

INR 6607: International Relations Theory

University of Florida

Syllabus: Fall 2020

Instructor: Professor Drew Rosenberg
Office: 210 Anderson Hall
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Class location: The World Wide Web
Class time: Th, 15:00–18:00
Office hours: W, 13.00–16.00, by appointment

Schedule a meeting with me: <https://calendly.com/asrosenberg>.

Course Description

This seminar introduces students to the field of International Relations (IR). The course has two main purposes: (1) to familiarize students with key debates in IR and (2) to help prepare MA and PhD students for comprehensive exams in IR.

NB: *Students who plan to take comprehensive exam in IR should not take this syllabus as an exhaustive guide to the field of IR but rather as a starting point.* Hundreds of articles are written every year and it is impossible to cover this large, diverse, and dynamic field in one semester. To be adequately prepared for the exam, you will need to develop a general sense of the discipline, acquired both by following citation trails in the readings for this course and by familiarizing yourselves with the general IR reading list.

NB, Part 2: IR is the most self-reflexive subfield of political science. Each year, scholars write dozens of great articles that interrogate how/when/why IR scholars miss ____. These are important debates, and we will talk about several of them in this class. Moreover, these conversations reveal the myriad ways to structure a class like this one. Should we study paradigms? Topics? “Great Debates?” The answer is “all of the above;” however, one remains constrained by the calendar. Accordingly, I have structured this course in one way, and you should get in the habit of thinking about how you would structure a similar course in the future.

Course Materials:

All of the articles for this class are available online. There are only four required books and any edition will do. Please let me know if you need assistance acquiring them.

Readings

I tried to limit the number of books for this course, but IR has been a book-dominated field for its entire history. There are instances where I assign article versions of books, but this is not a replacement for reading the book. Here are a few books that you should endeavor to somehow acquire.

Hedley Bull. 1977. *The Anarchical Society*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

Cynthia Enloe. 2014. *Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

Martha Finnemore. 1996. *National Interests in International Society*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Robert Gilpin. 1981. *War and Change in World Politics*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.*

Hans J. Morgenthau. 1948. *Politics Among Nations*. New York, NY: Knopf.

Robert Vitalis. 2015. *White World Order, Black Power Politics: The Birth of American International Relations*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Kenneth Waltz. 1959. *Man, the State, and War: A Theoretical Analysis*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.*

Kenneth Waltz. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.*

Alexander Wendt. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.*

Assignments:

- **RESPONSE PAPERS (40%)**: All students will write **five** 2-3 page papers reacting to weekly readings. These papers are not summaries; students should address a subset of the weeks' reading, aiming to raise 3-4 interesting questions through critique, comparison, and so on. Response papers are due by Wednesday evening, 9 p.m. Late papers will not be accepted.
- **FINAL EXAM (40%)**: All students will take a two-question, take-home final exam. The exam will be open book and open note, and it will be similar in format/content to an IR field comprehensive exam. The exam should be no more than 15 double spaced pages total. I will distribute the exam on Monday, December 8 at 9a, and the exam will be due in my email by 5p on Friday, December 12.
- **PARTICIPATION/SEMINAR CONDUCT/PRESENTATION (20%)**: All students are expected to attend each class session and come prepared to participate actively in class discussion. I have aimed this seminar at graduate students and designed it as a collaborative research endeavor. Each week revolves around a theme/paradigm/approach in the IR literature. There are common readings that I expect everyone to read closely.

In addition, there are several readings that only one or two other people are responsible for reading in detail. Those assigned to a reading will be responsible for presenting an overview that orients our conversation. For this strategy to work, however, everyone must play their part reading and coming prepared to discuss additional pieces assigned to them. *All students should at least briskly read all readings and familiarize themselves with the arguments, evidence, etc.*

Policies and procedures

Communication and logistics: Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is an online collaboration platform (like Slack) that we will use to communicate throughout the semester. I will invite you to a “team” and there will be various “channels” we will use to share readings, have discussion, and (perhaps) host online meetings. I am still figuring out the best way to use this platform, but it is far superior to constantly spamming each other with email.

