INTERNATIONAL POLITICS READING LIST
revised summer 2005

Introduction: The following reading list is intended to help graduate students prepare for the comprehensive exam in international relations. However, this list is not intended to be a substitute for regular reading of academic journals, which is expected of every graduate student in this department. Some of the most important journals in international relations include International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, International Studies Perspectives, International Studies Review, World Politics, Millennium, New Left Review, Review of International Political Economy, and World Policy Journal. Graduate students should make it common practice to read these journals on a regular basis and to be familiar with theoretical debates that have recently emerged within the field. In addition, graduate students should be familiar with the most recent syllabi from Professors Cox, Moreno, and Stack in addition to reviewing the works listed here. There will be some overlap between the syllabi and this reading list, but the syllabi may also contain readings that are not listed here, as courses are often revamped in between the yearly preparation of this reading list.

Most importantly, graduate students are expected in the comprehensive exam to demonstrate a firm grasp of the theories and methods used in International Relations, including liberalism, marxism, realism, bureaucratic politics, rational choice and critical theory. At the same time, the comprehensive exam requires that students demonstrate an ability to apply these theories or approaches to contemporary problems in international relations, especially in the areas of American Foreign Policy, International Political Economy, Ethnic Politics, and Inter-American Politics. Students should not only be aware of the nuances of important political thinkers in international politics, but should also be familiar with the basic chronology of important events in the history of international politics. There are a few good reference books that will help provide essential background information for graduate students, including:

Burchill, Scott and Andrew Linklater. Theories of International Relations. St. Martin’s Ptess, 1996.


The following lists are grouped within the most important categories of this subfield, including the broadest theoretical perspectives and the more specialized areas of scholarly research.
HISTORICAL STRUCTURALIST, CRITICAL, AND MARXIST PERSPECTIVES


DOMESTIC-INTERNATIONAL INTERACTIONS


Keohane, Robert and Helen Milner, eds. Internationalization and Domestic Politics. Cambridge University Press, 1996.


REALISM AND SECURITY STUDIES


LIBERALISM


Keynes, John Maynard. The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money. Harcourt,
Brace and World, 1935.


INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND REGIME THEORY


