

POLITICAL SCIENCE 671
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY
Winter 2024

Prof. Fernando G. Nuñez-Mietz

Seminar meetings: Tuesdays 8:35-11:25 – Leacock 517
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30-3:30, or by appointment (*Zoom*)
Instructor's Office: Leacock Building 536
Email: fernando.nunez-mietz@mcgill.ca

Course description

This course surveys the main paradigms, frameworks of analysis, and theoretical debates that comprise the academic study of International Relations (IR). The readings and seminars seek to provide not only an overview of the key theoretical debates, but also a ‘toolkit’ of concepts that students can use to analyze international relations. The scope of this course is limited to what are generally considered foundational approaches and issues that feature in the academic study of IR.

The course will help PhD students preparing for their IR comprehensive exam, while providing MA students with a solid theoretical foundation. It aims to train graduate students in efficient and critical reading of complex materials and arguments. The premium is on how to methodically analyze a book or an article in order to grasp its structure, cast its argument in relation to others, and develop original and critical thinking.

Readings

All readings in the syllabus are required (except those readings listed as “*further reading*”) and, if accessible online through the McGill Libraries, they are hyperlinked in this syllabus. Students are responsible for accessing these materials.

Class format

The seminar will meet in person once a week for three hours. It is absolutely essential that students not only complete all the readings, but also conduct an individual reflection prior to the course each week (e.g., by preparing discussion notes) in order to fully benefit from the meetings. The reading load for this course is particularly heavy and requires several hours a week of individual preparation. Readings usually consist of one seminal book – the *main work* – coupled with a few prominent articles or book chapters – the *related works* – that critique, revisit, or expand the book’s arguments.

Typically, each seminar session will have the following format:

- **8:35 - 8:55:** The class will start with a 20-minute **online Quiz** on the required readings.
- 8:55 - 9:00: Short break.
- **9:00 - 10:10: Discussion** of the *main work(s)*.
- 10:10 - 10:25: Break.
- **10:25 - 11:25: Discussion** of the *related works*.

In addition to the seminar’s weekly meetings, students are encouraged to participate in the Speakers’ Series sponsored by the Centre for International Peace and Security Studies (CIPSS). Talks are held on Fridays (12-1:30 p.m.) throughout the term, dealing with a variety of issues in IR theory by leading scholars from around the world. This is an excellent opportunity to learn how the academic writing process works, develop presentation skills, learn about Q&A debating, and practice critical thinking. It is also a useful way to get to know reputed academics and learn about current topics and ongoing research in the discipline. As described below, students will be required to write a short reflection paper on one of these talks.

Course requirements and grade structure

Participation in seminar discussions (15%)

Students are expected to take an active part in discussions and debates, showing a high level of preparedness prior to class. The participation grade is based on **attendance** to the weekly meetings as well as the quantity and quality of the **contributions** made by the student to the discussions therein. The grade is calculated using the following formula:

$$\frac{AVERAGE\ PARTICIPATION\ GRADE \times SESSIONS\ ATTENDED}{SESSIONS\ ATTENDED + UNEXCUSED\ ABSENCES}$$

Datasheets (14%)

Preparedness involves not only reading the materials but also reflecting on it. Students are expected to submit, **every Monday before noon**, a datasheet for the *main work(s)* that will be discussed the following day. The datasheet will look like this:

THEORY DATASHEET	
Main question	<i>What is the main focus of inquiry? What is the author trying to explain or make sense of?</i>
Main answer	<i>In one line, how would you summarize the theory’s answer to the main question?</i>
Assumptions / Scope conditions	<i>What premises does the theory start from? What are its conceptual or empirical assumptions? Which cases is the theory applicable to?</i>
Level of analysis	<i>Are the theory’s explanatory factors mainly located at the level of the individual, the state, or the international system?</i>
Explanatory factors	<i>What are the main concepts or variables used to do the explaining?</i>
Explanatory mechanisms / logic	<i>How would you summarize the explanation provided by the theory?</i>
Strengths	<i>In your view, what are the main contributions of the theory?</i>
Weaknesses	<i>In your view, what are the main problems or weaknesses with the theory?</i>

The datasheet(s) will be submitted on *MyCourses/Assignments*. It will receive one of three possible grades: PASS, LOW PASS, FAIL. Late submissions will receive a *low pass* or a *fail*. A total of **14 datasheets** should be submitted by each student, corresponding to Sessions 2 through 13. The datasheets will be used to frame the discussions.

Quizzes (12%)

Sessions 2 through 13 will start with a **20-minute quiz** to be individually completed on *MyCourses/Quizzes*. The quiz will consist of multiple-choice questions on the required readings that will be discussed in that session.

Critical essay (25%)

Each student should submit a critical essay on a theoretical question addressed in the seminar's discussions or readings. The essay's research question should be approved by the instructor no later than **April 1**. The student is expected to engage the material read and discussed in the course, demonstrating both comprehension of it and ability to critique it. The essay should have **between 3000 and 3500 words**, and should be uploaded on *MyCourses/Assignments* no later than **April 14**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Response paper (4%)

Students are required to write a short response paper on one of the seminar presentations in the **CIPSS Speakers' Series** over the course of the term. This involves reading the speaker's chapter/article, attending the seminar and discussion, and critically reflecting on: a) what the chapter/article aims to contribute to IR; and b) what theoretical issues are raised by the chapter/article. The response paper must be no more than **1500 words** in length and should be uploaded on *MyCourses* by **April 15**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Final exam (30%)

For **MA students**, the final exam will consist of an **oral exam** – lasting between 15 and 30 minutes – which will be scheduled with each student to take place on **April 22 or 23**. The exam will cover all the material in this syllabus – excluding that listed as *further reading*.

