International Relations Seminar (PLS 732)

Monday 4–6:50 pm

Strong Hall 0306 (or Zoom if enrolled in section 801)

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Assistant Professor Michael Masterson

Email: mmasterson@missouristate.edu

Office hours: Wednesday 2:30 pm -5 pm & Thursday 1:30-4:00 or by appointment.

My office is in Strong Hall 330, and you should feel free to come in during office hours without an appointment. When scheduling a meeting outside of my office hours, please strive to contact me at least 2 days in advance. I will do my best to respond to emails by the end of the business day. There is no guarantee of a response to emails sent during non-business hours until the next business day.

Course Overview

Whether through international conflict, trade, or investment, international events strongly affect our lives. This makes understanding them critical to being an informed citizen. Further, the globalization of investment flows, trade, and supply chains as well as the need to assess the risks of international conflict in both the public as well as the private sector (for example, assessing the risk of Hong Kong's new national security law to technology companies that store data in the territory) make the ability to think systematically about international affairs a valuable skill. This course will introduce the main theories international relations scholars have come up with to explain important global phenomenon including: international conflict, trade, investment, and human rights.

This course is part of the Masters in Global Studies program, and it involves a substantial workload. Students must find a way to accommodate that workload in their schedules. Since the course is a seminar, it is essential that students complete the readings for each session and participate actively and consistently in class discussions.

Assignments

- Student-Led Reading Discussions
 - Each student will be assigned to lead discussion on one of the student-led readings. Students may switch the reading they are assigned to present on with another student if both students agree to the exchange and notify me. If more than one student is assigned to a reading, those students should work together to present on the reading. Discussion leaders should come prepared to summarize the content of their reading for the class in a short (5 to 10 minute) presentation. If the reading describes historical events, then the student should give the audience a good understanding of the key events that took place and why they are important. If the reading presents a theoretical argument, the presentation

should include what the research question of the reading was, why it is important, what theoretical argument was presented, what evidence was presented for this argument. In both cases, students should address how this reading relates to the other readings for the week. Discussion leaders should be prepared to answer questions from the class for a brief period after their presentation.

• Literature Review and Proposal

- This paper should choose a theory related to a topic from one of the weeks of the course. This paper should explain the theory and its logic as well as what we would and would not expect to observe if the theory is correct. The paper should then explain the findings of previous research and to what extent these support the theory. What is the evidence for and against the theory and what are the strengths and weaknesses of this evidence? The paper should conclude by offering an assessment of the overall support for the theory. The conclusion should also point to areas future scholarship should examine to clarify whether the theory is support or not. For example, maybe previous research is focused only on the theory's main outcome, and more research is needed on its mechanisms.
- In their proposal, students should make clear what the main prediction of the theory is. The main prediction should hypothesize how variation in a single independent variable (treatment) affects a single dependent variable (outcome). For example, some theories of deterrence predict that the greater military power a state has (independent variable) the less likely it is to be attacked (dependent variable). The proposal should also mention any research the student has found on the topic so far that could be used in conducting the review. Proposals should be about 1 page double spaced and are due by 11:59pm on Friday September 8.
- The final paper paper should be a 10 to 12 pages double spaced. Be sure incorporate the feedback I provide on your proposal in the final paper. This paper is due by the end of the day on Friday October 20. This paper should show you have engaged in extensive research beyond the course readings and should cite a minimum of 12 peer-reviewed research articles or books. Your paper should include both parenthetical references with page numbers in the portions of the text in which you engage with each source as well as a full bibliography at the end.

• Theoretical Puzzle Paper and Proposal

This paper should find a case or group of cases that are puzzling from the perspective of current international relations theories. A puzzle is a case or group of cases that behave differently than current theories would expect. The paper should explain what the case is, why it is theoretically puzzling, and why it is significant. Next, the paper should draw from the literature to come up with 3 possible explanations for this puzzle. The paper should explain the logic of each of these explanations and what we would and would not expect to observe if these explanations are correct.