Communication and logistics: Email

You can also email me if you want.

Office Hours

I hold three hours of office hours per week, but you may arrange a meeting outside of those hours if you are unavailable during this time. Please make use of office hours, as that is the time I allocate to be 100% available to you. If you have any questions or are having difficulty completing course requirements, please come see me as soon as possible. *Use the Calendly link at the top of this syllabus and on my website to book a meeting.*

Assignment dispensation policy

If a student is unable to complete an assignment, they will be allowed to turn it in late only if the absence is due to a *documented* medical, family, or similar serious emergency, observance of religious holy days (which requires written notification to the instructor at least 14 days prior to the due date), or properly documented University-sponsored planned activities. *Incomplete assignments or exams in all other cases will result in a score of zero.* If you become aware that you will not be able to complete an assignment or final project ahead of time, please contact the instructor and seek permission for an extension as soon as possible.

Academic misconduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest

standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Disability services

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Health and Wellness Resources

- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352-392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161. University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu>

Online Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Course Overview and Schedule:

Week 1 (Sep. 3): Introductions

- Errol A. Henderson. 2017. “The Revolution will not be Theorised: Du Bois, Locke, and the Howard School’s Challenge to White Supremacist IR Theory.” *Millennium—Journal of International Studies* 45 (3): 492–510.

- Morton A. Kaplan. 1966. “The New Great Debate: Traditionalism Vs. Science in International Relations.” *World Politics* 19 (1): 1–20.
- Robert O. Keohane. 2009. “Political Science As a Vocation.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 42 (02): 359–363.
- Milja Kurki. 2006. “Causes of a Divided Discipline: Rethinking the Concept of Cause in International Relations Theory.” *Review of International Studies* 32 (2): 189–216.
- Robert Vitalis. 2000. “The Graceful and Generous Liberal Gesture: Making Racism Invisible in American International Relations.” *Millennium—Journal of International Studies* 29 (2): 331–356.

Week 2 (Sep. 10): What is “the International”? International Relations?

- Norman Angell. 2012. “The Influence of Credit Upon International Relations.” In *The Foundations of International Polity*. London, UK: Heinemann.
- William Edward Burghardt Du Bois. 1915. “The African Roots of War.” *The Atlantic Monthly* 115 (5): 707–714.
- Halford J. Mackinder. 1904. “The Geographical Pivot of History.” *The Geographical Journal* 23 (4): 421–437.
- J. David Singer. 1961. “The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations.” *World Politics* 14 (1): 77–92.

Week 3 (Sep. 17): Realism(s) and Neo-Realism

- Gilpin (1981, Ch. 1–2).
- Nicolas Guilhot. 2008. “The Realist Gambit: Postwar American Political Science and the Birth of IR Theory.” *International Political Sociology* 2 (4): 281–304.
- Morgenthau (1948, Ch. 1, 3).
- Waltz (1979, Ch. 1, 4–6).*

Week 4 (Sep. 24): War and Security under Anarchy

- James D. Fearon. 1995. “Rationalist Explanations for War.” *International Organization* 49 (3): 379–414.
- Helen Milner. 1991. “The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: a Critique.” *Review of International Studies* 17 (1): 67–85.
- Randall L. Schweller. 2004. “Unanswered Threats: A Neoclassical Realist Theory of Underbalancing.” *International Security* 29 (2): 159–201.

- Zachary Selden. 2013. “Balancing Against or Balancing With? The Spectrum of Alignment and the Endurance of American Hegemony.” *Security Studies* 22 (2): 330–364.
- Laura Sjoberg. 2012. “Gender, Structure, and War: What Waltz Couldn’t See.” *International Theory* 4 (1): 1–38.*
- Shiping Tang. 2009. “The Security Dilemma: a Conceptual Analysis.” *Security Studies* 18 (3): 587–623.*
- Stephen Van Evera. 1998. “Offense, Defense, and the Causes of War.” *International Security* 22 (4): 5–43.
- Stephen M. Walt. 1985. “Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power.” *International Security* 9 (4): 3–43.

