

International Relations
Department of Politics
G53.1700.001
Fall 2004, Thursdays 6:20-8:20

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Course Description

This course serves as an introduction to graduate-level study in the field of International Relations. The aim is to provide an introduction to the study of International Relations while integrating key methodological concepts and relevant, current research. Ideally, students will develop a broad understanding of International Relations theory, the ability to identify significant research and gain exposure to the various tools used in Political Science. These skills will serve as a foundation for later graduate study and research in the field.

Each week addresses one or more important issues in International Relations. Students are expected to complete all required readings and are encouraged to tackle the recommended works. The course is divided into 5 parts. The first considers threats of war and preventative measures. The next looks at the escalation and onset of war. The third examines attempts at cooperation and peace. International Political Economy, including trade and finance, is considered in part four. Lastly, the course concludes with a look at predictions of the future in International Relations.

Course Requirements

Students will complete three (3) critical reviews. Each review should be about 5 pages, double-spaced, and should focus on the journal readings for a given week. Critical reviews are due at the beginning of class and each is worth 20% of the overall course grade. Students are expected to guide the class discussion for that particular week. Students will also complete a number of course-related exercises. These exercises will make up an additional 20% of the course grade. The remaining 20% will be determined by class participation and preparedness.

Required Readings

The following texts are available at the NYU bookstore. Copies are also available, on reserve, at Bobst Library. A course pack, including all relevant journal articles, will be made available for purchase. Most journal articles can also be found at www.jstor.org.

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita. 2002. *Principles of International Politics*, 2nd ed. Washington DC: CQ Press.

Jeffrey A. Frieden and David A. Lake. 2000. *International Political Economy* 4th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's Press: New York.

Course Outline and Readings

Sept. 9 Course Introduction/Theory and Critical Thinking

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 1, 2

I. Threats of War

Sept. 16 Balance of Power

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 3, 4
- Niou, Emerson M.S. and Peter C. Ordeshook. 1990. "Stability in Anarchic International Systems" *American Political Science Review* 84:1204-34.
- Powell, Robert. "Guns, Butter and Anarchy" *American Political Science Review* 87:115-132, March 1993.

Recommended

- Waltz, Kenneth. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*, New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Claude, Inis. 1962. *Power and International Relations*. New York: Random House. (Ch. 2, 3)
- Morgenthau, Hans. 1985 [1948]. *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*, 6th Ed., New York; McGraw-Hill. (Part IV)
- Niou, Emerson M.S., Peter C. Ordeshook and Gregory F. Rose. 1989. *Balance of Power: Stability in International Systems*, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Thucydides. *History of the Peloponnesian War*, (Book V)

Sept. 23 Alliances

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 15
- Smith, Alastair. "Alliance Formation and War" *International Studies Quarterly* 39:405-25, December 1995.
- Morrow, James D. "Alliances and Asymmetry: An Alternative to the Capability Aggregation Model of Alliances" *American Journal of Political Science* 35:904-33, November, 1991.

Recommended

- Olson, Mancur and Richard Zeckhauser. "An Economic Theory of Alliances," *Review of Economic Statistics* 266-79, August 1966.
- Levy, Jack S. "Alliance Formation and War Behavior: An Analysis of the Great Powers 1495-1975" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 25:581-613, December 1981.
- Walt, Stephen. 1987. *Origins of Alliances*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Sept. 30 Deterrence

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 11
- Huth, Paul and Bruce Russett. 1993. "General Deterrence Between Enduring Rivals: Testing Three Competing Models" *American Political Science Review* 87(March):66-73.
- Huth, Paul and Bruce Russett. 1993. "The Escalation of Great Power Militarized Disputes: Testing Rational Deterrence Theory and Structural Realism" *American Political Science Review* 87(September): 609-623.

