

**Graduate Seminar on International Relations**  
**Political Science (PSCI) 5013/7013**  
**Spring 2007**

**Instructor:**

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**Course Description:**

Day/Time: Mondays 1:00PM – 3:30PM  
Location: Ketchum 116  
Website: <http://CULearn.colorado.edu>

This is a PhD-level course on approaches to the systematic study of international relations. The course surveys the field by reviewing major methodological and epistemological approaches as well as main theoretical approaches. The course has three main objectives:

1. introduce students to the major epistemological, methodological and theoretical debates in international relations;
2. stimulate students to carry out critical analysis of various theoretical and empirical IR literature; and
3. encourage students to begin devising their own research projects.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Class participation (30% of your grade): This is a seminar class and your participation through offering insightful comments and asking probing questions is essential for your and other students learning. You are expected to attend and actively participate in each class.
2. Response papers (35% of your grade): Between week 2 and week 14 (except week 12), each student is required to write 5 brief essays that analyze the readings for the week. Writing these papers will help you think critically about the readings and prepare for active discussion in class. What you may not do is write descriptive summaries of readings. The papers are to be three-page long, double-spaced, 12-point font, with one-inch margin on all sides. The papers are due in my e-mail by 8AM on the day of the class. Please attach the papers as a word processor document, named with your last name and the number of your response paper, e.g. Kim1.doc, Kim2.doc, etc. *Also paste the text of your paper into the body of your e-mail message.*
3. Research proposal (35% of your grade): Throughout the semester, you will work on drafting a proposal for a potential research project of your interest. The proposal will identify a research question, review the relevant literature, offer a potential answer/argument and propose a

research design to carry out. You will briefly present your proposal in class on April 16 and receive feedback from your classmates. The written proposal (about 15-20 pages) is due on the last day of the class (April 30).

### Readings:

- David A. Lake and Robert Powell, *Strategic Choice and International Relations* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999)
- All other readings are available online at [CULearn.colorado.edu](http://CULearn.colorado.edu).
- Although the readings will be available online, you might choose to purchase some of the books through online vendors.

### Schedule and Assignments:

#### Part I: Introduction and Preliminaries

##### *Week 1: Introductory Class* (January 22)

- Katzenstein, Peter J., Robert O. Keohane, and Stephen D. Krasner (1998) International Organization and the Study of World Politics. *International Organization*. 52(4), 645–685.
- Wight, Martin (1966) Why is There No International Relations Theory? In *Diplomatic Investigations: Essays in the Theory of International Politics*. Edited by Herbert Butterfield. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 17–34.

##### *Week 2: Philosophy of Science* (January 29)

- Elman, Colin and Miriam Fendius Elman (2003a) Introduction: Appraising Progress in International Relations Theory. In *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*. Edited by Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. chapter 1, 1–20.
- Elman, Colin and Miriam Fendius Elman (2003b) Lessons from Lakatos. In *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*. Edited by Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. chapter 2, 21–68.
- Wendt, Alexander (1999) *Social Theory of International Politics*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, Chapters 1–2.
- Almond, Gabriel A. and Stephen J. Genco (1977) Clouds, Clocks, and the Study of Politics. *World Politics*. 29(4), 489–522

##### *Week 3: Epistemological Debates* (February 5)

- Lake, David A. and Robert Powell, editors (1999) *Strategic Choice and International Relations*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapters 1–3.
- Walt, Stephen M. (1999) Rigor or Rigor Mortis?: Rational Choice and Security Studies. *International Security*. 23(4), 5–48.

- Kahler, Miles (1998) Rationality in International Relations. *International Organization*. 52(4), 919–941.

*Week 4: Methodological Debates (February 12)*

- Mesquita, Bruce Bueno de (1985) Toward a Scientific Understanding of International Conflict: A Personal View. *International Studies Quarterly*. 29(2), 121–136.
- Krasner, Stephen D. (1985) Toward Understanding in International Relations. *International Studies Quarterly*. 29(2), 137–144.
- Jervis, Robert (1985) Pluralistic Rigor: A Comment on Bueno de Mesquita. *International Studies Quarterly*. 29(2), 145–149.
- King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba (1994) *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapters 1, 3-4.
- Bennett, Andrew (2004) Case Study Methods: Design, Use, and Comparative Advantages. In *Models, Numbers, and Cases: Methods for Studying International Relations*. Edited by Detlef F. Sprinz and Yael Wolinsky-Nahmias. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 19–55.
- Gaddis, John Lewis (2002) *The Landscape of History*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Part II: Theoretical Approaches

*Week 5: Structure, Power and Anarchy (February 19)*

[Classical realism/neorealism/neoclassical realism]

- Morgenthau, Hans J. (2005) *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*. 7th edition. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., Chapters 1 and 3.
- Keohane, Robert O., editor (1986) *Neorealism and Its Critics*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, Chapters 2-5.
- Rose, Gideon (1998) Neoclassical Realism and Theories of Foreign Policy. *World Politics*. 51(1), 144–172.
- Legro, Jeffrey W. and Andrew Moravcsik (1999) Is Anybody Still a Realist? *International Security*. 24(2), 5–55.

