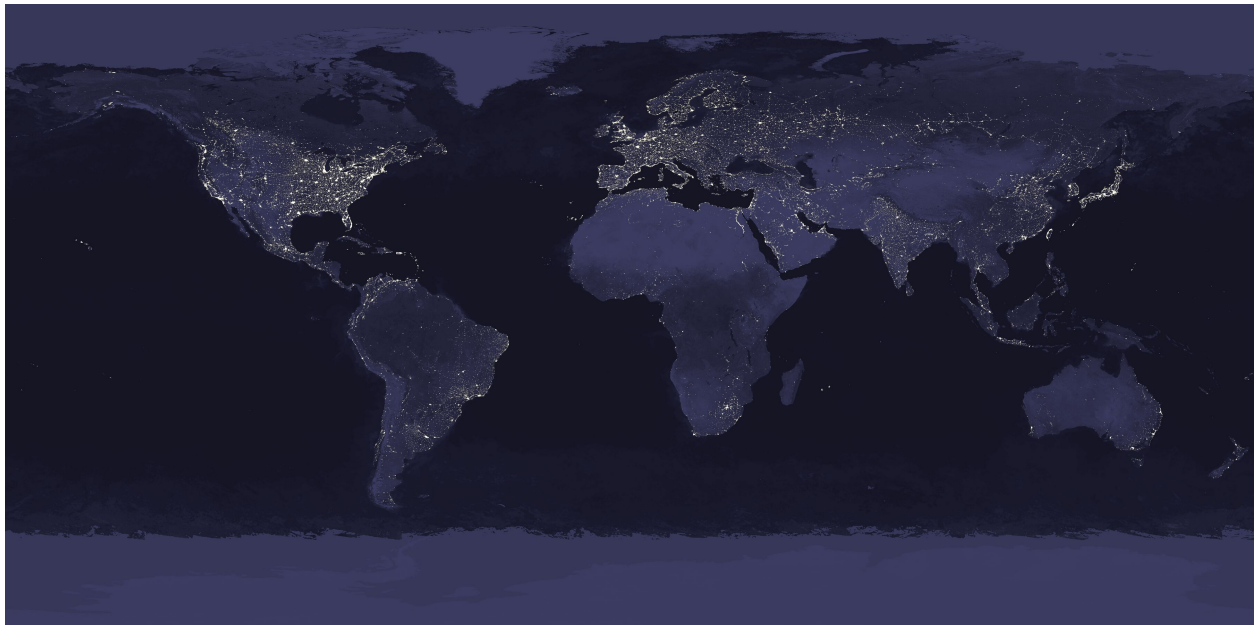


PS 7300: International Relations Theory



Meeting Time & Location: Derby Hall 2078, Wednesday 2:00 PM - 4:45 PM

Professor Christopher Gelpi

Email: gelpi.10@osu.edu

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Office Hours: Wednesday: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM or by appointment

2176 Derby Hall

154 North Oval Mall

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Objectives of the Seminar

The objectives of this course are: (1) to understand the scope and breadth of the theoretical literature that has defined the study of international relations; (2) to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the theoretical paradigms represented in that literature; (3) to define specific research questions and issues that must be addressed by future research; and (4) to prepare students for preliminary examinations in international relations.

It is, of course, impossible to provide a comprehensive review of the entire field of international relations in a single semester. The readings and discussions in this course seek to strike a balance between traditional works that define the evolution of the field and contemporary works that highlight the development of our knowledge and possible directions for future research. Some of the materials in this course rely on technical tools (such as econometrics or

formal theory). Students are not expected to be familiar with these tools prior to enrolling in the course, but will become familiar with them during the semester.

Course Requirements

Response Papers (20% of final grade): In order to encourage active thinking about the readings and discussion in class, students will write two brief commentaries (2 pages maximum, single-spaced) on the readings for a particular week. Students should seek in these notes to engage one or more themes in the works, discuss their strengths and weaknesses, and suggest future research questions facing that area of the literature. Students will sign up for their weeks at the first class meeting of the seminar. The papers will be circulated electronically to the entire class, and will be due at 9:00 a.m. on the relevant class day. You can post the paper to the class through the Carmen website.