- In their proposal, students should make clear what the theoretical expectations are and how their puzzling case differs from these explanations. The proposal should also suggest some potential explanations for this case that can be explored in the final paper. The proposal should also mention any research the student has found on the topic so far that could be used in the final paper Proposals should be about 1 page double spaced and are due by 11:59pm on Friday November 3.
- The final paper should be 5 to 6 pages double spaced. Be sure incorporate the feedback I provide on your proposal in the final paper. This paper is due by the end of the day on Friday December 8. This paper should show you have engaged in extensive research beyond the course readings and should cite a minimum of 8 peer-reviewed research articles or books. You may cite sources you used for your literature review paper, but these sources will not count towards your 8 minimum sources. Your paper should include both parenthetical references with page numbers in the portions of the text in which you engage with each source as well as a full bibliography at the end.

Guidelines for all Written Assignments

Papers should have 1 inch margins. They should use a font size of 11 or 12 and one of the following fonts: Times, Calibri, Liberation Serif, Computer Modern, or Helvetica. Bibliographies do not count towards page length requirements. Papers should follow the Chicago author-date citation style. The file that you upload to Blackboard should be in PDF format.

The use of AI text generation tools is a form of plagiarism and is not permitted.

Quizzes

For 7 of the class sessions, I will administer an in-class pop quiz on the required readings for that week. The quizzes will have 5 questions (multiple choice) each. Students may use any hand-written notes they have taken on the readings during the quiz but may not consult the readings themselves or electronic sources. A student may drop their lowest quiz grade, but there will be no makeup quizzes outside of exceptional circumstances, such as medical or family emergencies.

Grading

- Quizzes 20%
- Participation and Attendance 20%
 - This is a seminar course, so you should come to class on time and prepared to discuss the readings each week. This includes not only doing the required readings prior to class but also taking notes on the main points of each reading as well as aspects of the readings you think would be interesting or important to discuss. However, if you are sick and may be contagious, please do not come to class. Instead, seek medical attention from your doctor or at Mager's Health and

Wellness Center. They can provide you a medical excuse and advise you when it is safe to return to class. Contact me to let me know that you are sick and will not be in class. We can work together to ensure you will be able to keep up with readings and assignments through the Blackboard course site.

- Student-Led Reading Discussions 15%
- Theoretical Puzzle Proposal 5%
- Theoretical Puzzle Paper 15%
- Literature Review Proposal 5%
- Literature Review Paper 20%

Late Work Policy

If you believe you may be late turning in an assignment because of an event, such as a medical or family emergency, then you should email me as far as possible in advance of the due date of the assignment to request an extension. Late assignments not granted an extension prior to the due date will lose 10 percentage points and an additional 10 percentage points for each day late after the first day. Assignments more than 3 days late will not be accepted, and late quizzes will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances.

Course Readings

All of the readings except those from the required book below will be posted on Blackboard. Keohane, Robert O., ed. (1986). *Neorealism and its critics*. The Political economy of international change. New York: Columbia University Press. 378 pp. ISBN: 978-0-231-06348-7 978-0-231-06349-4.

University Policies

Please see the University Policy Statement Page for up-to-date university policies that apply to this and all courses on the following issues: Nondiscrimination, Disability Accommodation, Title IX Policy, Lauren's Promise, Religious Accommodation, Mental Health & Stress Management, Chosen Name Policy, Suicide Prevention, Student Requirements for Technology, Academic Integrity, Cell Phone Policy, Audio/Video Recording of Course Activity, Dropping a Class, Emergency Response, and Cultural Competence Statement.

Reading Schedule

August 21 Introduction

No readings

August 28 Realism

Required

Chapters 1, 4–5 in Keohane, Robert O., ed. (1986). *Neorealism and its critics*. The Political economy of international change. New York: Columbia University Press. 378 pp. ISBN: 978-0-231-06348-7 978-0-231-06349-4.