For **PhD students**, the final exam will consist of a **take-home written exam** based on questions from past IR Comprehensive Examinations. The student will have to choose two of the listed questions and answer them applying the material studied in the course. The written exam is scheduled for **April 22 at 2:00-5:00**. In addition, each PhD student will have a **15-minute oral exam** mainly based on the questions answered in the written exam. The oral exam will be scheduled with each student to take place on **April 24 or 25**.

Final course grade:

<i>Participation</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Datasheets</i>	<i>14%</i>
<i>Quizzes</i>	<i>12%</i>
<i>Critical Essay</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Response Paper</i>	<i>4%</i>
<i>Final Exam</i>	<i>30%</i>

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course may be subject to change.

Academic integrity and students' rights

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offenses under the Code of Student

Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [McGill's guide to academic honesty](#) for more information). Note that to support academic integrity, your assignments may be submitted to text-matching or other appropriate software (e.g., formula-, equation-, and graph-matching).

- In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.
- If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss the situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (398-6009) before you do this.
- If you are experiencing any problem, inside or outside the classroom, that is affecting your performance in this course, do not hesitate to approach the instructor.
- For more information on students' resources, see <https://www.mcgillpssa.ca>.

COURSE SCHEDULE

SESSION 1: January 9

Course Introduction: Theorizing in IR

- Meet & Greet
- Course presentation
- Course administration
- On scientific knowledge, paradigms, theories and explanations in IR

Burchill, Scott, and Andrew Linklater (2005). Introduction. In Scott Burchill, Andrew Linklater, Richard Devetak, Jack Donnelly, Matthew Paterson, Christian Reus-Smit and Jacqui True (eds.), *Theories of International Relations*. Third edition. Palgrave. Chapter 1 (pp. 1-28).

[Lake, David \(2011\). Why 'isms' Are Evil: Theory, Epistemology, and Academic Sects as Impediments to Understanding and Progress. *International Studies Quarterly*, 55\(2\), pp. 465-480.](#)

[Mearsheimer, John and Stephen Walt \(2013\). Leaving Theory Behind: Why Simplistic Hypothesis Testing Is Bad for International Relations. *European Journal of International Relations*, 19\(3\), pp. 427-457.](#)

[Reus-Smit, Christian \(2013\). Beyond Meta Theory? *European Journal of International Relations*, 19\(3\), pp. 589-608.](#)

Further reading:

Andersson, Gunnar (1994). *Criticism and the History of Science: Kuhn's, Lakatos's, and Feyerabend's Criticisms of Critical Rationalism*. E.J. Brill. Chapters 3-5.

Bennett, Andrew (2013). The Mother of All Isms: Causal Mechanisms and Structured Pluralism in International Relations Theory. *European Journal of International Relations*, 19(3), pp. 459-481.

- Dunne, Tim, Lene Hansen and Colin Wight (2013). The End of International Theory? *European Journal of International Relations*, 19(3), pp. 405-425.
- Hoffmann, Stanley (1977). An American Social Science: International Relations., *Daedalus* 106:3, pp. 41-60.
- Hollis, Martin and Steve Smith (1991). *Explaining and Understanding International Relations*. Oxford University Press.
- Jackson, Patrick T. (2016). *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations*. Routledge. Chapters 1 and 2.
- Jackson, Patrick T. and Daniel H. Nexon (2009). Paradigmatic Faults in International-Relations Theory. *International Studies Quarterly*, 53(4), pp. 907-930.
- Jackson, Patrick T. and Daniel H. Nexon (2013). International Theory in a Post-Paradigmatic Era: From Substantive Wagers to Scientific Ontologies. *European Journal of International Relations*, 19(3), pp. 543-465.
- Kleinschmidt, Harald. (2000). *The Nemesis of Power: A History of International Relations Theories*. Reaktion Books.
- Popper, Karl (1935/2002). *The Logic of Scientific Discovery*. Routledge. Chapters 3 and 4.
- Reus-Smit, Christian and Duncan Snidal (2008). Between Utopia and Reality: The Practical Discourses of IR. In C. Reus-Smit and D. Snidal (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, Oxford University Press, pp. 3-38
- Schmidt, Brian C. (2013). On the History and Historiography of International Relations. In W. Carlsnaes, T. Risse and B. Simmons (eds.), *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage.
- Sil, Rudra, and Peter J Katzenstein (2010). *Beyond Paradigms: Analytic Eclecticism in the Study of World Politics*. Palgrave Macmillan. Chapters 1 and 2.
- Singer, David J. (1961). The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations. *World Politics* 14:1, pp. 77-92.
- Taylor, Charles (1987). Interpretation and the Sciences of Man. In Paul Rabinow and William Sullivan (eds., 1987). *Interpretive Social Science: A Second Look*. University of California Press, pp. 33-81.
- Vayda, Andrew and Bradley Walters (eds., 2011). *Causal Explanation for Social Scientists*. AltaMira. Introduction, Chapters 1, 9, 11, 20 and 21.
- Waever, Ole (1988). The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline: American and European Developments in IR. *International Organization* 52:4, pp. 687-727.
- Wendt, Alexander (2015). *Quantum Mind and Social Science: Unifying Physical and Social Ontology*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1.