Week 5 (Oct. 1): Classical/Neo/New Liberalism

- Robert Axelrod. 1981. “The Emergence of Cooperation Among Egoists.” *American political science Review* 75 (2): 306–318.
- Robert Axelrod and Robert O. Keohane. 1985. “Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions.” *World Politics* 38 (1): 226–254.
- Daniel Deudney. 2000. “Geopolitics As Theory: Historical Security Materialism.” *European Journal of International Relations* 6 (1): 77–107.
- Michael W. Doyle. 1986. “Liberalism and World Politics.” *American Political Science Review* 80 (4): 1151–1169.*
- Joseph M. Grieco. 1988. “Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the Newest Liberal Institutionalism.” *International Organization* 42 (3): 485–507.
- Jeffrey W. Legro and Andrew Moravcsik. 1999. “Is Anybody Still a Realist?” *International Security* 24 (2): 5–55.*
- Kenneth A. Oye. 1985. “Explaining Cooperation under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies.” *World Politics* 38 (1): 1–24.*

Week 6 (Oct. 8): International Society and its Institutions

- Badredine Arfi. 2010. “Rethinking International Constitutional Order: The Auto-immune Politics of Binding Without Binding.” *Millennium* 39 (2): 299–321.
- Barry Buzan. 1993. “From International System To International Society: Structural Realism and Regime Theory Meet the English School.” *International Organization* 47 (3): 327–352.*
- Christopher Hemmer and Peter J. Katzenstein. 2002. “Why is There no NATO in Asia? Collective Identity, Regionalism, and the Origins of Multilateralism.” *International Organization* 56 (3): 575–607.

- Barbara Koremenos, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal. 2001. “The Rational Design of International Institutions.” *International Organization* 55 (4): 761–799.
- John J. Mearsheimer. 1994. “The False Promise of International Institutions.” *International Security* 19 (3): 5–49.*
- Beth A. Simmons. 2000. “International Law and State Behavior: Commitment and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs.” *American Political Science Review* 94 (4): 819–835.
- Zhiyuan Wang. 2020. “Thinking Outside the Box: Globalization, Labor Rights, and the Making of Preferential Trade Agreements.” *International Studies Quarterly*.

Week 7 (Oct. 15): Domestic Politics, the Democratic Peace, and Public Opinion

- James D. Fearon. 1994. “Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes.” *American Political Science Review* 88 (3): 577–592.*
- Christopher Gelpi, Peter D. Feaver, and Jason Reifler. 2006. “Success Matters: Casualty Sensitivity and the War in Iraq.” *International Security* 30 (3): 7–46.
- John R. Oneal and Bruce M. Russett. 1997. “The Classical Liberals Were Right: Democracy, Interdependence, and Conflict, 1950-1985.” *International Studies Quarterly* 41 (2): 267–294.
- Ido Oren. 1995. “The Subjectivity of the “Democratic” Peace: Changing US Perceptions of Imperial Germany.” *International Security* 20 (2): 147–184.
- Robert D. Putnam. 1988. “Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: the Logic of Two-Level Games.” *International Organization* 42 (3): 427–460.*
- Michael R. Tomz and Jessica L.P. Weeks. 2013. “Public Opinion and the Democratic Peace.” *American Political Science Review* 107 (4): 849–865.
- Jessica L. Weeks. 2008. “Autocratic Audience Costs: Regime Type and Signaling Resolve.” *International Organization* 62 (1): 35–64.*
- Jessica Chen Weiss. 2013. “Authoritarian Signaling, Mass Audiences, and Nationalist Protest in China.” *International Organization* 67 (1): 1–35.

Week 8 (Oct. 22): Constructivism

- J. Samuel Barkin. 2003. “Realist Constructivism.” *International Studies Review* 5 (3): 325–342.
- Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. “International Norm Dynamics and Political Change.” *International Organization* 52 (4): 887–917.*
- Audie Klotz. 1995. “Norms Reconstituting Interests: Global Racial Equality and U.S. Sanctions Against South Africa.” *International Organization* 49 (3): 451–478.