Recommended

Chapters 2-3, 7, and 10 in Neorealism and Critics

Axelrod, Robert M. (2006). *The evolution of cooperation*. Rev. ed. OCLC: ocm76963800. New York: Basic Books. 241 pp. ISBN: 978-0-465-00564-2.

Gaddis, John Lewis (1986). "The long peace: Elements of stability in the postwar international system". In: *International security* 10.4. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 99-142.

September 4 No Class (Labor Day)

September 11 Liberalism

Required

Parts I and V in Keohane, Robert Owen and Joseph S. Nye (1977). *Power and interdependence: world politics in transition*. OCLC: 258453907. Boston: Little, Brown. 273 pp. ISBN: 978-0-316-48936-2.

Recommended

The rest of Power and Interdependence

September 18 Bargaining Theory

Required

Farrell, Henry (2015). Why losing a trade vote in Congress may strengthen America's bargaining position. The Monkey Cage. URL: https://themonkeycage.org/2015/06/whylosing-a-trade-vote-in-congress-may-strengthen-americas-bargaining-position/.

Fearon, James D (1998). "Bargaining, enforcement, and international cooperation". In: *International organization* 52.2. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 269-305.

Fearon, James D. (1995). "Rationalist Explanations for War". In: *International Organization* 43.3, pp. 379-414.

Student Led

Putnam, Robert D (1988). "Diplomacy and domestic politics: the logic of two-level games". In: *International organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 427-460.

Recommended

Fearon, James D (2018). "Cooperation, conflict, and the costs of anarchy". In: *International Organization* 72.3, pp. 523-559.

Werner, Suzanne and Amy Yuen (2005). "Making and keeping peace". In: *International Organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 261-292.

September 25 Constructivism and Behavior

Required

Chapters 4 and 6 in Wendt, Alexander (1999). Social Theory of International Politics. 1st ed. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-0-521-46960-9 978-0-521-46557-1 978-0-511-61218-3. DOI: 10.1017/CBO9780511612183. URL: https://www.cambridge.org/core/product/identifier/9780511612183/type/book (visited on Jun. 23, 2020).

Student Led

Hafner-Burton, Emilie M, Stephan Haggard, David A Lake, and David G Victor (2017). "The behavioral revolution and international relations". In: *International Organization* 71 (S1), pp. S1-S31.

Recommended

Kertzer, Joshua D (2017). "Microfoundations in international relations". In: Conflict management and peace science 34.1, pp. 81-97.

Kertzer, Joshua D and Thomas Zeitzoff (2017). "A bottom-up theory of public opinion about foreign policy". In: *American Journal of Political Science* 61.3, pp. 543-558.

Levy, Jack S (1992). "Prospect theory and international relations: Theoretical applications and analytical problems". In: *Political Psychology*, pp. 283-310.

McDermott, Rose (2004). "The feeling of rationality: The meaning of neuroscientific advances for political science". In: *Perspectives on politics* 2.4, pp. 691-706. URL: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract S1537592704040459 (visited on Jan. 11, 2016).

October 2 Regimes: Inside Out

Required

Moravcsik, Andrew (1997). "Taking preferences seriously: A liberal theory of international politics". In: *International organization* 51.4. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 513-553.

Weeks, Jessica L. (2012). "Strongmen and Straw Men: Authoritarian Regimes and the Initiation of International Conflict". In: *The American Political Science Review* 106.2, pp. 326-347. ISSN: 0003-0554. URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/41495081.

Weiss, Jessica Chen (2014). Chinese Nationalism: The CCP's Double-Edged Sword. URL: https://thediplomat.com/2014/11/chinese-nationalism-the-ccps-double-edged-sword/.

Student Led

Fearon, James D. (1994). "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes". In: *The American Political Science Review* 88.3, p. 577. ISSN: 00030554. DOI:

10.2307/2944796. URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/2944796?origin=crossref (visited on Dec. 06, 2015).

