POSC 249
Theories of International Relations
Mo/Wed/Fri 4a

Contact Information
ppetzsch@carleton.edu
office phone: x7837
Venue: Willis 203
Office Hours (please use moodle to book a slot): Leighton 213
Monday 3-5 pm;
Wednesday 3-5 pm
Thursday 2-3 pm

DESCRIPTION

In this course you will learn two things. Firstly, you will become acquainted with a range of theories used by students of international relations. Secondly you will learn to assess the possibilities and limits of these theories by studying them in relation to concrete cases. Doing so will enable you to question your own and others' assumptions when speaking and writing about world politics and current events more generally. Theories are not disembodied, free-floating clusters of ideas. They are created for a purpose and arise in a specific context. The organization of the course reflects this by proceeding both topically and chronologically.

Theorists disagree about what matters in international relations and what constitutes "the international". The first group of thinkers we will be discussing believes that war and conflict should be at the centre attention. A second influential movement in IR theory has emphasized recognition between international actors and the rules and conventions arising from it. Finally, more recent approaches to the study of IR have focused on concepts such as identity and representation. These approaches not only look at different phenomena they also disagree profoundly about what theory is and why it matters. We will explore together whether it is possible to translate ideas from one theory to another in a meaningful way.

BOOKS TO BUY

- E.H. Carr, *The Twenty Years Crisis*, New York: OUP USA, 2000.
- Kenneth Walz, *Man, the State and War*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2001[1954].
- Cynthia Enloe, *Bananas, Beaches & Bases. Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*, Berkley: University of California Press, 1989.

Other required readings will be available through moodle.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

➢ active and informed class participation	20%
➢ moderation of class discussion	10%
➢ two policy briefs	15% each
➢ final paper	15%
➢ position paper	10%
➢ Five 250 word contributions to moodle fora	15%

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Syllabus

Part I War and Conflict

Week 1 Why Theory?

3/25 What is Theory? And what is the Point?

3/28 Science, Craft or Critique?
Kenneth Waltz, Laws and Theories, from: Theory of International Politics, New York: Columbia University Press, 1979
E.H. Carr, The Twenty Years Crisis, chapter 1, *The Beginnings of a Science*
Robert W. Cox, Social Forces, States and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory, Millenium, 1981 10:36, read pp 128-130, the section "On Perspectives and Purposes"

3/30 Founding Myths: The Interwar Crisis
E.H. Carr, The Twenty Years Crisis, chapters 3, 4 and 5

Week 2 Foundings Myths: Anarchy

4/2 "Men Behaving Badly"
Reinhold Niebuhr, The Children of Light and the Children of Darkness
Kenneth Waltz, Man, The State, and War, Introduction, chs. 2 and 3.

4/4 "States Behaving Badly" – the Levels of Analysis thesis
Hans Morgenthau, Theory of International Politics, Introduction
Kenneth Waltz, Man , The State, and War, chs. 4 and 6.

4/6 Context: The Early Cold War
George F. Kennan, The Sources of Soviet Conduct ("Long Telegram")
John L. Gaddis, Strategies of Containment, chs. 1-3.
John Herz, Idealist Internationalism and the security dilemma, World Politics, vol. 11, 1950, pp 157-180.

Week 3 Founding Myths II: Idealism and the constraints to conflict

4/9 Did the "Idealists" exist?
Woodrow Wilson, Speech to the Joint Session of Congress, January 8th, 1918, "14 Points speech", http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/President_Wilson%27s_Fourteen_Points
Sir Halford J. Mackinder, Democratic Ideals and Reality, 1919, pp 1-28.
Norman Angell, The Influence of Credit Upon International Relations, 1912
Brian C. Schmidt, Anarchy, World Politics and the Birth of a Discipline, International Relations 16:1, pp 9-31

4/11 Michael J. Smith, (1992) 'Liberalism' in Terry Nardin & David Mapel eds. *Traditions of International Ethics* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Michael Doyle, 'Liberalism and World Politics', *American Political Science Review* (80) (1986) 1151-70.

4/13 No Class

Week 4 Idealism Redacted

4/16 Liberal Institutionalism
Robert Axelrod, and Robert O Keohane 'Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions', *World Politics,* (38) (1985) 226-54.