SESSION 2: January 16

Realism (1): Neorealism

Main work:

Waltz, Kenneth N. (1979). *Theory of International Politics*. Addison-Wesley Pub.

Related works:

Mearsheimer, John J. (2001). *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. Norton. Chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 1-54).

Buzan, Barry (1993). Rethinking System and Structure. In [Barry Buzan, Charles Jones and Richard Little \(1993\), *The Logic of Anarchy: Neorealism to Structural Realism*, Columbia University Press](#), pp. 19-80.

[Ruggie, John G. \(1983\). *Continuity and Transformation in the World Polity: Toward a Neorealist Synthesis*. *World Politics*, 35\(2\), pp. 261-285.](#)

[Goddard, Stacie and Daniel Nexon \(2005\). *Paradigm Lost? Reassessing Theory of International Politics*. *European Journal of International Relations*, 11\(1\), pp. 9-61.](#)

[Waltz, Kenneth \(2000\). *Structural Realism after the Cold War*. *International Security*, 25\(1\), pp. 5-41.](#)

Further reading:

Ashley, Richard (1984). The Poverty of Neorealism. *International Organization* 38:2, pp. 225-286.

Jervis, Robert (1994). Hans Morgenthau, Realism, and the Scientific Study of International Politics. *Social Research* 61:4, pp. 853-876.

Keohane, Robert O (1986, ed.). *Neorealism and Its Critics*. Columbia University Press.

Kirshner, Jonathan (2015). The Economic Sins of Modern IR Theory and the Classical Realist Alternative. *World Politics*, 67(1), pp. 155-183.

Schweller, Randall and William Wohlforth (2000). Power Test: Evaluating Realism in Response to the End of the Cold War. *Security Studies*, 9(3), pp. 60-107.

Shimko, Keith (1992). Realism, Neorealism and American Liberalism. *Review of Politics* 54:2, pp.

Sjoberg, Laura (2012). Gender, Structure and War: What Waltz Couldn't See. *International Theory* 4:1, pp. 1-38.

Thayer, Bradley (2015). *Darwin and International Relations: On the Evolutionary Origins of War and Ethnic Conflict*. University Press of Kentucky.

Waeber, Ole (2009). Waltz's Theory of Theory. *International Relations* 23:2, pp. 201-222.

SESSION 3: January 23

Realism (2): Balance of Power *versus* Hegemonic Stability

Main works:

[Walt, Stephen M. \(1987\). *The Origins of Alliances*. **Cornell University Press**. Focus: Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8.](#)

[Gilpin, Robert \(1981\). *War and Change in World Politics*. **Cambridge University Press**. Focus: Preface and Chapters 1, 5 and 6.](#)

Related works:

Levy, Jack (2005). What do Great Powers Balance against and When? In [T. V. Paul, J. Wirtz and M. Fortmann \(eds.\), *Balance of Power: Theory and Practice in the 21st Century*, Stanford University Press, 2005](#), pp. 29-51.

[Mearsheimer, John J. \(2001\). *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. **Norton**. Chapters 5, 8 and 9.](#)

[Paul, T.V. \(2018\). *Restraining Great Powers: Soft Balancing from Empires to the Global Era*. Yale University Press. Chapters 1, 2 and 8.](#)

[Tammen, Ronald L., et al. \(2000\). *Power Transitions: Strategies for the 21st Century*. Chatham House. Chapter 1 \(pp. 3-43\).](#)

[Snidal, Duncan \(1985\). The Limits of Hegemonic Stability Theory. *International Organization* 39\(4\), pp. 579-614.](#)

Further reading:

DiCicco, Jonathan M. and Jack S. Levy (2003). The Power Transition Research Program: A Lakatosian Analysis. In Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman (eds.), *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*, The MIT Press, pp. 109-157.

Harrison, Ewan (2009). The Contradictions of Unipolarity. In Annette Freyberg-Inan, Ewan Harrison, and Patrick James (eds.), *Rethinking Realism in International Relations: Between Tradition and Innovation*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

Ikenberry, G. John (2002, ed.). *America Unrivaled: The Future of the Balance of Power*. Cornell University Press.

Kugler, Jacek and Douglas Lemke (1996, eds.). *Parity and War: Evaluations and Extensions of the War Ledger*. The University of Michigan Press.

Levy, Jack S. and William R. Thomson (2010). Balancing on Land and at Sea: So States Ally Against the Leading Global Power? *International Security* 35:1, pp. 7-43.

Organski, A. F. K. (1958). *World Politics*. Alfred A. Knopf. Chapters 11 and 12.

Pape, Robert (2005). Soft Balancing Against the United States. *International Security* 30:1, pp. 5-49.

Paul, T. V., J. Wirtz and M. Fortmann (2005, eds.). *Balance of Power: Theory and Practice in the 21st Century*. Stanford University Press.

Wohlforth, William C. (2011). Gilpinian Realism and International Relations. *International Relations* 25:4, pp. 499-511.

