

IR 1001 – International Relations

Foundations Course – MA in International Political Affairs

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Office Hours: By appointment
Room: B205/a

Fall Term, 2020
TU 17.20-19.00 & TH 13.30-15.10
Zoom Link:

<https://ceu-edu.zoom.us/j/97686275409?pwd=MWVveW5OR0ljdXhEYmYwanJyb084UT09>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This mandatory course provides an advanced introduction to the foundations of international relations and the discipline's main concepts and theories. The course will begin by examining the roots of contemporary international relations as a result of the “Global Transformation”—to use Buzan and Lawson's term—that witnessed nothing less than a fundamental shift in the nature of international politics and the international order beginning in the nineteenth-century. Stated simply, international relations as both practice and academic discipline emerged out of the global processes and transformations that developed globally over the course of the hundred years from roughly the end of the Napoleonic Wars to the end of World War I. The remainder of the course will explore the myriad “languages” and concepts that constitute the foundation of how world politics is defined, studied, examined, and debated. We will begin by looking at the cornerstones of international relations theory, including constructivist, liberal, and realist international relations. The course will then turn towards alternative and more recent developments in international relations theory that look to challenge prevailing notions of how we understand the field. This includes Marxist, feminist, post-colonial, and post-structuralist international relations. Taken together, we will examine the ramifications of these various approaches to thinking about international relations and explore how they are applied to issue-specific domains of world politics.

LEARNING GOALS:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- develop an understanding of the foundations of international relations both as a practice and as a field of study.
- gain new perspectives on many of the basic assumptions and ontological conventions prevalent in the discipline of international relations.
- evaluate, compare, and contrast different interpretations and explanations of world politics.
- recognize the interpretative possibilities in any given world political phenomena.
- critically reflect upon and evaluate their own standpoints on world politics as well as those of others.

COURSE EVALUATION

Ten percent of your grade is based on class participation in class. For this reason, attendance is absolutely necessary: if you are not in class, you are not participating. If you are to miss a session, please contact me before class time. Of course, attendance is not the same as participation. Students are expected to contribute to class discussion in a constructive manner. Not only will this be beneficial to both your own and your colleagues' understanding of the material, it will also allow me to gauge how well you are comprehending and synthesizing the course material. To do this, it is imperative that you complete the assigned readings for each week *before* we meet.

Thirty percent of the grade will come in the form of two 500-word critical response papers, each worth 15 percent. The first response paper will deal with one or more readings from weeks 1-4. The second will deal with one or more readings from weeks 5-11. Response papers need to be submitted BEFORE the reading is dealt with in class. The procedure for doing so will be discussed in class. Please refer to the online resource for what is expected from the response papers.

The final assignment will consist of two parts, a project proposal and an annotated bibliography—each consisting 1,000 words—and a final research paper of 3,000 words. The student will be expected to develop a research paper that applies international relations theory to their own MA thesis topics. The proposed research plan will include sections on the subject, aims, materials and methods of the project. In conjunction with the proposal, the student will submit an annotated bibliography supporting their research plan. The assignment should be seen as an exercise in strengthening the student's understanding of how an academic project is undertaken. The final paper, meanwhile, will take the form of a methodological and theoretical engagement with the student's specific MA thesis and will be due on the last day of class, Thursday, December 17. Again, please refer to the online resource for what is expected from the project proposal and annotated bibliography.

ASSESSMENT:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Response Paper 1 (500 words)	15%
<u>To be submitted by the end of week 4</u>	
Response Paper 2 (500 words)	15%
<u>To be submitted by the end of week 11</u>	
Project Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	25%
<u>To be submitted by 23.59 on Monday, November 9</u>	
Final Paper (3,000 words)	35%
<u>To be submitted by 23.59 on Friday, December 18</u>	