Recommended

- Downs, George W. "The Rational Deterrence Debate" *World Politics* 41:225-37, January 1989.
- Achen, Christopher and Duncan Snidal. "Rational Deterrence Theory and Comparative Case Studies" *World Politics* 41:143-69, January 1989.
- George, Alexander and Richard Smoke. "Deterrence and Foreign Policy" *World Politics* 41:170-82, January 1989.
- Jervis, Robert. "Rational Deterrence: Theory and Evidence" *World Politics* 41:183-207, January 1989.
- Lebow, Richard Ned and Janice Stein. "Rational Deterrence Theory: I Think Therefore I Deter" *World Politics* 41:208-24, January 1989.

II. Conflict and War

Oct. 7 Hegemonic Stability Theory/Power Transitions

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 16
- Kim, Woosang and James D. Morrow. "When Do Powershifts Lead to War?" *American Journal of Political Science* 36:896-922, November 1992.
- Krasner, Stephen. "State Power and the Structure of International Trade" in Frieden & Lake

Recommended

- Powell, Robert. "Uncertainty, Shifting Power and Appeasement" *American Political Science Review* December 1996
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce and David Lalman. 1992. *War and Reason: Domestic and International Imperatives*, New Haven: Yale University Press.

- Kugler, Jacek and A.F.K. Organski, "The Power Transition: A Retrospective and Prospective Evaluation," in Manus Midlarsky, ed. *Handbook of War Studies*, London: Unwin-Hyman, 1989. (Ch. 7)

Oct. 14 Crisis Escalation and Bargaining

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 17
- Fearon, James D. "Rationalist Explanations for War" *International Organization* 49:379-414, Summer 1995.
- Powell, Robert. "Bargaining Theory and International Conflict" *Annual Review of Political Science* 5:1-30, 2002

Recommended

- Morrow, James D. "Signaling Difficulties with Linkage in Crisis Bargaining" *International Studies Quarterly* 36:153-72, March 1992.
- Smith, Alastair. "Testing Theories of Strategic Choice: The Example of Crisis Escalation" *American Journal of Political Science* 43:1254-83, October 1999.
- Fearon, James D. "Signaling Foreign Policy Interests: Tying Hands vs. Sinking Costs" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41:68-90, February 1997.
- Downs, George W. and David M. Rocke, "Tacit Bargaining and Arms Control" *World Politics*, 39:297-325, April 1987.

III. Prospects for Peace

Oct. 21 Cooperation and Conflict

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 14
- Fearon, James D. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation" *International Organization* 52:269-305, Spring 1998.
- Milner, Helen. "International Theories of Cooperation among Nations" *World Politics* 44:466-96, 1992.

Recommended

- Oye, Kenneth. "Explaining Cooperation under Anarchy" *World Politics* 38:1-24, October 1985.
- Axelrod, Robert. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation*, New York: Basis Books.

Oct. 28 Compliance/Enforcement

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 14 (review)
- Downs, George W., David M. Rocke and Peter Barsoom. "Is the Good News About Compliance Good News about Cooperation?" *International Organization* 50:379-406, Winter 1996.
- Chayes, Abraham and Antonia Handler Chayes. "On Compliance," *International Organization* 47:175-205, Spring 1993.

- Downs, George W. 1998. "Enforcement and the Evolution of Cooperation" *Michigan Journal of International Law* 19 (Winter): 319-344.

Recommended

- Downs, George W. and David M. Rocke. 1997. *Optimal Imperfection? Domestic Uncertainty and Institutions in International Relations*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Martin, Lisa L. 1992. *Coercive Cooperation: Explaining Multilateral Economic Sanctions*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Nov. 4 Domestic Politics and Conflict

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 5
- Fearon, James D. "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes" *American Political Science Review*, 88:577-92, September 1994.
- Downs, George W. and David M. Rocke. "Conflict, Agency and Gambling for Resurrection: The Principal-Agent Problem Goes to War" *American Journal of Political Science* 38:362-80, May 1994.

