

PSCI 4800 B
Advanced International Relations Theory
Thursday 11:35am - 2:25pm, St. Patrick 400

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Course description

This course follows directly from the third-year course on Theories of International Politics. It is a more thorough look at key theories used in the study of international politics. The course takes as its starting point the epistemological and ontological debates in the discipline of International Relations (IR), which seeks to explain all or some part of international politics. For each theory, we will be interested in the problem that is to be explained or solved, the explicit and implicit assumptions made by the theorist, the way knowledge about the world is produced, the actors who receive the theorist's attention, and the political and ethical implications of using the theory as a guide to action. While the course is theoretical in orientation, current and historical events are the object analyzed. Students are therefore encouraged to follow the news and to call on their broader knowledge of politics and history as part of their work in the course.

Course organization

The material is roughly divided based on the evolution of the discipline. It follows the development of different paradigms and highlights the debates that take place between theorists working within these paradigms. Classes consist of a weekly three-hour seminar. Except for the first week, classes will begin with a brief introduction by the instructor followed by a discussion of salient themes from the week's readings. After a 15-minute break at the midway point, we will come back for student presentations, also followed by a discussion of the ideas raised therein.

Readings

There are four sources for the course's readings. They are:

- (1) Scott Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations* 3rd ed. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005).
- (2) Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, eds., *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity* (Oxford University Press, 2007).
- (3) The PSCI 4800 B binder in the Resource Centre at C666 Loeb.
- (4) The electronically available readings indicated in the reading list below.

The two books may be purchased at Haven Books (43 Seneca Street at Sunnyside). Please note: All readings are of equal importance, whatever their source.

Evaluation

| <u>Method</u> | <u>Weight</u> | <u>Due date</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Presentation, 12-15min | 15% | Starting week 3 |
| Critical review, 5pp. | 25% | Day of presentation |
| Research essay, 15pp. | 40% | 7 April |
| Participation | 20% | Weekly |

Participation: Since this is a seminar, students will do most of the talking. Readings must therefore be done *before the class* for which they are assigned. Comments made during the seminar must reflect their content. The participation grade combines presence and actual contribution. *Quality, collegiality, and frequency* are criteria in evaluating students' contribution. All three must be present to obtain a superior grade (16/20 or more). Absences must be justified to avoid being penalized. At the instructor's discretion, half the participation grade may result from unannounced in-class quizzes.

Presentation: Students are required to give one oral presentation of a supplementary reading. While it is required to provide a summary of the author's argument, at least *half the presentation* must be spent assessing the author's argument. In other words, it must discuss the *merits* and the *limits* of the piece in accounting for international politics. The duration of the presentation is 12-15min. There will be a maximum of three presentations in any given week. Be sure to select a reading as early as possible.

Critical review: Students are required to write a critical review of the supplementary reading chosen. The review must address the contribution of the piece to our understanding of international politics. *Do not summarize the text: you must use the entire space to assess the author's argument.* It is advisable to do a double-reading of it: to understand it in its own terms as intended by the author and to look at it in light of other perspectives studied. It is not an essay in the strict sense, but *there must be a thread guiding the review.* The critical review must number 5 double-spaced pages, with 1-inch margins. Indicate the text reviewed on the cover page.

Research essay: Students are required to write one substantial research essay on a topic of their choice. It takes the form of a literature review in which students must identify a thread running through the IR literature and discuss it, or a gap in the IR literature that the paper will address. A clear thesis must guide the argument. It must draw on *academic and theoretical sources* beyond the course readings (and beyond the supplementary list) and it must be properly referenced. It must number 15 double-spaced pages (excluding the bibliography), with 1-inch margins.

Late assignments and other policies: Late assignments must be accompanied by a justificatory document. Otherwise, the penalty is 5% per calendar day. Papers submitted by fax or email will not be accepted. Do not send assignments by email as proof that you met the deadline or that the assignment is "only one day late". The date the hard copy is received is the date of submission recorded. Do not slide assignments under the instructor's office door under any circumstances. Assignments deposited in the Department's drop-box *after 4pm* will be stamped with the next day's date. Papers submitted *seven days late* will receive a grade of zero. Retain a copy of all your assignments.

Topics and readings

10 January: Introduction to the course

Scott Burchill and Andrew Linklater, "Introduction", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

Steve Smith, "Introduction: Diversity and Disciplinarity in International Relations Theory", in Dunne, Kurki and Smith, *International Relations Theories*.

Milja Kurki and Colin Wight, "International Relations and Social Science", in Dunne, Kurki and Smith, *International Relations Theories*.

17 January: Classical and structural realism

Jack Donnelly, "Realism", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

Richard Ned Lebow, "Classical Realism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

John J. Mearsheimer, "Structural Realism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

John J. Mearsheimer, "Hans Morgenthau and the Iraq War: Realism versus Neo-Conservatism", http://www.opendemocracy.net/democracy-americanpower/morgenthau_2522.jsp.

