INR 6607.001: International Relations Theory

Instructor: Thomas M. Dolan, thomas.dolan@ucf.edu
Class Meetings: Mondays, 18:00-20:50, ENGR 0383
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 1:30-3:30 PM and by appointment
Credit: 3 Hours

This course focuses on two major objectives. First, students will become familiar with the most commonly used and known theoretical approaches to international relations scholarship. In doing so, students will become familiar with major concepts and arguments used in international relations scholarship. Second, students will improve their ability to develop and use theory in their own research. By understanding the existing literature, students will recognize the implications for theory construction and research design of different theoretical approaches and improve their ability to make well-grounded theoretical choices. One of the most important cleavages in the literature—and perhaps the most important choice in designing theory—is how to best conceptualize the actor in international politics. This cleavage will be the organizing principle for the course, as we investigate first state-system focused approaches, then state-level approaches, and finally individually-focused theories.

Goals

- Students will become conversant with the best known theoretical approaches to international relations, ranging from classic texts to more recent scholarship.
- Students will develop awareness of alternative approaches to theory, and the implications for theory building associated with these alternatives.
- Students will come to understand the role of theory in research
- Students will improve their ability to craft theoretical arguments in the context of their own work.
- Students will improve oral and written communication skills.

Design of the Course

The course has two major elements: a set of readings that will be discussed and analyzed in seminars and a research design process. Through reading and seminars, students will be introduced to current trends in theory and research and learn how to recognize solid research. Success in this endeavor necessitates careful reading, thorough preparation for class, and active dialogue in the seminar room. By engaging in the research design process, students will develop their ability to do research themselves. Part of this involves the preparation of their own research design, but part of it will also involve working with and supporting others in their efforts to design and conduct research.

Assignments & Grades

Each student will complete the following assignments:

Course Participation—10%

Students are expected to have completed reading, be able to identify and explain arguments from the texts, and effectively critique them. Students are expected to talk in every seminar.

Literature Review—20%. Due 11 February

About 8 pages. Students will select a topic related to war and review the literature addressing it. At least twenty social scientific sources must be used.

Critique(s)—5% each for articles (2), or 10% for books
1 page (precisely) for articles, and (no more than) 3 pages for books. Students will critique two articles or one book from the recommended readings list. A critique involves an explanation of the argument and a critique of it. Critiques are due (by email) to the instructor and classmates at 23:59 on the Friday before the relevant course day. Students should be prepared to discuss the reading during class.

Research Design—40%. Due 22 April
About 15 pages. Students should identify a social scientific question, review relevant literature, articulate a theoretical intuition and derive hypotheses from it, and explain how they would test the hypotheses.

- First draft is due 8 April, Final draft is due 22 April

Research Design Critiques—5% each (2)
About 2 pages. Due 15 April to instructor and paper author. Students will review two other students' first drafts. Students should explain the argument of the paper, as they understand it, critique the paper, and provide concrete and constructive suggestions for improvement.

Research Design Presentation –10%. 29 April.

- 5 minutes, then about 2 minutes for questions.

Students will formally present their research design to their colleagues.

Miscellaneous Policies

Grading
Grades are assigned to both individual pieces of work and cumulatively. The grade scale I use for both is below (note that "g" refers to the numerical grade you receive). I do not usually curve grades, but reserve the right to do so if I deem it necessary. All material is graded on its own terms, rather than through comparison with other students' work. For the cumulative grades, I do not round: what you get is what you get.

100>g≥93: A	90>g≥88: B+	80>g≥78: C+	70>g≥68: D+	60>g: E
	88>g≥83: B	78>g≥73: C	68>g≥63: D	
93>g≥90: A-	83>g≥80: B	73>g≥70: C-	63>g≥60: D	

Late Papers
Assignments are to be turned in by class time on the day they are due. They should be in hardcopy unless unforeseen circumstances prevent printing them in or handing them in a timely manner. For every 24 hours that pass thereafter, 5% of credit is lost, to a maximum of 40% lost. <u>This policy does not apply to recommended reading reviews, which must be turned in by the time they are due</u>.

Academic Integrity
As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University's Rules of Conduct (see http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/).

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Changes to the Syllabus
In the event that there is a need for there to be any changes to the syllabus, an e-mail will be sent to all students' knights-mail accounts (as maintained by the registrar), and will be mentioned in class meetings. Changes become effective immediately after their mention in class, or the sending of the e-mail, whichever comes last.