Recommended

- Schultz, Kenneth. "Do Domestic Political Institutions Constrain or Inform? Contrasting Two Institutional Perspectives on Democracy and War" *International Organization* 53:233-66, Spring 1999.
- Putnam, Robert. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics" *International Organization* 42:427-461, Summer 1988.
- Fearon, James D. "Signaling Foreign Policy Interests: Tying Hands vs. Sinking Costs" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41:68-90, February 1997.
- Downs, George W. and David M. Rocke. 1997. *Optimal Imperfection? Domestic Uncertainty and Institutions in International Relations*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Nov. 11 Democratic Peace/Democracies and War

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 12
- Maoz, Zeev and Bruce Russett. "Normative and Structural Causes of Democratic Peace, 1946-1986" *American Political Science Review* 87:624-38, September 1993.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, James Morrow, Randolph Sieverson and Alastair Smith. "An Institutional Explanation of the Democratic Peace" *American Political Science Review* 93:791-808, December 1999.

Recommended

- Doyle, Michael W., "Liberalism in World Politics," *American Political Science Review*, 80:1151-69 December 1986.

- Russett, Bruce. 1993. *Grasping the Democratic Peace: Principles of a Post Cold War World*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

IV. International Political Economy

Nov. 18 International Trade

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 13
- Cletus C. Coughlin, K. Alec Chrystal and Geoffrey E. Wood “Protectionist Trade Policies: A Survey of Theory, Evidence and Rational” in Frieden & Lake
- Ronald Rogowski “Commerce and Coalitions: How Trade Affects Domestic Political Alignments” in Frieden & Lake
- James E. Alt and Michael Gilligan “The Political Economy of Trading States: Factor Specificity, Collective Action Problems, and Domestic Political Institutions” in Frieden & Lake

Recommended

- Gowa, Joanne and Edward D. Mansfield. “Power Politics and International Trade” *American Political Science Review* 87:408-20, June 1993.
- Milner, Helen. “Trading Places: Industries for Free Trade” *World Politics* 40:350-376, April 1988.

Nov. 25 No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec. 2 Money and Finance

- Barry Eichengreen “Hegemonic Stability Theories of the International Monetary System” in Frieden & Lake
- Cohen Benjamin J. “The Triad of the Unholy Trinity: Problems of International Monetary Cooperation” in Frieden & Lake
- Frieden, Jeffery A. “Exchange Rate Politics” in Frieden & Lake

Recommended

- Goodman, John and Louis W. Pauly. “The Obsolescence of Capital Controls? Economic Management in an Age of Global Markets” in Frieden & Lake
- Frieden, Jeffery A. “Invested Interests: The Politics of National Economic Policies in a World of Global Finance” *International Organization* 45:425-51, Autumn 1991.
- Oatley, Thomas. “How Constraining is Capital Mobility? The Partisan Hypothesis is an Open Economy” *American Journal of Political Science* 43:1003-27, October 1999.
- Bernhard, William and David LeBlang. “Democratic Institutions and Exchange Rate Commitments” *International Organization* 53: 71-97, Winter 1999.

Dec. 9 Globalization

- Cerny, Philip G. “Globalization and the Changing Logic of Collective Action” in Frieden & Lake
- Dani Rodrik “Sense and Nonsense in the Globalization Debate” in Frieden & Lake
- Jeffrey A. Williamson “Globalization and Inequality, Past and Present” in Frieden & Lake

Recommended

- Rodrik, Dani. 1997. *Has Globalization Gone Too Far?* Washington DC: Institute for International Economics.

Tues.

Dec. 14 Predicting the Future

- Bueno de Mesquita, Ch. 18
- Mearsheimer, John J., “Back to the Future: Instability in Europe after the Cold War,” *International Security* 15:5-56, Summer 1990.
- Lebow, Richard Ned, “The Long Peace, the End of the Cold War and the Failure of Realism,” *International Organization* 48:249-78, Spring 1994.