Class Participation (10% of the final grade): Students will be expected to come to class fully prepared to engage in a robust, informed discussion of the readings and the problems for the field of international relations raised by the readings.

Literature or Book Review (25% of the final grade): The readings on this syllabus can only serve as a starting point from which students will engage additional important literature. Students will therefore write a literature or book review on a topic of interest to them that relates to one of the subjects addressed by this course. A book review will generally focus intensively on one or two related books; a literature review will examine the development of a theme or problem through time and a larger number of readings. Either type of analysis should be 4,000-5,000 words. Students should consult with the instructors before selecting a review topic. Literature and book reviews that may serve as models for such forms of scholarship are listed at the end of this syllabus.

Written Final Examination (25% of the final grade): Students will take a one-day in-class examination that will be patterned on the preliminary examinations that graduate students must pass before they may advance to the dissertation stage of the PhD program.

Oral Exam Final (20% of the final grade): As with the preliminary exam process, students will be given a brief oral exam with the course instructor. The oral exam may focus on issues raised in the written exam, but any material on the syllabus may be covered during the exam.

Academic Misconduct Policy: It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall 113 W. 12th Ave. Columbus, OH 43210. Telephone: 614-292-3307. For exam accommodations email: slds-exam@osu.edu.

Required Texts

Students need not purchase any books for this course. All required readings are available through the course Carmen page or through OSU academic databases. Readings with hyperlinks are available in OSU databases. All other readings may be found on the course Carmen page.

Schedule of Readings

August 21 – Organization and Introductions

August 28 - What Are We Trying to Do Here?

Robert Keohane. 2009. Political Science as a Vocation. [*PS: Political Science and Politics* 42 \(2\), 359-363.](#)

Jack Snyder. 2004. [One World, Rival Theories](#). *Foreign Policy* (Nov./Dec.)

Alexander Wendt. 2001. What is IR for? Notes toward a post-critical view. In R. Wyn Jones, ed., *Critical Theory and World Politics*. Lynne Rienner.

Avey, Paul C., and Michael C. Desch. ["What do policymakers want from us? Results of a survey of current and former senior national security decision makers."](#) *International Studies Quarterly* 58.2 (2014): 227-246.

September 4 - How to Think About International Politics?

J. Ann Tickner, 2005. ["What's Your Research Program? Some Feminist Answers to International Relations Methodological Questions."](#) *International Studies Quarterly* 49, 1: 1-21.

Dina Zinnes. 1980. "Three Puzzles in Search of a Researcher." *International Studies Quarterly* [23\(3\):315-42.](#)

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, "Toward a Scientific Understanding of International Conflict: A Personal View," in Symposium: Methodological Foundations of the Study of International Conflict, *International Studies Quarterly*, [Vol. 29, No. 2. \(Jun., 1985\), pp. 121-136.](#)

J. David Singer. 1961. [The Level of Analysis Problem in International Relations](#). WP 14(1): 77-92.

Brown, Chris. 1994. ["Turtles all the way Down: Anti-Foundationalism, Critical Theory and International Relations,"](#) *Millennium* 23, 213-236.

Hansen, Lene. ["A case for seduction? Evaluating the poststructuralist conceptualization of security."](#) *Cooperation and Conflict* 32.4 (1997): 369-397.

September 11 - The Nature of Power

- Dahl, Robert. "The Concept of Power." *Behavioral Science* [2 \(2\) : 201-215. \(BF1.B5\)](#)
- Thomas Schelling. 1956. "An Essay on Bargaining." *American Economic Review* [46\(3\): 281-30.](#)
- Powell, Robert. 2004. "The Inefficient Use of Power: Costly Conflict with Complete Information." *American Political Science Review* [98 \(2\): 231-241.](#)
- Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall. 2005. [Power in International Relations](#). IO 59(1): 39-75.
- Mattern, Janice Bially. 2005. "[Why Soft Power isn't so Soft](#)," *Millennium*, 33(3), 583-612.