4/18 A "Democratic Peace"?
Michael Brown *et al* eds. *Debating the Democratic Peace: An international Security Reader* (1996)

4/20 Case Study: the Cuban Missile Crisis
White House Tapes and Minutes of the Cuban Missile Crisis, International Security, Vol. 10, No. 1, Summer 1985, pp 1964-203.
N. Khruschev, Fidel Castro and the Carribean Crisis, Kruschev Remembers, 1970, pp 488-505.
D. Rusk, The Cuban Missile Crisis, in: As I saw It, ed. S. Papp, 1990, pp 229-245.
M. Trachtenberg, The Influence of Nuclear Weapons in the Cuban Missile Crisis, International Security, Vol. 10, No. 1, Summer 1985, pp 137-163.
I. Janis, The Cuban Missile Crisis, in: Groupthink, 1982.
G. Allison, Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis, American Political Science Review, 63:4, pp 879-920.

Part II Society, community and the concept of recognition

Week 5 The English School

4/23 The Concept of Society in International Relations Theory
Hedley Bull, Society and Anarchy in International Relations, in: Der Derian (ed.), Political Theory: Critical Investigations,1996.
Hedley Bull, International Relations as an Academic Pursuit, in: K. Alderson and A. Hurrell (eds.) Hedley Bull on International Society, Basingstoke: Macmillan, 2000.
http://www.leeds.ac.uk/polis/englishschool

4/25 Human Rights Regimes
Andrew Hurrell, On Global Order: Power, Values and the Constitution of International Society, Oxford : OUP, 2007.

4/27 Case Studies: Japan and China
Shogo Suzuki, Japan's Socialization into Janus-Faced European International Society, European Journal of International Relations, 11:1, pp 137-164
Yongjin Zhang, China's entry into international society: beyond the standard of "civilization", Review of International Studies, 17:1, pp 3-16

Week 6 Constructivism

4/30 Alexander Wendt, Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics, International Organisation, 46, 1992, pp 391-426.

5/2 Friedrich Kratochwil, Rethinking the "inter" in International Politics, Millenium 35, 2007, pp 495-511.

5/4 Context: The Fall of the Iron Curtain
Charles Kegley, The Neoidealist Moment in International Studies? Realist Myths and the New International Realities, International Studies Quarterly, 37, 1993, pp 131-146.
Friedrich Kratochwil, The embarrassment of changes: neo-realism as the science of Realpolitik without politics, Review of International Studies, 19, 1993, pp 63-80.
Film: Wag the Dog

Part III Identity and Representation

Week 7 Feminism

5/7 Power/Knowledge
M. Zalewski & Cynthia Enloe, Questions about Identity in International Relations, chapter 13 in: Booth and Smith (eds.), International Relations Theory Today, Polity Press, 1995.

5/9 Feminisms
A. Elshtain, Feminist Themes in International Relations, ch. 13 in: Der Derian (ed.) International Theory: Critical Investigations

5/11 Case Studies: Nannies, Diplomatic Wives and Base Women
Cynthia Enloe, Bananas, Beaches and Bases, chapters 4, 5 and 8.

Week 8 Post-structuralism

5/14 Practices of Statecraft
Maja Zehfuss. "Forget September 11." In *Critical Security Studies*, ed. Columba Peoples and Nick Vaughan-Williams, Abingdon: Routledge, 2012.
David Campbell, Why Fight: Humanitarianism, Principles, and Post-structuralism, Millenium 27, 1998.

5/16 Case Study: Post-structuralism and the Iraq War

5/18 Case Study: The War in Bosnia
Film: We were all Neighbors
David Campbell, National Deconstruction. Violence, Identity and Justice in Bosnia, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1998.

Week 9 **International Relations and international relations**

5/21 Hoffman, An American Social Science: International Relations, in: Janus and Minerva: 3-24
Steve Smith, International Relations: Still an American Social Science? British Journal of Politics and International Relations, 2:3, 2000, pp 374-402.

5/23 Ole Weaver, The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline, International Organization, 52:4, pp 687-727.

5/25 Barry Buzan and Richard Little, Why International Relations Has Failed as an International Project and What To Do About It, Millenium 30:1, pp 19-39.