

WWS 541 International Politics

Fall 2008
Princeton University
Woodrow Wilson School
Tuesday 1:00-4:00

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This course introduces theories of international politics and seeks to use them to understand major events such as the origins of world war and the rise of the postwar liberal international order as well as broad trends as interdependence and globalization. Policy issues considered those involving security and international political economy, as as include terrorism, human rights, failed states, democracy promotion, the rise of China, and the reform of global institutions.

All students will be expected to participate actively in class discussions. Each paper will write a discussion paper, circulated to the class before one of the sessions in the first six weeks of the course. In the second half of the term, each student will be part of a project team that prepares a brief report (not more than 1500 words) analyzing a major policy issue and discussing the relevance of international relations theory and history to it. The report will be circulated in advance. Well in advance of the class, the project team will research the issue they are studying and, in consultation with the professor, assign 50-75 pages on it. There will be a final examination.

Course Assignments and Grading

Short Paper: 20 percent
Group presentation (written and oral): 20 percent
Class participation apart from the paper and presentation: 20 percent
Final examination: 40 percent

Articles will be available on Blackboard. The following books will be used extensively and are available for purchase in the bookstore:

David Held and Anthony McGrew, Globalization/Anti-Globalization: Beyond the Great Divide (London: Polity Press, 2007).

G. John Ikenberry, After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major War (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001).

Joseph S. Nye, Jr., Understanding International Conflict: An Introduction to Theory and History (Longman, 6th Edition, 2006).

Louise Richardson, What Terrorists Want (New York: Random House, 2006).

Sidney Tarrow, The New Transnational Activism (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

Part I: THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES AND HISTORICAL CASES

Week One: Critical Problems and Theoretical Debates

Nye, Understanding International Conflict, chapters 1-2 , pp. 1-57.

Daniel Byman and Kenneth Pollack, "Let us Now Praise Great Men: Bringing the Statesman Back In," International Security (Spring 2001), pp. 107-46.

G. John Ikenberry, "Liberal Internationalism 3.0: America and the Dilemmas of Liberal World Order," unpublished paper, August 2008.

Week Two: Anarchy, Alliances, and Conflict

Kenneth Waltz, "Anarchic Orders and Balances of Power," in Robert O. Keohane, ed., Neorealism and its Critics (New York: Columbia University Press, 1986), pp. 98-130.

Kenneth Waltz, "Structural Realism after the Cold War," International Security, vol. 25, no. 1 (Summer 2000).

Joseph Grieco, "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the Newest Institutionalism," International Organization, Vol. 42, No. 3 (Summer 1988), pp. 485-507.

Stephen Walt, "Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power," International Security, Vol. 9, No. 4 (Spring 1985), pp. 3-43.

Robert Jervis, "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma," World Politics, vol. 30, no. 2 (January 1978), pp. 167-214.

Nye, Understanding International Conflicts, chapter 3 (pp. 58-84).

Week Three: Democracy, Capitalism, Autocracy, and Conflict

Lenin, Imperialism: the Highest Stage of Capitalism, Chapters V-VI (pp. 68-87).

Michael Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics," American Political Science Review, vol. 80, no. 4 (December 1986), pp. 1161-79.

John Owen, "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace," International Security (Fall 1994), pp. 87-125.

Joanne Gowa, "The Democratic Peace after the Cold War," unpublished paper, 2008.

Edward D. Manfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and the Danger of War," International Security, vol. 20, no. 1 (Summer 1995), pp. 5-38.

Making the World Safe for Democracy: Woodrow Wilson Asks for War. President Wilson's Speech to Congress, April 2, 1917.

"X" (George Kennan), "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," Foreign Affairs, July 1947.

Robert Kagan, "Return of History, End of Dreams," Policy Review (Fall 2007).

Week Four: Institutions and International Order

Robert O. Keohane, "The Demand for International Regimes," in Krasner, ed., International Regimes (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982), pp. 141-72.

Ikenberry, After Victory, chapters 1-3, 5-7 (pp. 3-79; 163-256).

Randall Schweller, "The Problem of International Order Revisited: A Review Essay," International Security, vol. 26 (Summer 2001), pp. 161-86.

Week Five: Perception and Misperception

Robert Jervis, "Hypotheses on Misperception," World Politics, volume 20, np. 3 (April 1968), pp. 454-79.

Arthur Stein, "When Misperception Matters," World Politics, vol. 34, no. 4 (July 1982), pp. 505-26.

Ole Holsti, "The 1914 Case," American Political Science Review, vol. 59, no. 2 (June 1965), pp. 365-378.

Ole Holsti, "The Belief System and National Images: A Case Study," Journal of Conflict Resolution, vol. 6, no. 3 (September 1962), pp. 244-52.

Graham Allison and Philip Zelikow, Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis (second edition, Longman, 1999), pp. 77-109.

Dani Kahneman, "Why Hawks Win," Foreign Policy (February 2007).

Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics," International Organization, Vol. 46 (1992), 391-425.

Week Six: Foundations of International Political Economy

Martin Wolf, Why Globalization Works (New Haven Yale University Press, 2005), pp. 96-134.

Robert O. Keohane, After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984), chapters 2-3 (pp. 18-46).

Karl Polanyi, The Great Transformation, Chapter One, "The Hundred Years' Peace."

Charles Kindleberger, The World in Depression, chapters 1 and 14 (pp. 1-13 and 288-306).

John Ruggie, "International Regimes, Transactions and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order," International Organization, vol. 36, no. 2 (Spring 1982), pp. 379-415.

[suggested readings for policy teams announced]

Part II: GLOBAL CHANGE AND POLICY DEBATES

Week Seven: Globalization and its Discontents

Held and McGraw, Globalization/Anti-Globalization.

[plus readings from project group]

Week Eight: Transnational Policy Movements

Sidney Tarrow, The New Transnational Activism.

Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Activist Networks."

[plus readings from project group]

Week Nine: Terrorism

Jessica Stern, "The Protean Enemy," Foreign Affairs, vol. 82, no 4 (July/August 2003).

Louis Richardson, What Terrorists Want, chapters 3-4 (pp. 38-103).

[plus readings from project group]

Week Ten: Democracy Promotion

David Miliband, "The Democratic Imperative," Democratiya, Spring 2008 (online journal).

John C. Pevehouse, "Democracy from the Outside In? International Organizations and Democratization," International Organization, vol. 56, no. 3 (summer 2002), pp. 515-50.

Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy," Foreign Affairs (November/December 1997), pp. 22-43.

[plus readings from project group]

Week Eleven: Coping with the Rise of China

Aaron Friedberg, "The Future of U.S.-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" International Security (Fall 2005), pp. 7-45.

Iain Johnston, "Is China a Status Quo Power?" International Security, vol. 27, no. 4 (spring 2003), pp. 5-56.

G. John Ikenberry, "The Rise of China and the Future of the West," Foreign Affairs (Feb/March 2008).

[plus readings from conflict group]

Week Twelve: Reforming Global Governance

Princeton Project on National Security

"Who Runs the World?" The Economist, 3 July 2008.

[plus readings from conflict group]

December 8, 9, 10 Richard Ullman lectures by Stanley Hoffmann, Harvard University