September 18 - Anarchy vs. Hierarchy in International Relations

- Lake, David A. 2007. "Escape from the State of Nature: Authority and Hierarchy in World Politics." *International Security* [32 \(1\): 47-79.](#)
- MacDonald, Paul K., and David A. Lake. 2008. "Correspondence: The Role of Hierarchy in International Politics." *International Security* [32 \(4\): 171-180.](#)
- Robert Jervis, 1978. "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma," *World Politics* [30 \(2\), pp. 167-214.](#)
- DiCicco, Jonathan M., and Jack S. Levy. "[Power shifts and problem shifts: The evolution of the power transition research program](#)." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 43.6 (1999): 675-704.
- Milner, Helen. 1991. [The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique](#). *Review of International Studies* 17(1) 67-85.
- Mattern, Janice Bially, and Ayşe Zarakol. "[Hierarchies in world politics](#)." *International Organization* 70.3 (2016): 623-654.

September 25 - Neorealism and its Descendants

- Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*, pp. 79-128, 161-193.
- Stephen Walt, "[Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power](#)," *International Security*, [Vol. 9, No. 4 \(Spring, 1985\), pp. 3-43](#)
- Legro, Jeffrey W., and Andrew Moravcsik. "[Is anybody still a realist?](#)" *International Security* 24.2 (1999): 5-55.
- Schweller, Randall. 1994 "[Bandwagoning for Profit](#)," *International Security*, Vol.19, No. 1, pp.72-107.
- Mitzen, Jennifer. "[Ontological security in world politics: State identity and the security dilemma](#)." *European Journal of international relations* 12.3 (2006): 341-370.
- Sjöberg, Laura. "[Gender, structure, and war: what Waltz couldn't see](#)." *International Theory* 4.1 (2012): 1-38.

October 2 - Neoliberal Institutionalism

Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy* (Princeton, 1984), chapters 5-6.

Joseph Grieco, "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the Newest Liberal Institutionalism," *International Organization*, [Vol. 42, No. 3. \(Summer, 1988\), pp. 485-507.](#)

Duncan Snidal. 1991. "Relative Gains and the Pattern of International Cooperation." *American Political Science Review* [85\(3\):701-726.](#)

Beth Simmons, "International Law and State Behavior: Commitment and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs," *American Political Science Review* [94, 4 \(2000\). pp. 819-35.](#)

Verdier, Daniel. 2008. "[Multilateralism, Bilateralism and Exclusion in the Nuclear Proliferation Regime](#)," *International Organization*, 62 (3), 439-476.

Thompson, Alexander. 2006. "[Coercion through International Organizations: The Security Council and the Logic of Information Transmission](#)," *International Organization*, 60(1), 1-34.

October 9 – Constructivism

Wendt, Alexander. *Social theory of international politics*. Cambridge University Press, 1999. [Chapters 1 and 6.](#)

John Gerard Ruggie, "What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge," *International Organization*, [52, 4\(1998\), pp. 855-886.](#)

Hurd, Ian. "[Legitimacy and authority in international politics](#)." *International organization* 53.2 (1999): 379-408.

Tannenwald, Nina. "[The nuclear taboo: The United States and the normative basis of nuclear non-use](#)." *International organization* 53.3 (1999): 433-468.

Vitalis, Robert. "[The graceful and generous liberal gesture: making racism invisible in American international relations](#)." *Millennium* 29.2 (2000): 331-356.

October 16 – No Class Meeting

October 23 - Psychological Perspectives

Robert Jervis. 1988. "[War and Misperception](#)," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 18, No. 4, pp. 675-700.

Barbara Farnham, "Roosevelt and the Munich Crisis: Insights from Prospect Theory," *Political Psychology*, [13, 2:205-235](#)

Horowitz, Michael C., and Allan C. Stam. "[How prior military experience influences the future militarized behavior of leaders](#)." *International Organization* 68.3 (2014): 527-559.