Recommended

Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce Bueno, James D. Morrow, Randolph M. Siverson, and Alastair Smith (1999). "An Institutional Explanation of the Democratic Peace". In: *The American Political Science Review* 93.4, p. 791. ISSN: 00030554. DOI: 10.2307/2586113. URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/2586113?origin=crossref (visited on Nov. 22, 2015).

October 9 Regimes: Outside In

Required

Allen-Ebrahimian, Bethany (2017). "64 Years Later, CIA Finally Releases Details of Iranian Coup". In: *Foreign Policy*. URL: https://foreignpolicy.com/2017/06/20/64-years-later-cia-finally-releases-details-of-iranian-coup-iran-tehran-oil/.

Downes, Alexander B and Jonathan Monten (2013). "Forced to be free?: Why foreign-imposed regime change rarely leads to democratization". In: *International Security* 37.4, pp. 90-131.

Levitsky, Steven and Lucan Way (2005). "International linkage and democratization". In: *Journal of democracy* 16.3. Publisher: Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 20-34.

Student Led

Thompson, William R. (1996). "Democracy and peace: putting the cart before the horse?" In: *International Organization* 50.1, pp. 141-174. URL: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract S0020818300001697 (visited on Mar. 28, 2016).

Recommended

Gourevitch, Peter (1978). "The second image reversed: the international sources of domestic politics". In: *International organization* 32.4. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 881-912.

O'loughlin, John, Michael D Ward, Corey L Lofdahl, Jordin S Cohen, David S Brown, David Reilly, Kristian S Gleditsch, and Michael Shin (1998). "The diffusion of democracy, 1946–1994". In: *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 88.4, pp. 545-574.

Pevehouse, Jon C. (2002). "Democracy from the Outside-In? International Organizations and Democratization". In: *International Organization* 56.3, pp. 515-549. ISSN: 15315088, 00208183. DOI: 10.1162/002081802760199872. URL:

http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0020818302441781 (visited on Mar. 28, 2016).

Tomz, Michael and Jessica LP Weeks (2019). "Public opinion and foreign electoral intervention". In: *American Political Science Review*. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-18.

October 16 Great Power Transition Theory

Required

Allison, Graham (2015). "The Thucydides Trap: Are the U.S. and China Headed for War?" In: *The Atlantic*. URL: http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/09/united-states-china-war-thucydides-trap/406756/.

Levy, Jack S (1987). "Declining power and the preventive motivation for war". In: World Politics 40.1, pp. 82-107.

Tingley, Dustin H. (2011). "The Dark Side of the Future: An Experimental Test of Commitment Problems in Bargaining". In: *International Studies Quarterly* 55.2, pp. 521-544. ISSN: 00208833. DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-2478.2011.00654.x. URL:

http://isq.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/doi/10.1111/j.1468-2478.2011.00654.x (visited on Nov. 04, 2016).

Student Led

Chapter 1 in Organski, A. F. K. and Jacek Kugler (1980). *The war ledger*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 292 pp. ISBN: 978-0-226-63279-7.

Recommended

Allison, Graham T. (2017). Destined for war: can America and China escape Thucydides's trap? Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN: 978-0-544-93527-3.

Bussmann, Margit and John R Oneal (2007). "Do hegemons distribute private goods? A test of power-transition theory". In: *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 51.1, pp. 88-111.

Gilpin, Robert (2002). War and change in world politics. Transferred to digital printing. OCLC: 254725568. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press. 272 pp. ISBN: 978-0-521-27376-3.

October 23 International Organizations

Required

Johnston, Alastair Iain (2001). "Treating international institutions as social environments". In: *International studies quarterly* 45.4. Publisher: Oxford University Press, pp. 487-515.

Mazarr, Michael J. (2017). "The Once and Future Order: What Comes After Hegemony?" In: Foreign Affairs. URL:

https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2016-12-12/once-and-future-order.

