

Dr. Zhiyuan Wang

Assistant Professor

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Class Time: T 2-3 period (8:30-9:20, 9:35-10:25 a.m.), R 3 period (9:35-10:25 a.m.)

Location: TUR 2318

Office Hours: T 3:00-4:00 pm, F: 10:30 am -12:30 pm, and by appointment.

THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Fall 2018

(The most up-to date version of the syllabus will be found on CANVAS)

Course Description

This course serves an introduction for students to the major theoretical approaches in International Relations. Students are expected to understand these approaches, i.e., their basic tenets, assumptions, relations to one another, methodological entailment, empirical applicability, limitations, etc., and are encouraged to use them, both critically and creatively, in their own analysis of events in international relations. In the meanwhile, students will learn and (re)think how international relations theories are shaped by and shape the philosophy of social sciences, implicitly and explicitly.

Required Readings

We will achieve the pedagogical goal above through the Great Books approach. Specifically, we will read and discuss six books that are influential in International Relations.

These books are all available for purchase at *Orange and Blue Textbooks*, 309 NW 13th Street.

1. E H. Carr, *Twenty Years Crisis*, New York: Harper Perennial, 1964.
2. Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2001.
3. John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, New York: W.W. Norton, 2002 (College Edition).
4. Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.
5. Bruce Russett, *Grasping the Democratic Peace*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994.
6. Martha Finnemore, *National Interest in International Society*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1996.
7. Roxanne Doty, *Imperial Encounters*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996 (recommended but not required).

Course Requirements

A. Attendance (5%)

You are expected to attend each class, unless otherwise stipulated. Attendance will be checked randomly. Absence will not be excused unless it is approved with legitimate reason in sufficient advance.

B. Participation (15%)

You are expected to finish required readings before class and participate in class discussion and other activities on a regular basis and in a meaningful and respectful manner.

C. Group project (15%)

You are expected to lead one class discussion as a group (normally in Thursdays' classes). Your grade for this component will be calculated based on the average performance of your group members.

D. Quiz (10%)

Four or five pop quizzes will be given throughout the semester.

E. Exams.

There will be three exams. They are normally made of short-answer and/or short-essay questions and will be taken online. Details will be given during class.

Midterm I (15%) Feb. 25th.

Midterm II (20%) Mar. 24th.

Midterm III (20%) Apr. 21st.

Your final cumulative score will be converted to a letter grade using the following scheme: 93 points or higher = A; 90–92.9 = A-; 87–89.9 = B+; 83–86.9 = B; 80–82.9 = B-; 77–79.9 = C+; 73–76.9 = C; 70–72.9 = C-; 67–69.9 = D+; 63–66.9 = D; 60–62.9 = D-; <60 = E. UF's grading policies can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

Individual extra-credit work is not allowed.

Deadline extensions may be granted under special circumstances, but you must request them prior to the deadline with legitimate verifiable reasons. No retroactive extensions will be granted under any circumstances.

Students with Disabilities

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.

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/>

Weekly Outline

Week 1

Tuesday, January 7th

Introduction; course and syllabus overview; description of course requirements.

Recommended:

Stanley Hoffmann, "An American Social Science: International Relations," *Daedalus* 106 (1977): 41–60.

Weber, Max. *Science as a Vocation*

Thursday, January 9th

E. H. Carr, *Twenty Year's Crisis*, pp. 1-21

Video: *The Gathering Storm* (optional)

Week 2

Tuesday, January 14th

E. H. Carr, *Twenty Year's Crisis*, pp. 22-94

Thursday, January 16st (Group 1)

E. H. Carr, *Twenty Year's Crisis*, pp. 95-145

Week 3

Tuesday, January 21st

E. H. Carr, *Twenty Year's Crisis*, pp. 146-169

Thursday, January 23rd (Group 2)
E. H. Carr, *Twenty Year's Crisis*, pp. 170-240

Week 4

Tuesday, January 28th
Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, pp. 1-15

Thursday, January 30th (Group 3)
Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, pp. 16-41

Week 5

Tuesday, February 4th
Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, pp.42-123

Thursday, February 6th (Group 4)
Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, pp. 124-238

Week 6

Tuesday, February 11th
John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp. 1-28

Thursday, February 13th (Group 5)
John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp. 29-137

Week 7

Tuesday, February 18th
John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp. 138-167

Thursday, February 20th (Group 6)
John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp. 83-137

Week 8

Tuesday, February 25th
Midterm I (No class)

Thursday, February 27th (Group 7)
John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp. 138-167

Spring Break: Feb. 29th to Mar. 8th

Week 9

Tuesday, Mar. 10th

John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp. 168-233

Thursday, Mar. 12th (Group 8)

John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp.234-359

Week 10

Tuesday, Mar. 17th

John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, pp.360-402

Thursday, Mar. 19th (Group 9)

Keohane, *After Hegemony*, pp. 5-30

Week 11

Tuesday, Mar. 24th

Midterm II (No class)

Thursday, Mar. 26th

No Class. ISA Annual Conference.

Week 12

Tuesday, Mar. 31st

Keohane, *After Hegemony* pp.49-134

Thursday, Apr. 2nd (Group 10)

Bruce Russett, *Grasping the Democratic Peace*, pp. 1-98

Week 13

Tuesday, Apr. 7th

Bruce Russett, *Grasping the Democratic Peace*, pp. 98-138

Tuesday, Apr. 9th (Group 11)

Martha Finnemore, *National Interest in International Society*, pp. 1-33

Week 14

Tuesday, Apr. 14th

Martha Finnemore, *National Interest in International Society*, pp. 34-88

Thursday, Apr. 16th (Group 12)

Martha Finnemore, *National Interest in International Society*, pp. 89-150

Week 15

Tuesday, Apr. 21th

Midterm III (No Class)