McDermott, Rose, et al. "[MAOA and aggression: A gene–environment interaction in two populations](#)." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 57.6 (2013): 1043-1064.

Herrmann, Richard and Jong Kun Choi. 2007. "[From Prediction to Learning: Opening Experts' Minds to Unfolding History](#)," *International Security*, 31(4), 132-161.

Gelpi, Christopher. 2010. "[Performing on Cue? The Formation of Public Opinion Toward War](#)," *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 54(1), 88-116.

October 30 - Liberalism & Democratic Peace

Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. "[Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics](#)," *International Organization* 51, 513-553.

Gelpi, C. (2017). [Democracies in Conflict: The Role of Public Opinion, Political Parties, and the Press in Shaping Security Policy](#). *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 61(9), 1925-1949.

Maoz, Zeev, and Bruce Russett. "[Normative and structural causes of democratic peace, 1946–1986](#)." *American Political Science Review* 87.3 (1993): 624-638.

De Mesquita, Bruce Bueno, et al. "[An institutional explanation of the democratic peace](#)." *American Political Science Review* 93.4 (1999): 791-807.

Henry Farber and Joanne Gowa, "Politics and Peace," [International Security](#) 20 (Fall 1995), pp. 123-146.

Weeks, Jessica L. "[Autocratic audience costs: Regime type and signaling resolve](#)." *International Organization* 62.1 (2008): 35-64.

November 6 - International Political Economy

Robert Gilpin, "The Politics of Transnational Economic Relations," [International Organization](#) 25 (Summer 1971), pp. 398-419.

Stephen Krasner, "State Power and the Structure of International Trade," [World Politics](#) 28 (April 1976), pp. 317-347.

Peter Katzenstein, "[International Relations and Domestic Structures: Foreign Economic Policies of Advanced Industrial States](#)," *International Organization* 30, 1:1-45.

Michael Hiscox, "Class Versus Industry Cleavages: Inter-Industry Factor Mobility and the Politics of Trade," [International Organization](#) 55 (Winter 2001), pp. 1-46.

Helen Milner, "Resisting the Protectionist Temptation: Industry and the Making of Trade Policy in France and the United States During the 1970s," *International Organization* 41, 4:639-665.

Michael Bailey, Judith Goldstein, and Barry Weingast, "The Institutional Roots of American Trade Policy: Politics, Coalitions, and International Trade," [World Politics](#) 49 (April 1997), pp. 309-38.

November 13 - The Political Economy of Conflict

Norman Angell, *The Great Illusion: A Study of the Relation of Military Power to National Advantage* (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1913), chapter 3.

Katherine Barbieri. 1996. "Economic Interdependence: A Path to Peace or a Source of Interstate Conflict?" *Journal of Peace Research* 33(1):29-49.

John Oneal and Bruce Russett, "Assessing the Liberal Peace with Alternative Specifications: Trade Still Reduces Conflict," [*Journal of Peace Research* 36 \(July 1999\), pp. 423-442.](#)

Erik Gartzke. 2007. "The Capitalist Peace." [*American Journal of Political Science* 51\(1\): 166-191.](#)

Michael Ward, Randolph Siverson, and Xun Cao. 2007. "Disputes, Democracies and Dependencies: A Re-examination of the Kantian Peace." [*American Journal of Political Science* 51\(3\)583-601.](#)

Christopher Gelpi and Joseph M. Grieco. 2008. "Democracy, Interdependence, and the Sources of the Liberal Peace," [*Journal of Peace Research* 45,1:17-37.](#)

November 20 – Deterrence and Crisis Bargaining

Paul Huth, "Extended Deterrence and the Outbreak of War," [*American Political Science Review*, 82, \(1988\).](#)

Richard Ned Lebow and Janice Stein, "Deterrence: The Elusive Dependent Variable," [*World Politics*, Vol. 42, No. 3. \(Apr., 1990\), pp. 336-369.](#)

Paul Huth and Bruce Russett, "Testing Deterrence Theory: Rigor Makes a Difference," [*World Politics*, Vol. 42, No. 4. \(Jul., 1990\), pp. 466-501.](#)