SESSION 4: January 30

Neoliberal Institutionalism

Main work:

[**Keohane, Robert O. \(1984\). *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton University Press. Focus: Parts I and II \(Chapters 1-7\).**](#)

Related works:

[Jervis, Robert L. \(1999\). Realism, Neoliberalism, and Cooperation: Understanding the Debate. *International Security* 24\(1\), pp. 42-63.](#)

[Stein, Arthur A. \(1982\). Coordination and Collaboration: Regimes in an Anarchic World. *International Organization* 36\(2\), pp. 299-324.](#)

[Axelrod, Robert and Robert O. Keohane \(1985\). Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions. *World Politics* 38\(1\), pp. 226-54.](#)

Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson and Duncan Snidal (2001). The Rational Design of International Institutions. *International Organization* 55(4), pp. 761-799.

Krasner, Stephen D. (1982). Structural Causes and Regime Consequences: Regimes as Intervening Variables. *International Organization* 36(2), pp. 185-205.

Mearsheimer, John J. (1994). The False Promise of International Institutions. *International Security* 19(1), pp. 5-49.

Further reading:

Abbott, Kenneth and Snidal, Duncan (1988). Why States Act Through Formal International Organizations. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 42(1), pp. 3-32.

Alter, Karen J. (2017). *The New Terrain of International Law: Courts, Politics, Rights*. Princeton University Press.

Axelrod, Robert (1981). The Emergence of Cooperation Among Egoists. *American Political Science Review*, 75(2), pp. 306-318.

Baldwin, David A. (1993, ed.). *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*. Columbia University Press.

Haggard, Stephan (2014). Liberal Pessimism: International Relations Theory and the Emerging Powers. *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, 1(1), pp. 1-17.

Haggard, Stephan, and Beth A. Simmons (1987). Theories of International Regimes. *International Organization*, 41(3), pp. 491-517.

Jervis, Robert (1982). Security Regimes. *International Organization*, 36(2), pp. 357-378.

Jervis, Robert (1988). Realism, Game Theory and Cooperation. *World Politics*, 40(3), pp. 317-349.

Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa L. Martin (2003). Institutional Theory as a Research Program. In Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman (eds.), *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*, The MIT Press, pp. 71-107.

Krasner, Stephen D. (1982). Regimes and the Limits of Realism: Regimes as Autonomous Variables. *International Organization* 36(2), pp. 497-510.

Milner, Helen (1992). International Theories of Cooperation among Nations: Strengths and Weaknesses. *World Politics*, 44(3), pp. 466-496.

Powell, Robert (1991). Absolute and Relative Gains in International Relations Theory. *American Political Science Review* 85(4), pp. 1303-1320.

Ruggie, John Gerard (1982). International Regimes, Transactions, and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order. *International Organization*, 36(2), pp. 379-415.

Strange, Susan (1982). Cave! Hic Dragones: A Critique of Regime Analysis. *International Organization* 36(2), pp. 479-496.

Voeten, Erik (2021). *Ideology and International Institutions*. Princeton University Press.

Wendt, Alexander (2001). Driving with the Rearview Mirror: On the Rational Science of Institutional Design. *International Organization* 55(4), pp. 1019-1049.

Wivel, Anders and T.V. Paul (2019, eds). *International Institutions and Power Politics: Bridging the Divide*. Georgetown University Press.

SESSION 5: February 6

International Anarchy and Systems Change

Main work:

Lake, David. 2009. *Hierarchy in International Relations*. Cornell University Press.

Related works:

Tilly, Charles (1985). “War Making and State Making as Organized Crime.” In Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer, and Theda Skocpol (eds.), *Bringing the State Back In*, Cambridge University Press, pp. 169-191.

Spruyt, Hendrik (1994). *The Sovereign State and Its Competitors: An Analysis of Systems Change*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 8 and 9.

Chowdhury, Arjun (2017). *The Myth of International Order: Why Weak States Persist and Alternatives to the State Fade Away*. Oxford University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 8 and 9.

Milner, Helen (1991). “The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique.” *Review of International Studies* 17(1), pp. 67-85.

Wendt, Alexander, and Daniel Friedheim (1995). “Hierarchy Under Anarchy: Informal Empire and the East German State.” *International Organization* 49(4), pp. 689–721.

Hurd, Ian (1999). “Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics.” *International Organization* 53(2), pp. 379-408.

Pouliot, Vincent (2017). *Against Authority: The Heavy Weight of International Hierarchy*. In Ayse Zarakol (ed.), *Hierarchies in World Politics*, Cambridge University Press, pp. 113-133.

Further reading:

Barry Buzan, Charles Jones and Richard Little (1993). *The Logic of Anarchy: Neorealism to Structural Realism*. Columbia University Press.

Carr, Edward H. (1964). *The Twenty Years Crisis, 1919-1939: An Introduction to the Study of International Relations*. Harper Collins, 2nd edition.

Cronin, Bruce, and Ian Hurd (2008). *The Un Security Council and the Politics of International Authority*. Routledge.

Tilly, Charles (1992). *Coercion, Capital, and European States, Ad 990-1992*. Blackwell.

Waltz, Kenneth (1959). *Man, the State and War: A Theoretical Analysis*. Columbia University Press.