*Week 6: Regimes and Institutions (February 26)*

[Neoliberalism/neoliberal institutionalism]

- Keohane, Robert O. (1984) *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, Chapters 1, 4-7.
- Krasner, Stephen D. (1999) *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapter 2.
- Powell, Robert (1994) Anarchy in International Relations Theory: The Neorealist-Neoliberal Debate. *International Organization*. 48(2), 313–344.

- Martin, Lisa L. and Beth A. Simmons (1998) Theories and Empirical Studies of International Institutions. *International Organization*. 52(4), 729–757.
- Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal (2001) The Rational Design of International Institutions. *International Organization*. 55(4), 761–799.

*Week 7: Identities and Norms* (March 5)

[Constructivism]

- Wendt, Chapters 4 and 6.
- Ruggie, John Gerard (1998) What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge. *International Organization*. 52(4), 855–885.
- Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink (1998) International Norm Dynamics and Political Change. *International Organization*. 52(4), 887–917.
- Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink (2001) Taking Stock: The Constructivist Research Program in International Relations and Comparative Politics. *Annual Review of Political Science*. 4(3), 391–416,

*Week 8: Cultures and Ideas* (March 12)

[Sociological institutionalism]

- Finnemore, Martha (1996) Norms, Culture, and World Politics: Insights from Sociology’s Institutionalism. *International Organization*. 50(2), 325–347.
- Buzan, Barry (1993) From International System to International Society: Structural Realism and Regime Theory Meet the English School. *International Organization*. 47(3), 327–352.
- Barnett, Michael N. and Martha Finnemore (1999) The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations. *International Organization*. 53(4), 699–732.
- Goldstein, Judith and Robert O. Keohane (1993) Ideas and Foreign Policy: An Analytical Framework. In *Ideas and Foreign Policy: Beliefs, Institutions, and Political Change*. Edited by Judith Goldstein and Robert O. Keohane. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. chapter 1, 3–30.

*Week 9: Perception and Decision-Making* (March 19)

[Cognitive and psychological approaches]

- Jervis, Robert (1976) *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapters 1-2.
- Mercer, Jonathan (2005) Rationality and Psychology in International Politics. *International Organization*. 59(1), 77–106.
- Lebow, Richard Ned (1985) Miscalculation in the South Atlantic: The Origins of the Falklands War. In *Psychology and Deterrence*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. chapter 5, 89–124.

- Levy, Jack (2000) Loss Aversion, Framing Effects, and International Conflict: Perspectives from Prospect Theory. In *Handbook of War Studies*. Edited by Manus I. Midlarsky. Volume II. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 193–221.

*Week 10: Society and Domestic Politics* (April 2)

[Domestic political approaches: liberalism and preferences]

- Doyle, Michael W. (1986) Liberalism and World Politics. *American Political Science Review*. 80(4), 1151–1169.
- Moravcsik, Andrew (1997) Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics. *International Organization*. 51(4), 513–553.
- Gourevitch, Peter A. (1978) The Second Image Reversed: The International Sources of Domestic Politics. *International Organization*. 32(4), 881–912.
- Snyder, Jack (1991) *Myths of Empire: Domestic Politics and International Ambition*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, Chapters 1-2.
- Rogowski, Ronald (1989) *Commerce and Coalitions: How Trade Affects Domestic Political Alignments*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Chapter 1.

*Week 11: Domestic Politics and Institutions* (April 9)

[Domestic political approaches: institutions and regime types]

- Putnam, Robert D. (1988) Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of 2-Level Games. *International Organization*. 42(3), 427–460.
- Mesquita, Bruce Bueno de et al. (1999) Policy Failure and Political Survival. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 43(2), 147–161.
- Fearon, James D. (1994) Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review*. 88(3), 577–592.
- Gaubatz, Kurt Taylor (1996) Democratic States and Commitment in International Relations. *International Organization*. 50(1), 109–139.
- Geddes, Barbara (2003) *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, Chapter 2.

Part III: State of the Field and Conclusion

*Week 12: Student Research Proposal Discussion* (April 16)

*Week 13: Sovereignty and Changes in International Relations* (April 23)

- Krasner *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*, Chapter 1.
- Ruggie, John Gerard (1993) Territoriality and Beyond: Problematizing Modernity in International Relations. *International Organization*. 47(1), 139–174.

- Slaughter, Anne Marie (2005) Disaggregated Sovereignty: Towards the Public Accountability of Global Governmental Networks. In *Global Governance and Public Accountability*. Edited by David Held and Mathias Koenig-Archibugi. Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing. chapter 3, 35–66.
- Wendt, Chapter 7.
- Keck, Margaret E. and Kathryn Sikkink (1998) *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, Chapter 1.

*Week 14: State of the Field* (April 30)

- Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa L. Martin (2003) Institutional Theory as a Research Program. In *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*. Edited by Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. chapter 3, 71–107.
- Schweller, Randall L. (2003) The Progressiveness of Neoclassical Realism. In *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*. Edited by Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. chapter 9, 311–347.
- Snyder, Jack (2003) “Is” and “Ought”: Evaluating Empirical Aspects of Normative Research. In *Progress in International Relations Theory: Appraising the Field*. Edited by Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. chapter 10, 349–377
- Wæver, Ole (1998) The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline: American and European Developments in International Relations. *International Organization*. 52(4), 687–727.