CLASS POLICIES

- Plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty will result, at a minimum, in the student failing the class. The case will then be referred to the Committee on Academic Dishonesty. It is the responsibility of the student to understand what constitutes plagiarism and academic dishonesty. For reference, please consult the following university documents: *Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism*, the *CEU Policy Document* and the *MA Handbook*.
- All assignments must be submitted electronically using **MS Word** to Moodle. The papers should be saved with the format “**Last Name First Name – Assignment Name.**” For example, if I were to submit response paper one, it would be “**Tokic Mate – RP 1.**” The due date of all assignments is indicated in the syllabus, and can be submitted until 23.59. For each 24 hour period past the deadline, the assignment will be docked 1/3 of a letter grade. Papers will not be accepted more than seven days after the due date. Please note, the Project Proposal and Annotated Bibliography should be submitted as one document.
- If you have an issue with a grade you’ve received, I am more than willing to take your concerns into consideration. I will not, however, hear any verbal requests for a grade change. Instead, I ask that you write me a short (250 word) explanation as to why you feel the grade I gave you was unsatisfactory. I will then return to the work with fresh eyes. Please note: this means the possibility exists that the grade can go down as well as up. Also, I will not consider a change of grade request more than ten (10) days after grades have been returned to you. This allows us both to address whatever issues you might have fresh.
- All content for the class will be made available on online. It goes without saying that you are responsible for all information contained in this syllabus, imparted in class and provided electronically.
- Finally, the classroom is an electronics free room. Use of mobile telephones, computers, tablets or other electronic instruments is prohibited. Please come to class with writing utensils to take notes: it has been demonstrated that one learns much more taking handwritten notes than by way of typing or recording!

COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTIONS

Tuesday, September 28: No Assigned Readings

Thursday, October 1:

- Stephen Walt. “International Relations: One World, Many Theories.” *Foreign Policy*, vol.110 (Spring 1998):29-46.
- Stefano Guzzini. “The Significance and Roles of Teaching Theory in International Relations.” *Journal of International Relations and Development*, vol.4, no.2 (2001):98-117.

WEEK 2: FRAMING THE PROBLEM – GLOBAL CHANGE AND THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY

Tuesday, October 6:

- Benjamin de Carvalho, Halvard Leira, and John M. Hobson. “The Big Bangs of IR: The Myths That Your Teachers Still Tell You about 1648 and 1919.” *Millennium*, vol.39, no. 3 (2011):735-758.
- Sebastian Conrad and Dominic Sachsenmaier. “Introduction: Competing Visions of World Order: Global Moments and Movements, 1880s-1930s.” In: Conrad, Sebastian and Dominic Sachsenmaier, eds. *Competing Visions of World Order: Global Moments and Movements, 1880s-1930s*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. p.1-25.

Thursday, October 8:

- Barry Buzan and Richard Little. “The Idea of ‘International System’: Theory Meets History.” *International Political Science Review/Revue Internationale De Science Politique*, vol.15, no.3 (1994):231-255.
- Jens Bartelson. “Short Circuits: Society and Tradition in International Relations Theory.” *Review of International Studies*, vol. 22, no. 4, (1996):339–360.

WEEK 3: REALISM

Tuesday, October 13:

- Michael C. Williams. “Why Ideas Matter in International Relations: Hans Morgenthau, Classical Realism, and the Moral Construction of Power Politics.” *International Organization*, vol.58 (2004):633-665.
- Charles Glaser. “Realists as Optimists: Cooperation as Self-Help.” *International Security*, vol.19 (1994/95):50-90.

Thursday, October 15:

- Sebastian Rosato. “The Inscrutable Intentions of Great Powers.” *International Security*, vol.39, no.3 (2015):48-88.
- Jeffrey W. Legro and Andrew Moravcsik. “Is Anybody Still a Realist?” *International Security*, vol.24, no.2 (1999):5-55.

WEEK 4: LIBERALISM

Tuesday, October 20:

- Andrew Moravcsik. “Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics.” *International Organization*, vol.51, no.4 (1997):513-53.

- John M Owen. "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace." *International Security*, vol.19, no.2 (1994):87-125.

Thursday, October 22:

- G. John Ikenberry. "The Liberal International Order and its Discontents." *Millennium*, vol.38, no.3 (2010):509-521.
- Bruce Russett and John O'Neal. "The Kantian Peace: The Pacific Benefits of Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations, 1885-1992." *World Politics*, vol.52 (1999):1-37.
- Emanuele Castelli and J. Tyson Chatagnier. "From Democracy to Capitalism. The War over the Liberal Peace." *Rivista Italiana di Scienza Politica*, vol.43, no.3 (December 2013):435-454.

WEEK 5: MARXISM

Tuesday, October 27:

- Immanuel Wallerstein. "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System: Concepts for Comparative Analysis." *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, vol.16, no.4 (1974):387-415.
- Georg Modelski. "The Long Cycle of Global Politics and the Nation State." *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, vol.20, no.2 (1978):214-235.

Thursday, October 29:

- Benno Teschke, "Theorizing the Westphalian System of States: International Relations from Absolutism to Capitalism." *European Journal of International Relations*, vol.8, no.1 (2002):5-48.
- William I. Robinson. "Gramsci and Globalisation: From Nation-State to Transnational Hegemony." *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, vol.8, no.4 (2005):1-16.

