, "Economic interdependence and war: A theory of trade expectations," (TWP 464-500).
Fri., Mar. 21	Samuel P. Huntington, "The clash of civilizations?" (IP 391-405).
Mon., Mar. 24	4. International norms and normative IR theory "Normative considerations and international relations theory," (IRT 397-409). Stephen Van Evera, "Professional ethics," (GM 117-121).
Weds., Mar. 26	Hugo Grotius, "War, peace, and the law of nations," (IRT 410-414). Immanuel Kant, "Morality, politics, and the perpetual peace," (IRT 415-421). E. H. Carr, "The nature of politics," (IRT 422-426).
Fri., Mar. 28	Latter-day saint perspectives: readings TBA
Mon., Mar. 31	Latter-day saint perspectives: readings TBA
Weds., Apr. 2	Latter-day saint perspectives: readings TBA
Fri., Apr. 4	5. Contemporary foreign policy challenges Bruce Hoffman, "What is terrorism?" (IP 198-204). Robert A. Pape, "The strategic logic of suicide terrorism," (IP 221-238). F. Gregory Gause III, "Can democracy stop terrorism?" (IP 432-440).
Mon., Apr. 7	Scott D. Sagan, "Nuclear instability in South Asia," (IP 239-249). Kenneth Waltz, "Nuclear stability in South Asia," (IP 250-260).
Weds., Apr. 9	David A. Lake and Donald Rothchild, "Containing fear: The origins and management of ethnic conflict," (TWP 292-326). Chaim Kaufmann, "Possible and impossible solutions to ethnic civil wars," (IP 459-480). James Dobbins, "Nation-building: UN surpasses US on learning curve," (IP 481-489).
Fri., Apr. 11	Robert Jervis, "The era of leading power peace," (IP 375-390). Stephen M. Walt, "Taming American power," (IP 441-450). Fareed Zakaria, "Why do they hate us?" (IP 406-416).
Mon., Apr. 14	Garrett Hardin, "The tragedy of the commons," (IP 495-500). Thomas F. Homer-Dixon, "Environmental scarcities and violent conflict: Evidence from cases," (TWP 501-536). John Browne, "Beyond Kyoto," (IP 508-515).

Honesty

Dishonesty is bad (see 2 Nephi 9:34). Students found plagiarizing or cheating will fail the course, unless it is possible to arrange a more severe punishment. If you are unsure what plagiarism is, or whether a given action is dishonest, please speak with the instructor. For specific examples of fabrication, falsification, and both intentional and inadvertent plagiarism, please consult the university's Honor Code website:

http://honorcode.byu.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5302&Itemid=5698

Timeliness

Being late is human, but it is also unprofessional (see D/C 107:100). Please turn your work in before 5 PM on due date. Late papers will be penalized one third of a letter grade per day. If you anticipate difficulty with a due date, please speak to me about this as soon as possible. Those who seek help early are more likely to find a solution to their problem.

Political Science department policies

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the university but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895 or 367-5689 (24 hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 378-2847.

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (378-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the SSD office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895, D-282 ASB.

PL SC 370 - IR Theory
Prof. John D. Payne
January 7, 2008

MEMO ON WRITING

1. Please follow Turabian's *Manual for Writers*, 7th ed., on matters of format and style. For tips on clear and thoughtful writing, you are advised to read George Orwell's seminal essay, "Politics and the English Language," available in various places on the web. You are also advised to read the Appendix (p.123-8) in Van Evera's *Guide to Methods*.
2. All papers should be submitted electronically as PDF documents *and* as (stapled) hard copies. You may wish to use pdfonline.com to publish your paper in PDF format.
3. Papers should be submitted before 5 PM on the due date. You may slide the paper under the door if it is locked. Late papers will be penalized as explained in the course syllabus.
4. You may use a cover page. This page should not be numbered, and does not count against the page limits. Number all other pages at the bottom center of the page. On the first page of your paper (or the cover page), please include the following information: your name, the course number and title, the name of the instructor, the date, and the title of your paper. No other information is necessary.
5. Please stay within page limits, both minimum and maximum. Use 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with one inch margins.
6. Maintain an academic tone throughout your paper. Be formal, not conversational. Be a social scientist, not a pundit or op-ed columnist. Do not use contractions.
7. A research paper is not a mystery story or a voyage of discovery. Your argument should therefore be presented on the first page of your paper, preferably in the first paragraph.
8. Use footnotes to cite your sources. Do not use parenthetical references. Do not include a works cited page or a bibliography. (In this, you will be deviating from Turabian.)
9. Do not plagiarize. If you got the information from someone else, cite the source. Remember: the point of citing sources is to help readers *find* the information to which you are referring. If you are not sure how to cite anything, ask yourself if you have written down everything necessary to find the information you have cited.
10. Read and cite only reputable sources, like peer-reviewed journals, scholarly books, and major newspapers when appropriate. Citing web sources is permitted, but they should be of the same quality. This means no personal web pages, and no Wikipedia. Please make sure that the majority of your sources are not internet sources.