James Fearon. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." [*International Organization* 49\(3\):379-414.](#)

Daryl Press. 2004/2005. "The Credibility of Power: Assessing Threats During the 'Appeasement' Crises of the 1930's." [*International Security* 29\(3\):136-169.](#)

Mark Crescenzi. 2007. "Reputation and Interstate Conflict." [*American Journal of Political Science* 51\(2\):382-396.](#)

November 27 – No Class Meeting Thanksgiving

December 4- Post-Paradigmatic International Relations

David Lake. 2013. [*Theory is Dead, Long Live Theory: The End of the Great Debates and the Rise of Eclecticism in International Relations.*](#) [*European Journal of International Relations* 19\(3\): 558-578](#)

Sil, Rudra, and Peter J. Katzenstein. "[Analytic eclecticism in the study of world politics: Reconfiguring problems and mechanisms across research traditions.](#)" [*Perspectives on Politics* 8.2 \(2010\): 411-431.](#)

Braumoeller, B. F. "[Rediscovering complexity and synthesis.](#)" [*The Future of Political Science* 100 \(2009\): 242.](#)

James Fearon & Alexander Wendt. 2002. Rationalism v. Constructivism: A Skeptical View, in Carlsnaes, Risse & Simmons, eds., *Handbook of International Relations*, pp. 52-72.

McDermott, Rose. "[The feeling of rationality: The meaning of neuroscientific advances for political science.](#)" [*Perspectives on politics* 2.4 \(2004\): 691-706.](#)

Ward, Michael D. "[Can we predict politics? Toward what end?.](#)" *Journal of Global Security Studies* 1.1 (2016): 80-91.

December 6 – Written Take-Home Written Final Exam Due

December 9 – Literature Review / Book Review Due

December 9-12 – In-Person Oral Final Exam

Special Section: Model Book and Literature Reviews

Book Reviews

Gelpi, Christopher. "The Art of Bargaining." *Political Science Quarterly* 112.2 (1997): 312-314.

Peter Gourevitch, "The Second Image Reversed," [International Organization 32 \(Autumn 1978\), pp. 881-912.](#)

Theda Skocpol, "A Critical Review of Barrington Moore's *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*," [Politics and Society 4 \(Fall 1973\), pp. 1-34.](#)

John Ruggie, "[Continuity and Transformation in the World Polity: Toward a Neorealist Synthesis,](#)" *World Politics* 35 (April 1983), pp. 261-285.

John A. Vasquez, "The Realist Paradigm and Degenerative versus Progressive Research Programs: An Appraisal of Neotraditional Research on Waltz's Balancing Proposition," [American Political Science Review 91 \(December 1997\), pp. 899-912.](#)

Douglas Porch, "Military 'Culture' and the Fall of France in 1940: A Review Essay," [International Security 24 \(Spring 2000\), pp. 157-180.](#)

Thomas Schwartz, review of *Ballots and Bullets: The Elusive Democratic Peace*, in [Comparative Political Studies 33 \(June 2000\).](#)

Richard Rosecrance: "War and Peace," [review of John Mearsheimer's *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*] [World Politics 55 \(October 2002\), pp. 137-166.](#)

Literature Reviews

Gelpi, Christopher. "Democracies in Conflict: The Role of Public Opinion, Political Parties, and the Press in Shaping Security Policy." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2017): 0022002717721386.

Jack S. Levy, "Theories of General War," *World Politics* 37 (Apr., 1985), pp. 344-374.

Jack Levy, "Declining Power and the Preventive Motivation for War," *World Politics* 40 (October 1987), pp. 82-107.

Jack Levy, "Domestic Politics and War," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18 (Spring, 1988), pp. 653-673.

Robert Jervis, "War and Misperception," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18 (Spring, 1988), pp. 675-700.

Jack Levy, "Learning and Foreign Policy: Sweeping a Conceptual Minefield," *International Organization* 48 (Spring 1994): 279-312.

John Mearsheimer, "The False Promise of International Institutions," *International Security* 19 (Winter 1994/95).