- Christian Reus-Smit. 2002. “Imagining Society: Constructivism and the English School.” *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 4 (3): 487–509.
- Jennifer Sterling-Folker. 2000. “Competing Paradigms Or Birds of a Feather? Constructivism and Neoliberal Institutionalism Compared.” *International Studies Quarterly* 44 (1): 97–119.
- Nina Tannenwald. 1999. “The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use.” *International Organization* 53 (3): 433–468.
- Wendt (1999, Ch. 1, 5, 6).*
- Alexander Wendt. 2000. “On the Via Media: A Response to the Critics.” *Review of International Studies* 26 (1): 165–180.

Week 9 (Oct. 29): Psychological Approaches to IR

- Emilie M. Hafner-Burton et al. 2017. “The Behavioral Revolution and International Relations.” *International Organization* 71 (S1): S1–S31.*
- Jonathan Mercer. 2005. “Rationality and Psychology in International Politics.” *International Organization* 59 (1): 77–106.
- Jennifer Mitzen. 2006. “Ontological Security in World Politics: State Identity and the Security Dilemma.” *European Journal of International Relations* 12 (3): 341–370.*
- Brian C. Rathbun, Joshua D. Kertzer, and Mark Paradis. 2017. “Homo Diplomaticus: Mixed-Method Evidence of Variation in Strategic Rationality.” *International Organization* 71 (S1): S33–S60.
- Bahar Rumelili. 2013. “Identity and Desecuritisation: the Pitfalls of Conflating Ontological and Physical Security.” *Journal of International Relations and Development* 18 (1): 52–74.
- Mark B. Salter and Can E. Mutlu. 2012. “Psychoanalytic Theory and Border Security.” *European Journal of Social Theory* 15 (2): 179–195.
- Keren Yarhi-Milo. 2013. “In the Eye of the Beholder: How Leaders and Intelligence Communities Assess the Intentions of Adversaries.” *International Security* 38 (1): 7–51.

Week 10 (Nov. 5): Critical Theories, Critical Theory, and Post-Structuralism

- Claudia Aradau and Jef Huysmans. 2014. “Critical Methods in International Relations: The Politics of Techniques, Devices and Acts.” *European Journal of International Relations* 20 (3): 596–619.
- Tarak Barkawi and Mark Laffey. 1999. “The Imperial Peace: Democracy, Force and Globalization.” *European Journal of International Relations* 5 (4): 403–434.

- Robert W. Cox. 1981. "Social Forces, States and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory." *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 10 (2): 126–155.*
- Robert W. Cox. 1983. "Gramsci, Hegemony and International Relations: An Essay in Method." *Millennium* 12 (2): 162–175.
- Roxanne Lynn Doty. 1993. "Foreign Policy As Social Construction: a Post-Positivist Analysis of U.S. Counterinsurgency Policy in the Philippines." *International Studies Quarterly* 37 (3): 297–320.
- Justin Rosenberg. 2006. "Why Is There No International Historical Sociology?" *European Journal of International Relations* 12 (3): 307–340.
- R. B. J. Walker. 1990. "Security, Sovereignty, and the Challenge of World Politics." *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political* 15 (1): 3–27.

Week 13 (Nov. 12): Feminist Theory and Approaches

- Brooke Ackerly and Jacqui True. 2008. "Reflexivity in Practice: Power and Ethics in Feminist Research on International Relations." *International Studies Review* 10 (4): 693–707.
- Mona Lena Krook and Juliana Restrepo Sanín. 2019. "The Cost of Doing Politics? Analyzing Violence and Harassment against Female Politicians." *Perspectives on Politics*: 1–16.
- Laura Sjoberg. 2009. "Introduction to Security Studies: Feminist Contributions." *Security Studies* 18 (2): 183–213.*
- J. Ann Tickner. 1997. "You Just Don't Understand: Troubled Engagements Between Feminists and IR Theorists." *International Studies Quarterly* 41 (4): 611–632.
- J. Ann Tickner. 1988. "Hans Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism: A Feminist Reformulation." *Millennium* 17 (3): 429–440.
- Cynthia Weber. 1994. "Good Girls, Little Girls, and Bad Girls: Male Paranoia in Robert Keohane's Critique of Feminist International Relations." *Millennium* 23 (2): 337–349.
- Lauren Wilcox. 2009. "Gendering the Cult of the Offensive." *Security Studies* 18 (2): 214–240.*