24 January: Liberalism and liberal institutionalism

Scott Burchill, "Liberalism", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

Diana Panke and Thomas Risse, "Liberalism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Lisa L. Martin, "Neoliberalism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Robert O. Keohane and Lisa L. Martin, "The Promise of Institutional Theory", *International Security* 20, no. 1 (Summer 1995). Online via the MacOdrum Library catalogue.

31 January: The English School

Andrew Linklater, "The English School", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

Tim Dunne, "The English School", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Andrew Hurrell, *On Global Order: Power, Values, and the Constitution of International Society* (Oxford University Press, 2007), Ch. 2.

7 February: Critical Theory

Richard Devetak, "Critical Theory", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

Chris Brown, "International Relations as Political Theory", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Craig N. Murphy, "Critical Theory and the Democratic Impulse: Understanding a Century-Old Tradition", in Richard Wyn Jones, ed., *Critical Theory and World Politics* (Lynne Rienner, 2001).

14 February: The Neo-Gramscian School

Robert W. Cox, "Gramsci, Hegemony and International Relations", in Robert W. Cox with Timothy J. Sinclair, eds., *Approaches to World Order* (Cambridge University Press, 1996).

Stephen Gill, "Gramsci and Global Politics: Toward a Post-Hegemonic Research Agenda", in Stephen Gill, ed., *Gramsci, Historical Materialism, and International Relations* (Cambridge University Press, 1993).

Mark Rupert, "Marxism and Critical Theory", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Andrew Linklater, "Marxism", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

21 February: Reading week – no class

28 January: Discourse analysis

Richard Devetak, "Postmodernism", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

David Campbell, "Poststructuralism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Jennifer Milliken, "The Study of Discourse in International Relations: A Critique of Research and Methods", *European Journal of International Relations* 5, no. 2 (1999). Online via the MacOdrum Library catalogue.

6 March: Constructivism

Christian Reus Smit, "Constructivism", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

K. M. Fierke, "Constructivism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Alex Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics", *International Organization* 46, no. 2 (Spring 1992). Online via the MacOdrum Library catalogue.

Alex Wendt, "Constructing International Politics", *International Security* 20, no. 1 (Summer 1995). Online via the MacOdrum Library catalogue (select the JSTOR option).

13 March: Feminism

Jacqui True, "Feminism", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

J. Ann Tickner and Laura Sjoberg, "Feminism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

J. Ann Tickner, "'You Just Don't Understand': Troubled Engagements Between Feminists and IR Theorists", *International Studies Quarterly* 41, no. 4 (December 1997). Online via the MacOdrum Library catalogue.

V. Spike Peterson, "Feminist Theories Within, Invisible to and Beyond International Relations", *Brown Journal of World Affairs* 10, no. 2 (2004). Online via the MacOdrum Library catalogue.

20 March: Postcolonialism

Edward W. Said, *Orientalism* (Vintage, 1994), Introduction.

Edward W. Said, *Culture and Imperialism* (Vintage, 1994) Ch. 4, parts 1-2

Siba N. Grovogui, "Postcolonialism", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

27 March: Green theory

Matthew Paterson, "Green Politics", in Burchill et al., *Theories of International Relations*.

Robyn Eckerly, "Green Theory", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.

Eric LaFerrière and Peter J. Stoett, *International Relations Theory and Ecological Thought: Towards and Synthesis* (Routledge: 1999), Ch. 1.

Robert C. Paehlke, *Democracy's Dilemma: Environment, Social Equity, and the Global Economy* (MIT Press, 2003), Ch. 1.

3 April: Conclusion: is there still an IR field?

- Colin Hay, "International Relations Theory and Globalization", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.
- Ole Wæver, "Still a Discipline After All These Debates?", in Dunne et al., eds., *International Relations Theories*.
- Fred Halliday, "The Future of International Relations: Fears and Hopes", in Steve Smith, Ken Booth and Marysia Zalewski, eds., *International Theory: Positivism and Beyond* (Cambridge University Press, 1996).
- Marysia Zalewski, "All These Theories and Yet the Bodies Keep Piling Up", in Steve Smith, Ken Booth and Marysia Zalewski, eds., *International Theory: Positivism and Beyond* (Cambridge University Press, 1996).
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Academic Accommodations

For Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) to complete the necessary forms. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first in-class test or CUTV midterm exam**. This will allow for sufficient time to process your request. Please note the following deadlines for submitting completed forms to the PMC for formally scheduled exam accommodations: **November 9th, 2007** for December examinations, and **March 14th, 2008** for April examinations.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: <http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html>.

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's

date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Course Requirements: Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.