Cancellation of Class
In the event that the instructor needs to cancel class, an e-mail will be sent to all students' knights-mail accounts (as maintained by the registrar) prior to class time.

Readings
Each student should obtain the following books:
Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State, and War*.
Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*.
Robert Gilpin, *War and Change in World Politics*
Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony*
Graham Allison and Philip Zellikow, *Essence of Decision*

The remaining readings are available through the INR 6007.001 webcourses site and library databases.

<u>Schedule of Classes</u>

7 January
<u>Science, Theory, Research, and Levels of Analysis</u>
Imre Lakotos, "Falsification and the Methodology of Scientific Research Programs," in *Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge*.
Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*. Chapter 1
Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State, and War.*
Recommended:
David Lake and Robert Powell, "International Relations, a Strategic Choice Approach," in Lake and Powell, *Strategic Choice in International Relations*, 1999.
Kathleen M. McGraw, "Why and How Psychology Matters," *Ox Hb on CPA*, Chapter 7.
Mac Donald, P. K. 2003. Useful fiction or miracle maker: the competing epistemological foundations of rational choice theory. *American Political Science Review,* 97: 551–65
Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry*, Princeton, 1994
Henry Brady and David Collier, *Rethinking Social Inquiry,* Rowman and Littlefield, 2004
Jack S. Levy, "Counterfactuals and Case Studies," *Ox Hb on Pol Meth*, Chapter 27
John Gerring , "Case Selection for Case-Study Analysis: Qualitative and Quantitative Techniques," *Ox Hb on Pol Meth,* Chapter 28.

14 January
Classical Realism and Structural Realism
Required
Hans Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations,* Chapter 1.
Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*. Everything but chapter 1.
Reccomended:
Robert Jervis, *System Effects*
Wolfers, From *Discord and Collaboration*, Chapters 8 and 10
E. V. Gulick, Europe's Classical Balance of Power
Henry Kissinger, *A World Restored: Castlereagh, Metternich and the Restoration of Peace, 1812-1822*

21 January: MLK Day

28 January
Realist Responses to Structural Realism
Required
Robert Jervis, "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma," *World Politics*, 1978
Stephen Walt, "Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power," *International Security,* 1985
Thomas J. Christensen and Jack Snyder, "Chain Gangs and Passed Bucks: Predicting Alliance Patterns in Multipolarity," *International Organization*
Randall Schweller, "Bandwagoning for Profit: Bringing the Revisionist State Back in," *International Security*, 1994
William Wohlforth, "Stability of A Unipolar World," *International Security,* 1999
Recommended:
John Mearsheimer, *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*
Glenn Snyder, The Security Dilemma in Alliance Politics, *World Politics,* 1984
Charles L. Glaser and Chaim Kaufmann, "What is the Offense-Defense Balance and Can We Measure it?" *International Security*, 1998
Stephen Biddle, "Rebuilding the Foundations of Offense-Defense Theory" *Journal of Politics*, 2001

4 February
Hegemonic Stability Theory/Power Transition Theory
Required
Robert Gilpin, *War and Change in World Politics*
Recommended:
Organski and Kugler, *The War Ledger*
Charles Kindleberger, "Dominance and Leadership in the International Economy: Exploitation, Public Goods, and Free Rides," *International Studies Quarterly*, 1981.
Alfred Thayer Mahan, *The Influence of Sea Power on History*, Introduction and Chapter 1.
Joshua Goldstein, "Kondratieff Waves as War Cycles," *International Studies Quarterly*, 1985 ***and*** Richard Rosecrance, "Long Cycle Theory and International Relations," *International Organization*, 1987.