Zarakol, Ayse (ed., 2017). *Hierarchies in World Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

SESSION 6: February 13

International Order and the English School

Main work:

Bull, Hedley (1977/2012). *The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics*. Columbia University Press.

Related works:

[Linklater, Andrew, and Hidemi Suganami \(2006\). *The English School of International Relations: A Contemporary Reassessment*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 4 \(pp. 117-154\).](#)

[Ikenberry, G. John \(2001\). *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order After Major Wars*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-3.](#)

[Hurd, Ian \(2008\). *After Anarchy: Legitimacy and Power at the United Nations Security Council*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1-3 and 7.](#)

[Tang, Shiping \(2013\). *The Social Evolution of International Politics*. Oxford University Press.](#)

Further reading:

Brown, Chris (1995). International Theory and International Society: The Viability of the Middle Way? *Review of International Studies*, 21(2), pp. 183-96.

Bull, Hedley and Adam Watson (1984). *The Expansion of International Society*. Oxford Oxfordshire: Clarendon Press.

Buzan, Barry. 2004. *From International to World Society? English School Theory and the Social Structure of Globalisation*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6.

Dunne, Timothy and Christian Reus-Smit (2017, eds.) *The Globalization of International Society*. Oxford University Press.

Hurrell, Andrew (2007). *On Global Order: Power, Values, and the Constitution of International Society*. Oxford University Press. Chapters 1-4, 6, 7, 10 and 11.

Keene, Edward (2002). *Beyond the Anarchical Society: Grotius, Colonialism and Order in World Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Little, Richard (2000). The English School's Contribution to the Study of International Relations. *European Journal of International Relations*, 6(3), pp. 395-422.

Milner, Helen (1991). The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique. *Review of International Studies*, 17(1), pp. 67-85.

Strang, David (1991). Anomaly and Commonplace in European Political Expansion: Realist and Institutional Accounts. *International Organization*, 45(2), pp. 143-162.

Thayer, Bradley A. (2004). *Darwin and International Relations: On the Evolutionary Origins of War and Ethnic Conflict*. University Press of Kentucky.

Thompson, William R. (ed., 2016). *Evolutionary Interpretations of World Politics*. Routledge.

SESSION 7: February 20

Liberal Theory (1): Domestic Politics and International Outcomes

Main works:

[**Moravcsik, Andrew \(1997\). *Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics*. *International Organization*, 51\(4\), pp. 513-553.**](#)

[**Snyder, Jack \(1991\). *Myths of Empire: Domestic Politics and International Ambition*. Cornell University Press.**](#)

Related works:

- Schultz, Kenneth (2013). Domestic Politics and International Relations. In [W. Carlsnaes, T. Risse and B. Simmons \(eds.\), *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage](#), pp. 478-502.
- [Fearon, James \(1998\). Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy, and Theories of International Relations. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 1\(1\), pp. 289-313.](#)
- [Gourevitch, Peter \(1978\). The Second Image Reversed: The International Sources of Domestic Politics. *International Organization*, 32\(4\), pp. 881-912.](#)
- [Putnam, Robert D. \(1988\). Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games. *International Organization*, 42\(3\), pp. 427-460.](#)
- [Farrell, Henry and Abraham Newman \(2014\). Domestic Institutions Beyond the Nation State. *World Politics*, 66\(2\), pp. 331-363.](#)

Further reading:

- Allison, Graham T. (1971). *Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis*. Little, Brown and Company.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, and David Lalman (1992). *War and Reason: Domestic and International Imperatives*. Yale University Press.
- Jahn, Beate (2009). Liberal Internationalism: From Ideology to Empirical Theory – And Back Again. *International Theory*, 1(3), pp. 409-438.
- Rosecrance, Richard, and Arthur A. Stein (1993). *The Domestic Bases of Grand Strategy*. Cornell University Press.

SESSION 8: February 27

Realism (3): Neoclassical Realism

Main work:

[**Ripsman, Norrin M., Jeffrey W. Taliaferro, and Steven E. Lobell \(2016\). *Neoclassical Realist Theory of International Politics*. Oxford University Press.**](#) Focus: Introduction and Chapters 1-4.

Related works:

- [Lobell, Steven E. \(2018\). A Granular Theory of Balancing. *International Studies Quarterly*, 62\(3\), pp. 593-605.](#)
- [Schweller, Randall \(2004\). Unanswered Threats: A Neoclassical Realist Theory of Underbalancing. *International Security*, 29\(2\), pp. 159-201.](#)
- [Legro, Jeffrey, and Andrew Moravcsik \(1999\). Is Anybody Still a Realist? *International Security*, 24\(2\), pp. 5-55.](#)
- [Narizny, Kevin \(2017\). On Systemic Paradigms and Domestic Politics: A Critique of the Newest Realism. *International Security*, 42\(2\), pp. 155-90.](#)
- [Schweller, Randall L. \(2010\). Entropy and the Trajectory of World Politics: Why Polarity Has Become Less Meaningful. *Review of International Affairs* 23\(1\), pp. 145-163.](#)

Further reading:

- Dyson, Tom (2010). *Neoclassical Realism and Defence Reform in Post-Cold War Europe*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Freyberg-Inan, Annette, Ewan Harrison, and Patrick James (2009, eds.). *Rethinking Realism in International Relations: Between Tradition and Innovation*. Johns Hopkins University Press. Especially Chapters 6 and 8.
- Kapstein, Ethan B. (1995). "Is Realism Dead? The Domestic Sources of International Politics." *International Organization*, 49(4), pp. 751-774.
- Lobell, Steven E., Norrin M. Ripsman, and Jeffrey Taliaferro (2009, eds.). *Neoclassical Realism, the State and Foreign Policy*. Cambridge University Press.
- Rosa, Paolo (2018). *Neoclassical Realism and the Underdevelopment of China's Nuclear Doctrine*. Springer International Publishing.
- Rose, Gideon (1998). "Neoclassical Realism and Theories of Foreign Policy." *World Politics* 51:1, pp. 144-172.
- Toje, Asle, and Barbara Kunz (2012, eds.). *Neoclassical Realism in European Politics: Bringing Power Back In*. Manchester University Press, 2012.

SESSION 9: March 12

Liberal Theory (2): The Democratic Peace

Main work:

Russett, Bruce M. and John R. Oneal (2001). *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. Norton. Focus: Chapters 1-5.

Related works:

[Layne, Christopher \(1994\). Kant or Cant: The Myth of Democratic Peace. *International Security*, 19\(2\), pp. 5-49.](#)

[Cederman, Lars-Erik \(2001\). Back to Kant: Reinterpreting the Democratic Peace as a Macrohistorical Learning Process. *American Political Science Review*, 95\(1\), pp. 15-31.](#)

[Risse-Kappen, Thomas \(1995\). *Cooperation among Democracies: The European Influence on U.S. Foreign Policy*. Princeton University Press. Chapters 1, 2, and 8.](#)

[Rosato, Sebastian \(2003\). The Flawed Logic of Democratic Peace Theory. *American Political Science Review*, 97\(4\), pp. 585-602.](#)

[McDonald, Patrick J. \(2015\). Great Powers, Hierarchy, and Endogenous Regimes: Rethinking the Domestic Causes of Peace. *International Organization*, 69\(3\), pp. 557-588.](#)

Further reading:

Alexander Cooley and Daniel Nexon (2021). The Illiberal Tide: Why the International Order Is Tilting Toward Autocracy. In Charles Kupchan and Leslie Vinjamuri (eds.), *Anchoring the World International Order in the Twenty-first Century*, SFS/CChatham House/CFR, pp. 51-66.

Barkawi, Tarak, and Mark Laffey (1999). The Imperial Peace: Democracy, Force and Globalization. *European Journal of International Relations*, 5(4), pp. 403-434.

- Brown, Michael E., Sean M. Lynn-Jones, and Steven E. Miller (1996, eds.). *Debating the Democratic Peace*. MIT Press.
- Doyle, Michael W. (1983). Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs. *Philosophy & Public Affairs*, 12(3), pp. 205-35.
- Doyle, Michael W. (1986). Liberalism and World Politics. *American Political Science Review*, 80(4), pp. 1151-1169.
- Gartzke, Erik (2007). The Capitalist Peace. *American Journal of Political Science*, 51(1), pp. 166-191.
- Hoffmann, Stanley (1987). Liberalism and International Affairs. In Stanley Hoffmann, *Janus and Minerva: Essays in the Theory and Practice of International Politics*, Westview Press.
- Mueller, John (1989). *Retreat from Doomsday: The Obsolescence of Major War*. Basic Books.
- Owen, John (1994). How Liberalism produces Democratic Peace. *International Security*, 19(2), pp. 87-125.
- Russett, Bruce (1993). *Grasping the Democratic Peace: Principles for a Post-Cold War World*. Princeton University Press.
- Sorensen, Georg (2011). *A Liberal World Order in Crisis: Choosing Between Imposition and Restraint*. Cornell University Press.
- Spiro, David E. (1994). The Insignificance of the Liberal Peace. *International Security*, 19(2), pp. 50-86.
- Szanto, Balazs (2022). *War and International Relations: A Critical Analysis*. Routledge/Taylor.
- Zacher, Mark and Richard Matthew (1995). Liberal International Theory: Common Threads, Divergent Strands. In Charles Kegley (ed.), *Controversies in International Relations Theory: Realism and the Neoliberal Challenge*, Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

SESSION 10: March 19

Constructivism (1): The Social Construction of International Politics

Main work:

[Wendt, Alexander \(1999\). *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press.](#)

Related works:

[Ruggie, John Gerard \(1998\). What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge. *International Organization*, 52\(4\), pp. 855-885.](#)

[Wendt, Alexander \(1992\). Anarchy Is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics. *International Organization*, 46\(2\), pp. 391-425.](#)

[Copeland, Dale C. \(2006\). The constructivist challenge to structural realism: A review essay. In Stefano Guzzini and Anna Leander \(eds.\), *Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and His Critics*, Routledge, pp. 1-20.](#)

[Fearon, James, and Alexander Wendt \(2002\). Rationalism v. Constructivism: A Skeptical View. In W. Carlsnaes, T. Risse and B. Simmons \(eds.\), *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage.](#)

[Cederman, Lars-Erik, and Christopher Daase \(2006\). Endogenizing corporate identities: The next step in constructivist IR theory. In Stefano Guzzini and Anna Leander \(eds.\),](#)

[Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and His Critics, Routledge](#), pp. 117-137.

