

Autumn 2007
PS 528: ADVANCED IR THEORY
Tues 130-420 Par 306

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This course introduces students to advanced readings in IR theory. It has three goals: 1) to deepen understanding of the various theoretical approaches in IR; 2) to explore some contemporary IR debates such as compliance with international norms and law, and the sources of state socialization; and 3) to encourage critical and constructive thinking about IR theory. The course is designed for Ph.D. students in political science and assumes a background in IR theory (PS 521).

Class participation (30%) is based on 1) class discussion: students are expected to actively participate based on a close reading of the assigned articles; and 2) presentations of readings: presenters will summarize the reading; prepare and lead discussion of 2-3 questions based on it; and conclude with their assessment of the reading and its fit with the literature.

Written assignments (70%)

1. IR field exam question and answer: Based on your knowledge of IR theory and focusing on one of the topics in this course, write a question for the IR field exam. Circulate your question by 9:00 a.m. the Mon preceding class discussion of that topic. You will then lead the discussion of your question as well as circulate your written answer (maximum 8 pp/2000 words) by the following Tues. Each student will be expected to circulate short written comments on your answer. For examples of past exam questions, see <https://faculty.washington.edu/mercer/IRexams.html>

2. Paper: Choose a puzzle that emerges from the readings, discussion, or current events and explore how at least two theoretical approaches in IR would address it. Your paper will include four sections 1) describe the puzzle and the study's importance – its theoretical and empirical contributions, and if appropriate, its policy relevance; 2) describe each theoretical approach, its assumptions and important concepts and discuss whether the approaches are complementary or competing; 3) derive hypotheses from each to answer your puzzle. Specify the causal processes and implications of each hypothesis; and 4) assess the formal properties of the causal arguments (for a discussion of the latter, see John Gerring, "Causation: A Unified Framework for the Social Sciences," *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, 17 (2): esp. pp. 170-182).

Note that this assignment is theoretical, not methodological. The focus is on finding an important puzzle, exploring how different theories would explain it, and assessing the formal properties of the causal arguments.

Early in the quarter, circulate a 1-2 paragraphs description of your puzzle and how one might address it. Your paper (20-25 pp/5,000-6,250 words) is due by noon on Dec. 13.

You are expected to write clearly and edit carefully. See Strunk & White, *Elements of Style*.

Introduction: Power and IR Theory
Tuesday, October 2

Peter Katzenstein, Robert O. Keohane, Stephen D. Krasner, "International Organization and the Study of World Politics," *IO*, 52, 4 (autumn 1998): 645-685.

Ole Wæver, "The Sociology of a Not so Intl Discipline: American and European Developments in IR," *IO*, 52, 4 (autumn 1998): 687-727.

Robert Jervis, "Realism in the Study of World Politics," *IO*, 52, 4 (autumn 1998): 971-992.

Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall, "Power in International Politics," *IO*, 59 (winter 2005): 39-75.

Realism and Liberalism revisited
Tuesday, October 9

Gideon Rose, "Neoclassical Realism and Theories of Foreign Policy," *WP*, 51, 1 (October 1998): 144-72.

Jeffrey Legro and Andrew Moravcsik, "Is Anybody Still a Realist?" *IS*, 24, 2 (fall 1999): 5-55; and the correspondence, "Brother Can You Spare a Paradigm? (Or was Anybody Ever a Realist)," *IS*, 25, 1 (summer 2000): 165-193.

Andrew Moravcsik, "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Relations," *IO* 51, 4 (autumn 1997): 513-53.

Christian Reus-Smit, "The Strange Death of Liberal IR Theory," *European Journal of International Law*, 12, 3 (2001): 573-93.

Constructivism and Rationalism revisited
Tuesday, October 16

**Duncan Snidal, "Rational Choice and IR," in Carlsnaes, et al., eds., *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage, 2002.

**Emanuel Adler, "Constructivism and IR," in Carlsnaes, et al., eds., *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage, 2002.

John Gerard Ruggie, "What Makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge," *IO*, 52, 4 (autumn 1998): 855-885.

**James Fearon and Alexander Wendt, "Rationalism v. Constructivism: A Skeptical View," in Carlsnaes, et al., eds., *Handbook of International Relations*, Sage, 2002.

International Institutions: rational and otherwise, part I
Tuesday, October 23

James March & Johan Olsen, "The Institutional Dynamics of International Political Orders," *IO* 52, 4 (October 1998): 943-969.

Barbara Koremenos, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal, "The Rational Design of International Institutions," *IO*, 55, 4 (autumn 2001): 761-799.