WEEK 6: CONSTRUCTIVISM

Tuesday, November 3:

- Alex Wendt. "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics." *International Organization*, vol.46 (1992):391-425.
- Ian Hurd. "Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics." *International Organization*, vol.53 (1999):379-408.

Thursday, November 5:

- John Ruggie, “What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge.” *International Organization*, vol.52, no.4 (1998):855-85.
- Stefano Guzzini. “The Concept of Power: A Constructivist Analysis.” *Millennium*, vol.33, no.3 (2005):495-521.

WEEK 7: FEMINIST/GENDER IR

Tuesday, November 10:

- Anne Sisson Runyan and V. Spike Peterson. “The Radical Future of Realism: Feminist Subversions of IR Theory.” *Alternatives*, vol.16, no.1 (1991):67-106.
- Gillian Youngs. “Feminist International Relations: A Contradiction in Terms? Or: Why Women and Gender Are Essential to Understanding the World ‘We’ Live in.” *International Affairs*, vol. 80, no. 1 (Jan 2004):75-87.

Thursday, November 12:

- Cynthia Weber. “Queer International Relations: From Queer to Queer IR.” *International Studies Review*, vol.16, no. (2014):596-622.
- Melanie Richter-Montpetit. “Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Sex (in IR) But Were Afraid to Ask: The ‘Queer Turn’ in International Relations.” *Millennium*, vol.46, no.2 (2018):220–240.
- V. Spike Peterson. “Towards Queering the Globally Intimate.” *Political Geography*, vol.56 (2017):114-116.

WEEK 8: CRITICAL THEORY AND POSTSTRUCTURALISM

Tuesday, November 17:

- Robert W. Cox, “Social Forces, States and World Order: Beyond International Relations Theory.” *Millennium*, vol.10, no. 2 (1981):126-155.
- Andrew Linklater. “The Achievements of Critical Theory.” In: Andrew Linklater. *Critical Theory and World Politics: Citizenship, Sovereignty and Humanity*. London: Routledge, 2007. p.45-59.

Thursday, November 19:

- Richard Ashley. “The Poverty of Neorealism.” *International Organization*, vol.38, no.2 (1984):225-286.

- Columba Peoples. "Security after Emancipation? Critical Theory, Violence and Resistance." *Review of International Studies*, vol.37, no.3 (2011):113-35

WEEK 9: THE ENGLISH SCHOOL

Tuesday, November 24:

- Barry Buzan. "The English School: A Neglected Approach to International Security Studies." *Security Dialogue*, vol.46, no.2 (2015):126-143.
- Richard Little. "The English School's Contribution to the Study of International Relations." *European Journal of International Relations*, vol.6, no.3 (2000):395-422.

Thursday, November 26:

- Cornelia Navari. "The Concept of Practice in the English School." *European Journal of International Relations*, vol.17, no.4 (2011):611-30.
- Nicholas Wheeler, "Pluralist and Solidarist Conceptions of International Society." *Millennium*, vol. 21, no. 3 (1992):463-487.

WEEK 10: NON-WESTERN IR

Tuesday, December 1:

- Amitav Acharya. "Dialogue and Discovery: In Search of International Relations Theories Beyond the West." *Millennium*, vol.39, no.3 (2011):619-637.
- Pinar Bilgin. "Thinking Past Western IR?" *Third World Quarterly*, vol.29, no.1 (2008):5-23.

Thursday, December 3:

- John Hobson and Alina Sajed. "Navigating Beyond the Eurofetishist Frontier of Critical IR Theory: Exploring the Complex Landscapes of Non-Western Agency." *International Studies Review*, vol.19 (2017):547-572.
- Arlene Tickner. "Core, Periphery and (neo)Imperialist International Relations." *European Journal of International Relations*, vol. 19, no.3 (2013):627-646.

WEEK 11: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION

Tuesday, December 8: No Class (Immaculate Conception Day)

Thursday, December 10:

- Göran Therborn “Globalizations: Dimensions, Historical Waves, Regional Effects, Normative Governance.” *International Sociology*, vol.15, no.2: (2000):151-179.
- David Armstrong. “Globalization and the Social State.” *Review of International Studies*, vol.24, no.4 (1998):461–478.

WEEK 12: CONCLUSIONS

Tuesday, December 15:

- No assigned readings

Thursday, December 17: No Class