Voeten, Erik (2005). "The political origins of the UN Security Council's ability to legitimize the use of force". In: *International Organization* 59.3. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 527-557.

Student Led

Mansfield, Edward D and Jon C Pevehouse (2006). "Democratization and international organizations". In: *International Organization* 60.1. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 137-167.

Recommended

Keohane, Robert Owen (1984). After hegemony cooperation and discord in the world political economy. OCLC: 754028598. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. URL: http://site.ebrary.com/id/10035864 (visited on Apr. 24, 2020).

Von Stein, Jana (2005). "Do treaties constrain or screen? Selection bias and treaty compliance". In: American Political Science Review. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 611-622.

October 30 Trade

Required

Gowa, Joanne and Edward D Mansfield (2015). "Power politics and international trade". In: *THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE*. World Scientific, pp. 37-49.

Mutz, Diana, Edward D Mansfield, and Eunji Kim (2021). "The racialization of international trade". In: *Political Psychology* 42.4. Publisher: Wiley Online Library, pp. 555-573.

Wolf, Martin (2019). "Why rigged capitalism is damaging liberal democracy". In: Financial Times. URL: https://www.ft.com/content/5a8ab27e-d470-11e9-8367-807ebd53ab77.

Student Led

Rogowski, Ronald (1987). "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade". In: *The American Political Science Review* 81.4, p. 1121. ISSN: 00030554. DOI: 10.2307/1962581. URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/1962581?origin=crossref (visited on Sep. 03, 2015).

Recommended

Bailey, Michael A, Judith Goldstein, and Barry R Weingast (1996). "The institutional roots of American trade policy: Politics, coalitions, and international trade". In: *World Pol.* 49. Publisher: HeinOnline, p. 309.

Bechtel, Michael M and Thomas Sattler (2015). "What is litigation in the world trade organization worth?" In: *International Organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 375-403.

Goldstein, Judith L, Douglas Rivers, and Michael Tomz (2007). "Institutions in International Relations: Understanding the Effects of the GATT and the WTO on World Trade". In: *International Organization* 61.1. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 37-67.

November 6 International Finance

Required

Stone, Randall W, Yu Wang, and Shu Yu (2022). "Chinese power and the state-owned enterprise". In: *International Organization* 76.1. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 229-250.

Thacker, Strom C (1999). "The high politics of IMF lending". In: World politics. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 38-75.

Wheatley, Jonathan (2019). "Does Investing in Emerging Markets Still Make Sense?" In: Financial Times. URL:

https://www.ft.com/content/0bd159f2-937b-11e9-aea1-2b1d33ac3271.

Student Led

Mosley, Layna (2000). "Room to move: International financial markets and national welfare states". In: *International organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 737-773.

Recommended

Büthe, Tim and Helen V Milner (2008). "The politics of foreign direct investment into developing countries: increasing FDI through international trade agreements?" In: *American journal of political science* 52.4. Publisher: Wiley Online Library, pp. 741-762.

Frieden, Jeffry A (1994). "International investment and colonial control: A new interpretation". In: *International Organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 559-593.

Jensen, Nathan M (2003). "Democratic governance and multinational corporations: Political regimes and inflows of foreign direct investment". In: *International organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 587-616.

Mosley, Layna (2000). "Room to move: International financial markets and national welfare states". In: *International organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 737-773.

November 13 Activism and Human Rights

Required

Chapter 1 in Keck, Margaret E. and Kathryn Sikkink (1998). *Activists beyond borders:* advocacy networks in international politics. Ithaca, N.Y: Cornell University Press. 228 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8014-3444-0 978-0-8014-8456-8.

Ramzy, Austin and Chris Buckley (2019). "Absolutely No Mercy": Leaked Files Expose How China Organized Mass Detentions of Muslims". In: *New York Times*. URL: https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/11/16/world/asia/china-xinjiang-documents.html.