James D. Morrow, "The Institutional Features of the Prisoners of War Treaties," *IO*, 55, 4 (autumn 2001): 871-991.

Alexander Wendt, "Driving with the Rearview Mirror: On the Rational Science of Institutional Design," *IO* 55, 4 (autumn 2001): 1019-49.

International institutions, rational and otherwise, part II:
Tuesday, October 30

Christian Reus-Smit, "The Constitutional Structure of International Society and the Nature of Fundamental Institutions." *IO* 51, 4 (October 1997): 555-89.

**Lloyd Gruber, *Ruling the World: Power Politics and the Rise of Supranational Institutions* (Princeton, 2000), pp. 3-57.

Andrew Moravcsik, "The Origins of Human Rights Regimes: Democratic Delegation in Postwar Europe." *IO* 54, 2 (April 2000): 217-52.

Michael Barnett & Martha Finnemore, "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organization." *IO* 53, 4 (October 1999): 699-732.

Compliance with International Law and International Norms, part I
Tuesday, November 6

Beth Simmons, "Compliance with International Agreements" *Annual Review of Political Science* (1998): 75-93.

Abram Chayes and Antonia Handler Chayes, "On Compliance," *IO* 47, 2 (spring 1993): 175-205.

George Downs, David Roake and Peter Barsoom, "Is the Good News about Compliance Good News about Cooperation?" *IO* 50, 3 (spring 1996): 379-406.

Ian Hurd, "Legitimacy and Authority in Intl Politics." *IO* 53, 2 (spring 1999): 379-408.

Compliance with International Law and International Norms, part II
Tuesday, November 13

Judith Kelley, "Who Keeps International Commitments and why? The International Criminal Court and Bilateral Non Surrender Agreement," *APSR*, 101, 3 (August 2007): 573-589.

Thomas W. Smith. 2002. "The New Law of War: Legitimizing Hi-Tech and Infrastructural Violence." *ISQ* 46, 3 (September 2002): 355-374.

Thomas Risse, "Let's Argue: Communicative Action in World Politics," *IO*, 54, 1 (winter 2000): 1-39.

Jeffrey T. Checkel, "Why comply? Social learning and European Identity Change," *IO* 55, 3 (summer 2001): 553-588.

Transnational Actors and International Norms
Tuesday, November 20

Sidney Tarrow, "Transnational Politics: Contention and Institutions in International Politics," *Annual Review of Political Science*, 4 (2001): 1-20.

Alexander Cooley and James Ron, "The NGO Scramble: Organizational Insecurity and the Political Economy of Transnational Action," *IS* 27, 1 (summer 2002): 5-39.

Hendrik Spruyt, "The End of Empire and the Extension of the Westphalian System," *ISR*, 2, 2 (summer 2000): 65-92.

Darren Hawkins, "Explaining Costly International Institutions: Persuasion and Enforceable Human Rights Norms," *ISQ* 48, 4 (December 2004): 779-804.

Charli R. Carpenter, "Women and Children First: Gender, Norms, and Humanitarian Evacuation in the Balkans 1991-95" *IO* 57, 4 (autumn 2003): 661-694.

State Socialization
Tuesday, November 27

G. John Ikenberry and Charles A. Kupchan, "Socialization and Hegemonic Power," *IO*, 44, 3 (summer 1990): 283-315.

**Alastair Iain Johnston, "Socialization in International Institutions: the Asean Way and IR Theory," in *International Relations Theory and the Asia Pacific*, edited by Michael Mastanduno and G. John Ikenberry (Columbia University Press, 2003), pp. 487-515.

Frank Schimmelfennig, "Strategic Calculation and International Socialization: Membership Incentives, Party Constellations, and Sustained Compliance in Central and Eastern Europe," *IO*, 59, 4 (October 2005): 827-860.

Alexandra Gheciu, "Security Institutions as Agents of Socialization? NATO and the 'New Europe' *IO*, 59, 4 (October 2005): 973-1012.

Sovereignty and Statehood
Tuesday, December 4

Robert H. Jackson and Carl G. Rosberg, "Why Africa's Weak States Persist: The Empirical and Juridical in Statehood," *WP* 35, 1 (October 1982).

Ian S. Lustick, "The Absence of Middle Eastern Great Powers: Political "Backwardness" in Historical Perspective," *IO*, 51, 4 (October 1997): 653-683.

James D. Fearon and David D. Laitin, "Neotrusteeship and the Problem of Weak States" *IS* 28, 4 (spring 2004): 5-43.

Roland Paris, "Peacebuilding and the Limits of Liberal Internationalism." *IS* 22, 2 (autumn 1997): 54-89.