Week 11 (Nov. 19): Sovereignty, Race, and Empire—"The International" Revisited

- Zoltán I. Búzás. 2013. "The Color of Threat: Race, Threat Perception, and the Demise of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance (1902–1923)." *Security Studies* 22 (4): 573–606.
- Aida A Hozic and Jacqui True. 2017. "Brexit as a Scandal: Gender and Global Trumpism." *Review of International Political Economy* 24 (2): 270–287.

- Branwen Gruffydd Jones. 2008. “Race in the Ontology of International Order.” *Political Studies* 56 (4): 907–927.*
- Sankaran Krishna. 2001. “Race, Amnesia, and the Education of International Relations.” *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political* 26 (4): 401–424.
- Kerem Nisancioglu. 2019. “Racial Sovereignty.” *European Journal of International Relations*: 1–25.*
- Andrew S. Rosenberg. 2019. “Measuring Racial Bias in International Migration Flows.” *International Studies Quarterly* 63 (4): 837–845.
- Robbie Shilliam. 2006. “What about Marcus Garvey? Race and the Transformation of Sovereignty Debate.” *Review of International Studies* 32 (3): 379–400.

Week 12 (Dec. 3): Power, Hierarchy, and Networks

- Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall. 2005. “Power in International Politics.” *International Organization* 59 (1): 39–75.*
- Henry Farrell and Abraham Newman. 2019. “Weaponized Interdependence.” *International Security* 44 (1): 42–79.
- Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, Miles Kahler, and Alexander H. Montgomery. 2009. “Network Analysis for International Relations.” *International Organization* 63 (3): 559–592.
- David A. Lake. 2007. “Escape from the State of Nature: Authority and Hierarchy in World Politics.” *International Security* 32 (1): 47–79.
- Janice Bially Mattern and Ayşe Zarakol. 2016. “Hierarchies in World Politics.” *International Organization* 70 (3): 623–654.
- Meghan McConaughy, Paul Musgrave, and Daniel H. Nexon. 2018. “Beyond Anarchy: Logics of Political Organization, Hierarchy, and International Structure.” *International Theory* 10 (2): 181–218.
- Maja Spanu. 2019. “The Hierarchical Society: the Politics of Self-Determination and the Constitution of New States After 1919.” *European Journal of International Relations* 26 (2): 372–396.

Week 14 (Dec. 10): What is IR for in 2020? How should we “do” it?

- Stephane J. Baele and Gregorio Bettiza. 2020. “‘Turning’ Everywhere in IR: On the Sociological Underpinnings of the Field’s Proliferating Turns.” *International Theory*: 1–27.*
- Kimberly Hutchings. 2019. “Decolonizing Global Ethics: Thinking with the Pluriverse.” *Ethics & International Affairs* 33 (2): 115–125.

- David A. Lake. 2013. “Theory is Dead, Long Live Theory: The End of the Great Debates and the Rise of Eclecticism in International Relations.” *European Journal of International Relations* 19 (3): 567–587.*
- George Lawson. 2010. “The Eternal Divide? History and International Relations.” *European Journal of International Relations* 18 (2): 203–226.
- John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt. 2013. “Leaving Theory Behind: Why Simplistic Hypothesis Testing Is Bad for International Relations.” *European Journal of International Relations* 19 (3): 427–457.*
- Arlene B. Tickner. 2013. “Core, Periphery and (neo) Imperialist International Relations.” *European Journal of International Relations* 19 (3): 627–646.
- Alexander Wendt. 1998. “On Constitution and Causation in International Relations.” *Review of International Studies* 24 (5): 101–118.