International Relations INR 6608
International Relations Theory II

Spring 2002
Dr. Paul A. Kowert
W 18:25 - 21:05
Office: DM 437C
Section 01
Hours: to be announced

Whereas International Relations Theory I introduces the student to classical international relations scholarship, this course focuses primarily on contemporary debates. International Relations Theory II thus begins with the critiques of international relations theory that animated the behavioralist research tradition. It then considers a variety of more recent responses to this second wave of "modern" scholarship.

Course Requirements

This course is taught as a graduate seminar and thus requires active class participation; not only does this form the basis for part of your grade, but class meetings will often begin with a request for you to summarize one of the readings. All required readings (indicated by an asterisk on the syllabus) should therefore be completed before class. You should also write and bring to every class a short summary and several written questions about each reading.

The course requires two review essays of no more than 5 pages each. Each essay must review and criticize an empirical research project illustrative of one of the following tendencies in "modern" international relations scholarship (a different one for each essay): empiricism, structuralism, and rationalism. The research project you review may be either an article or a book. Please note, however, that a review essay is not a book report and should summarize the reviewed work only as necessary. Its objective is to make its own, original argument (reacting to claims in the reviewed work). Due dates for the review essays are indicated on the syllabus.

The course also requires a synthetic essay, of approximately 10 pages, that critically assesses the development of a specific, well-focused theme in international relations scholarship. A draft of this essay (with bibliography) will be presented during one of the final class meetings for the purpose of discussion and critique. The final version of the paper is due at the beginning of class on the day of the last class meeting.

All written work must be typed and double-spaced with one-inch margins; it should be stapled but not otherwise bound (written work must be submitted in "hard copy" — not by email). All written work should conform stylistically to the standards of a prominent international relations journal (such as International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, or World Politics). Style manuals — such as Kate Turabian's Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations (Chicago: University of Chicago Press) or William Strunk, Jr. and E. B. White's The Elements of Style (New York: Macmillan) — may also be helpful. Written work must conform to university and professional standards for academic integrity such as those described in the Student Handbook. Late papers will be penalized.

Grades will be determined according to these course requirements as follows:

Commentary and Participation in Class 10%
First Review Essay 25%
Second Review Essay 25%
Synthetic Essay on Field 40%

You are always welcome to discuss this course or other academic issues with me during my office hours. I will also be happy to make an appointment for another time if you cannot see me during office hours. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.
Syllabus

Week 1 (Jan. 9) — *Actors, Levels of Analysis, and Theory in International Relations*


Aron, Raymond, "What is a Theory of International Relations?" *Journal of International Affairs*,

Week 2 (Jan. 16) — *Traditional and "Modern" Approaches to International Relations Theory*

* Young, Oran, "Professor Russett: Industrious Tailor to a Naked Emperor," *World Politics* (1969), pp. 486-511.


Part I — Three Modes of Behavioralism

Week 3 (Jan. 23) — Empiricism


* Russett, Bruce, Peace, War, and Numbers (Beverly Hills: Sage, 1972), chapters 1, 6.


**Week 4 (Jan. 30) — Structuralism (Neorealist)**


**Week 5 (Feb. 6) — Structuralism (Neomarxist)**


---

Cardoso, Fernando Henrique and Enzo Faletto, Dependency and Development in Latin America (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979).
Week 6 (Feb. 13) — Structuralism (Neoliberal - Functional)


Week 7 (Feb. 20) — Structuralism (Neoliberal - Institutional)


Milner, Helen V., Interests, Institutions, and Information: Domestic Politics and Information (Princeton University Press, 1997).


Russett, Bruce, "The Mysterious Case of Vanishing Hegemony; or Is Mark Twain Really Dead?" International Organization 39 (1985).


Week 8 (Feb. 27) — Rationalism

REVIEW ESSAY #1 DUE


Green, Donald P. and Ian Shapiro, Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994).
Russett, Bruce, Economic Theories of International Politics (Chicago: Markham, 1968).

Part II — Critical Responses to Behavioralism

Week 9 (Mar. 6) — Post-Positivism and Critical Theory


George, Jim, Discourses of Global Politics: A Critical (Re)Introduction to International Relations (Boulder: Lynne Reinner, 1994).
Week 10 (Mar. 13) — Post-Structuralism and Constructivism

REVIEW ESSAY #2 DUE


---

Week 11 (Mar. 20) — Spring Break

No class meeting.

Week 12 (Mar. 27) — Feminism and Gendered Rationality


* Grant, Rebecca and Kathleen Newland, eds., Gender and International Relations (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1991), chapters 2-4.


---


Hoffman, John, *Gender and Sovereignty: Feminism, the State and International Relations* (New York: Palgrave, 2001).


**Part III — Research Presentations and Conclusion**

**Week 13 (Apr. 3) — Presentation and Critique of Research Designs**

Draft essays and bibliographies to be distributed.

**Week 14 (Apr. 10) — Presentation and Critique of Research Designs**

Draft essays and bibliographies to be distributed.
Week 15 (Apr. 17) — Trends in International Relations Theory

Final Paper (Synthetic Essay) Due.

* Holsti, Kal J., The Dividing Discipline: Hegemony and Diversity in International Relations Theory (Boston: Allen & Unwin, 1985), chapters 1, 2, 6, 7.