The findings and conclusions section (19 pages) of the "REPORT of the SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE STUDY of the CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY'S DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROGRAM"

Student Led

Lupu, Yonatan (2013). "Best evidence: The role of information in domestic judicial enforcement of international human rights agreements". In: *International Organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 469-503.

Recommended

Hafner-Burton, Emilie M (2005). "Trading human rights: How preferential trade agreements influence government repression". In: *International Organization* 59.3. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 593-629.

Lupu, Yonatan (2013). "The informative power of treaty commitment: using the spatial model to address selection effects". In: *American Journal of Political Science* 57.4. Publisher: Wiley Online Library, pp. 912-925.

Chapters 1 and 3 in Simmons, Beth A (2009). Mobilizing for human rights: international law in domestic politics. Cambridge University Press.

November 20 No Class (Thanksgiving Break)

November 27 Nationalism and Identity

Required

Chiozza, Giacomo (2002). "Is there a clash of civilizations? Evidence from patterns of international conflict involvement, 1946-97". In: *Journal of peace research* 39.6. Publisher: Sage Publications London, pp. 711-734.

Goddard, Stacie E (2006). "Uncommon ground: Indivisible territory and the politics of legitimacy". In: *International Organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 35-68.

Singh, J.P. (2020). *Race, Racism, and International Relations*. Duck of Minerva. URL: https://duckofminerva.com/2020/06/race-racism-and-international-relations.html.

Student Led

Chapter 1 "Nationalism, Change, and Evolution" in Shelef, Nadav G. (2010). Evolving nationalism: homeland, identity, and religion in Israel, 1925-2005. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. 283 pp. ISBN: 0-8014-4870-0 978-0-8014-4870-6 0-8014-7675-5 978-0-8014-7675-4.

Recommended

Chapters 1–3 in Chandra, Kanchan, ed. (2012). Constructivist theories of ethnic politics. New York: Oxford University Press. 500 pp. ISBN: 978-0-19-989315-7 0-19-989315-2 978-0-19-989317-1 0-19-989317-9.

Hemmer, Christopher and Peter J Katzenstein (2002). "Why is there no NATO in Asia? Collective identity, regionalism, and the origins of multilateralism". In: *International organization* 56.3. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 575-607.

December 4 The Environment

Required

Biermann, Frank and Philipp Pattberg (2008). "Global environmental governance: Taking stock, moving forward". In: *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 33. Publisher: Annual Reviews, pp. 277-294.

Colgan, Jeff D, Jessica F Green, and Thomas N Hale (2021). "Asset revaluation and the existential politics of climate change". In: *International Organization* 75.2. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 586-610.

Leahy, Stephen (2017). "Without the Ozone Treaty You'd Get Sunburned in 5 Minutes". In: *National Geographic*. URL: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2017/09/montreal-protocol-ozone-treaty-30-climate-change-hcfs-hfcs/.

Student Led

Green, Jessica F and Thomas N Hale (2017). "Reversing the marginalization of global environmental politics in international relations: An opportunity for the discipline". In: *PS: Political Science & Politics* 50.2. Publisher: Cambridge University Press, pp. 473-479.

Recommended

Betsill, Michele M and Harriet Bulkeley (2004). "Transnational networks and global environmental governance: The cities for climate protection program". In: *International studies quarterly* 48.2. Publisher: Blackwell Publishing Oxford, UK, pp. 471-493.

Keohane, Robert O and David G Victor (2011). "The regime complex for climate change". In: *Perspectives on politics*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 7-23.

Mildenberger, Matto, Dustin Tingley, and others (2017). "Beliefs about climate beliefs: the importance of second-order opinions for climate politics". In: *British Journal of Political Science* 49.4, pp. 1279-307.

Raustiala, Kal and David G Victor (2004). "The regime complex for plant genetic resources". In: *International organization*. Publisher: JSTOR, pp. 277-309.