Instructions and Caveats

1) This is a general reading list for the International Relations Comprehensive Examination. It is not meant to cover the specific material needed to answer subfield questions fully and effectively. It is intended as a general overview of the field both for the first question and for general applicability to subfield questions.

2) In addition to this reading, you should be familiar with the latest issues of major journals in the field.

3) The categories listed below are meant to be indicative, not authoritative. Many of the readings fit into multiple categories. Each category includes not only work in that paradigmatic approach but also works that inspired the development of that paradigm, debates within it, and critics of it.

4) Works on this list should be read both critically and comparatively, as parts of debates, discussions, and field dynamics rather than in isolation. It is detailed, but not meant to be comprehensive. In other words, there is work in International Relations that is not on this list. You are encouraged to cite other work you find relevant.

Classics in IR

Norman Angell, The Great Illusion
Raymond Aron, Peace and War: A Theory of International Relations (particularly chs II, V, X)
Hedley Bull, The Anarchical Society
E H. Carr, Twenty Years Crisis
Immanuel Kant, Perpetual Peace
Vladimir Lenin, Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism
Karl Marx, Selections in Robert Tucker’s The Marx-Engels Reader
Hans Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations
Nicolo Machiavelli, The Prince
Nicolo Machiavelli, The Discourses
Reinhod Niebuhr, Christian Realism and Political Problems
Jean Jacques Rousseau, The Social Contract
Abbe Charles-Irenee Castel de Saint-Pierre, Project for Perpetual Peace in Europe
Thomas Schelling, Strategy of Conflict
Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations
Thucydides, History of the Peloponnesian War
Immanuel Wallerstein, The Modern World System (Volume III)
Kenneth Waltz, Man, the State, and War
How-to, Disciplinary History, and Overviews


J. Samuel Barkin, Realist Constructivism: Rethinking International Relations Theory (Cambridge University Press, 2010)


Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman, eds. Progress in International Relations Theory


Yosef Lapid and Friedrich Kratochwil, The Return of Culture and Identity in IR (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1996)

Audie Klotz and Deepa Prakash, eds. Qualitative Methods in International Relations: A Pluralist Guide (Palgrave, 2008)


Robert Powell, In the Shadow of Power (Princeton University Press, 1999)


Brian Schmidt, The Political Discourse of Anarchy: A Disciplinary History of International Relations (SUNY Press, 1998)

Brian Schmidt and David Long, eds. Imperialism and Internationalism in the Discipline of International Relations (SUNY, 2005)


Colin Wight, Agents, Structures and International Relations (Cambridge University Press, 2006).

Contemporary IR Theorizing

Conversations about and Criticisms of Realism(s)


Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (Mcgraw Hill, 1979)


**Conversations about and Criticisms of Liberalism(s)**


Michael Doyle, Ways of War and Peace (W. W. Norton, 1997)


Andreas Hasenclever, Peter Mayer, and Volker Rittberger, Theories of International Regimes (Cambridge University Press, 1997)


Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics (Cornell University Press, 1998)


Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, Power and Interdependence (originally published in 1977; any edition would do), chaps. 1–2. [38 pp.]


Stephen Krasner, ed., International Regimes (Cornell University Press, 1982) (with particular attention to Ruggie’s piece on embedded liberalism)


Bruce Russett and John O'Neal, Triangulating Peace (W. W. Norton, 2001)


Jacob Viner. 1948. "Power versus Plenty as Objectives of Foreign Policy in the 17th and 18th Centuries,” World Politics 1 (October): 1-29.

Conversations about and Criticisms of the English School


Andrew Linklater and Hidemi Suganami, The English School of International Relations: A Contemporary Reassessment (Cambridge University Press, 2006)


Conversations about and Criticisms of Constructivism(s)


Neta Crawford, Argument and Change in World Politics (Cambridge University Press, 2001)

Martha Finnemore, National Interest in International Society (Cornell University Press, 1996)


Janice Bially Mattern, Ordering International Relations: Identity, Crisis, and Representation Force (Routledge, 2005)


Alexander Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 1999)
Maja Zehfuss, *Constructivism in International Relations*. (Cambridge University Press, 2002)

**Conversations about and Criticisms of Feminist Theories**

Cynthia Enloe, *Bananas, Beaches and Bases* (University of California Press, 1990)


**Conversations about and Criticisms of Critical Theories and the Copenhagen School**


Conversations about and Criticisms of Poststructuralism(s)/Postmodernism(s)/Postcolonialism(s)
Geeta Chowdhry and Sheila Nair, eds. *Power, Postcolonialism, and International Relations* (Routledge, 2002)
Jenny Edkins, *Poststructuralism and International Relations: Bringing the Political Back In* (Lynne Rienner, 1999)
Jim George, *Discourses of Global Politics: A Critical (Re)Introduction to International Relations* (Lynne Rienner, 1994)