[Buzan, Barry, Ole Wæver, and Jaap de Wilde \(1998\). Security: A New Framework for Analysis. Lynne Rienner. Chapters 1, 2 and 9.](#)

Further reading:

Adler, Emmanuel (1997). Seizing the Middle Ground: Constructivism in World Politics. *European Journal of International Relations*, 3(3), pp. 319-363.

Forum on *Social Theory of International Politics* in Review of International Studies 26(1), 2000), pp. 123-180.

Guzzini, Stefano and Anna Leander (2006, eds.). *Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and His Critics*. London: Routledge.

Guzzini, Stefano, and Anna Leander (2006, eds.). *Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and His Critics*. Routledge.

Hopf, Ted (1998). The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory. *International Security*, 23(1):171-200.

Hopf, Ted and Bentley Allan (2016, eds.). *Making Identity Count: Building a National Identity Database*. Oxford University Press.

Hurd, Ian (1999). Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics. *International Organization*, 53(2), pp. 379-408.

Kratochwil, Friedrich (2000). Constructing a New Orthodoxy: Wendt's 'Social Theory of International Politics' and the Constructivist Challenge. *Millennium*, 29(1), pp. 73-101.

Mattern, Janice Bially (2001). The Power Politics of Identity. *European Journal of International Relations*, 7(3), pp. 349-397.

Mercer, Jonathan (1995). Anarchy and Identity. *International Organization*, 49(2), pp. 229-252.

Núñez-Mietz, Fernando G. (2019). Resisting Human Rights through Securitization: Russia and Hungary against LGBT Rights. *Journal of Human Rights*, 18(5), pp. 543-563.

Pouliot, Vincent (2008). The Logic of Practicality: A Theory of Practice of Security Communities. *International Organization*, 62(2), pp. 257-288.

Price, Richard, and Christian Reus-Smit (1998). Dangerous Liaisons? Critical International Theory and Constructivism. *European Journal of International Relations*, 4(3), pp. 259-294.

Tickner, J. Ann (1992). *Gender and International Relations: Feminist Perspectives on Achieving Global Security*. Columbia University Press.

Williams, Michael C. (2003). Words, Images, Enemies: Securitization and International Politics. *International Studies Quarterly*, 47(4), pp. 511-531.

SESSION 11: March 26

Constructivism (2): Norms and Behaviour in IR

Main work:

Katzenstein, Peter. J. (1996, ed.). *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*. Columbia University Press. Focus: Chapters 1-7, 12 and 13.

Related works:

[Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink \(1998\). International Norm Dynamics and Political Change. *International Organization*, 52\(4\), pp. 887-917.](#)

[Checkel, Jeffrey \(2001\). Why Comply? Social Learning and European Identity Change. *International Organization*, 55\(3\), pp. 553-588.](#)

[Schimmelfennig, Frank \(2001\). The Community Trap: Liberal Norms, Rhetorical Action, and the Eastern Enlargement of the European Union. *International Organization*, 55\(1\), pp. 47-80.](#)

[Acharya, Amitav \(2004\). How Ideas Spread: Whose Norms Matter? Norm Localization and Institutional Change in Asian Regionalism. *International Organization*, 58\(2\), pp. 239-75.](#)

[Goodman, Ryan and Derek Jinks \(2013\). *Socializing States: Promoting Human Rights through International Law*. Oxford University Press. Chapters 1-3.](#)

[Deitelhoff, Nicole and Lisbeth Zimmerman \(2019\). Norms Under Challenge: Unpacking the Dynamics of Norm Robustness. *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 4\(1\), pp. 2-17.](#)

[Sandholtz, Wayne \(2019\). Norm Contestation, Robustness, and Replacement. *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 4\(1\), pp. 139-146.](#)

Further reading:

Betts, Alexander and Phil Orchard (2014, eds). *Implementation and World Politics: How International Norms Change Practice*. Oxford University Press.

Biersteker, Thomas, and Cynthia Weber (1996, eds.). *State Sovereignty as Social Construct*. Cambridge University Press.

Finnemore, Martha (1996). *National Interests in International Society*. Cornell University Press.

Florini, Ann (1996). The Evolution of International Norms. *International Studies Quarterly*, 40(3), pp. 363-389.

Kratochwil, Friedrich (2000). How Do Norms Matter? In Michael Byers (ed.), *The Role of Law in International Politics: Essays in International Relations and International Law*, Oxford University Press.

March, James and Johan Olsen (1998). The Institutional Dynamics of International Political Orders. *International Organization*, 52(4), pp. 943-969.

Paddon Rhoads, Emily and Jennifer M. Welsh (2019). Close Cousins in Protection: The Evolution of Two Norms. *International Affairs*, 95(3), pp. 597-617.

Price, Richard (1998). Reversing the Gun Sights: Transnational Civil Society Targets Land Mines. *International Organization*, 52(3), pp. 613-644.

Schmidt, Averell and Kathryn Sikkink (2019). Breaking the Ban? The Heterogeneous Impact of US Contestation of the Torture Norm. *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 4(1), pp. 105-122.

Sikkink, Kathryn (2011). *The Justice Cascade: How Human Rights Prosecutions Are Changing World Politics*. W.W. Norton & Co.

Tannenwald, Nina (1999). The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-use. *International Organization*, 53(3), pp. 433-468.

Wiener, Antje (2014). *Theory of Contestation*. Springer.

Wiener, Antje (2018). *Contestation and Constitution of Norms in Global International Relations*. Cambridge University Press.

SESSION 12: April 2

The Psychology of IR: Rational and Not So Rational Choices

Main work:

Jervis, Robert (1976/2017). *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*. Princeton University Press.

Related works:

Mercer, Jonathan (2005). Rationality and Psychology in International Politics. *International Organization*, 59(1), pp. 77-106.

Levy, Jack (1996). Loss Aversion, Framing, and Bargaining: The Implications of Prospect theory for International Conflict. *International Political Science Review* 17(2), pp. 179-195.

Tetlock, Philip E. and James M. Goldgeier (2000). Human Nature and World Politics: Cognition, Identity, and Influence. *International Journal of Psychology*, 35(2), pp. 87-96.

Johnson, Dominic D. P. (2021). *Strategic Instincts: The Adaptive Advantages of Cognitive Biases in International Politics*. Princeton University Press. Introduction, Chapters 1, 2 and 10.

Mercer, Jonathan (2014). Feeling Like a State: Social Emotion and Identity. *International Theory*, 6(3), pp. 515-535.

Further reading:

Fearon, James D. (1994). Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *The American Political Science Review*, 88(3), pp. 577-592.

Fearon, James D. (1995). Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization*, 49(3), pp. 379-414.

Goldstein, Judith, and Robert O. Keohane. 1993. *Ideas and Foreign Policy: Beliefs, Institutions, and Political Change*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Hall, Todd H. (2016). *Emotional Diplomacy: Official Emotion on the International Stage*. Cornell University Press.

Hutchison, Emma, and Roland Bleiker. 2014. "Theorizing Emotions in World Politics." *International Theory* 6 (3): 491–514.

Jervis, Robert (2017). *How Statesmen Think: The Psychology of International Politics*. Princeton University Press.

Kirshner, Jonathan (2000). Rationalist Explanations for War? *Security Studies*, 10(1), pp. 143-150.

Lake, David A. and Robert Powell (2020, eds). *Strategic Choice and International Relations*. Princeton University Press.

Levy, Jack (1995). Learning and Foreign Policy: Sweeping a Conceptual Minefield. *International Organization*, 48(2), pp. 279-312.

Levy, Jack S. (1983). Misperception and the Causes of War: Theoretical Linkages and Analytical Problems. *World Politics*, 36(1), pp. 76-99.

Levy, Jack S. (1997). Prospect Theory, Rational Choice, and International Relations. *International Studies Quarterly*, 41(1), pp. 87-112.

- McDermott, Rose (2004). The Feeling of Rationality: The Meaning of Neuroscientific Advances for Political Science. *Perspectives on Politics*, 2(4), p. 691-706.
- Rosati, Jerel A. (2000). The Power of Human Cognition in the Study of World Politics. *International Studies Review*, 2(3), pp. 45-75.
- Saunders, Elizabeth N. (2009). Transformative Choices: Leaders and the Origins of Intervention Strategy. *International Security*, 34(2), pp. 119-161.
- Schelling, Thomas C. (1980). *The Strategy of Conflict*. Harvard University.
- Stein, Janice Gross (2013). Psychological Explanations of International Decision Making and Collective Behavior. In W. Carlsnaes, T. Risse and B. Simmons (eds.), *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage, pp. 195-219.
- Walker, Stephen G., Akan Malici, and Mark Schafer (2011, eds.). *Rethinking Foreign Policy Analysis: States, Leaders, and the Microfoundations of Behavioral International Relations*. Routledge.
-

SESSION 13: April 9

Global Governance

Main work:

[Koppell, Jonathan \(2010\). *World Rule: Accountability, Legitimacy, and the Design of Global Governance*. University of Chicago Press.](#)

Related works:

Rosenau, James N. (1992). Governance, order, and change in world politics. In [James Rosenau and Ernst Otto Czempiel \(eds.\), *Governance Without Government: Order and Change in World Politics*, Cambridge University Press](#), pp. 1-29.

Zacher, Mark W. (1992). The decaying pillars of the Westphalian temple: implications for international order and governance. In [James Rosenau and Ernst Otto Czempiel \(eds.\), *Governance Without Government: Order and Change in World Politics*, Cambridge University Press](#), pp. 58-101.

[Barnett, Michael, and Martha Finnemore \(2004\). *Rules for the World: International Organizations in Global Politics*. Cornell University Press. Chapters 1, 2 and 6.](#)

Gruber, Lloyd (2005). Power politics and the institutionalization of international relations. In [Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall \(eds.\), *Power in Global Governance*. Cambridge University Press](#), pp. 102-129.

[Adler, Emanuel and Michael N. Barnett \(2000, eds.\). *Security Communities*. Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1, 2 and 13.](#)

Johnstone, Ian (2005). The power of interpretive communities. In [Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall \(eds.\), *Power in Global Governance*. Cambridge University Press](#), pp. 185-204.

Boli, John (2022). Conclusion: World Authority Structures and Legitimations. In [John Boli and George Thomas \(eds.\), *Constructing World Culture: International Nongovernmental Organizations Since 1875*, Stanford University Press](#), pp. 267-300.