11 February
Institutionalism and Cooperation
Required
Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony*
James D. Fearon, "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation," *International Organization*, 1998
Recommended
Robert Axelrod, *The Evolution of Cooperatio*n*,* 1985
Joseph M. Grieco, "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the Newest Liberal Institutionalism," *International Organization*, 1988
John Mearsheimer, "False Promise of International Institutions," *International Security*, 1994
Charles Glaser, "Realists as Optimists: Cooperation as Self-Help," International Security 1994-95
G. J. Ikenberry, *After Victory*, 2001

18 February
Systemic Constructivism
Required
Alexander Wendt, "The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory," *IO*, 1987
Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *IO*, 1992
Hedley Bull *The Anarchical Society,* Introduction, Chapters 1 and 2.
Karl W. Deutsch, *Political Community and the North Atlantic Area*, Selection.
Nina Tannenwald, "The Nuclear Taboo," *International Organization*, 1999.
Recommended
Kowert and Legro, "Norms, Identity, and their Limits," in *Culture of National Security*, 1998
Alastair Iain Johnston, *Cultural Realism: Strategic Culture and Grand Strategy in Chinese History*.
Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders*. Cornell.
Ward Thomas, "Norms and Security: The Case of International Assassination," *International Security*, 2000

25 February
Rational Design and International Organizations?
International Organization, Vol. 55:4 (2001), Special Issue: The Rational Design of International Institutions

- Barbara Koremenos, Charles Lipson and Duncan Snidal, The Rational Design of International Institutions.
- B. Peter Rosendorff and Helen V. Milner, The Optimal Design of International Trade Institutions: Uncertainty and Escape
- Ronald B. Mitchell and Patricia M. Keilbach, Situation Structure and Institutional Design: Reciprocity, Coercion, and Exchange
- Walter Mattli, Private Justice in a Global Economy: From Litigation to Arbitration
- Alexander Wendt, Driving with the Rearview Mirror: On the Rational Science of Institutional Design

Andrew Moravcsik, Preferences and Power in the European Community: A Liberal Intergovernmentalist Approach. *Journal of Common Market Studies*. 31:4.

Recommended:
Randall Stone, *Controlling Institutions*, Cambridge, 2011.
Lloyd Gruber, *Ruling the World*, Princeton, 2000.
From *IO*, 55:4:

- Andrew Kydd, Trust Building, Trust Breaking: The Dilemma of NATO Enlargement
- Robert Pahre, Most-Favored-Nation Clauses and Clustered Negotiations
- Thomas H. Oatley, Multilateralizing Trade and Payments in Postwar Europe
- John E. Richards, Institutions for Flying: How States Built a Market in International Aviation Services
- Barbara Koremenos, Charles Lipson and Duncan Snidal, Rational Design: Looking Back to Move Forward

4 March: Spring Break

11 March
<u>Liberal Theory</u>
Required
Robert Putnam, "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two Level Games," *IO*, 1988
Andrew Moravcsik, "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics," *IO*, 1997.
Zeev Maoz and Bruce Russett, "Normative and Structural Causes of Democratic Peace, 1946-1986," *APSR*, 1994
Bruce Bueno de Mesquita et al., "An Institutional Explanation for the Democratic Peace," *American Political Science Review*, 1999
Sebastian Rosato, "The Flawed Logic of Democratic Peace Theory," *APSR*, 2003
Recommended
J. David Singer, "The Levels of Analysis Problem in International Relations," *World Politics* 1960.
Jeffrey Legro and Andrew Moravcsik, "Is Anybody Still a Realist?" *IS,* 1999
Peter Feaver, et al. "Brother, Can You Spare a Paradigm? (Or, Was Anybody Ever a Realist?)" *IS*, 2000
Mark Peceny, Caroline C. Beer and Shannon Sanchez-Terry, "Dictatorial Peace?" *APSR*, 2002
Michael D. Ward, Randolph M. Siverson and Xun Cao, "Disputes, Democracies, and Dependencies: A Reexamination of the Kantian Peace," *APSR*, 2007.
Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and the Danger of War," *International Security*, 1995
George Tsebelis, *Veto Players*

18 March
<u>Trade and Political Economy</u>
Rondal Rogowski, "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade," *APSR*, 1987
Jeffry Frieden, "Invested Interests: The Politics of National Economic Policies in a World of Global Finance," *International Organization*, 1991.
Nathan Jensen, "Democratic Governance and Multinational Corporations: Political Regimes and Inflows of Foreign Direct Investment," *International Organization*, 2003.
Michael Hiscox, Calss Versus Industry Cleavages: Inter-Industry Factor Mobility and the Politics of Trade," *International Organization*, 2001.
Stephen Brooks, *Producing Security: Multinational Corporations, Globalization, and the Changing Calculus of Conflict,* Princeton University Press, 2005. Selection

Recommended:
Bumba Mukherjee, Dale Smith, and Quan Li, "Labor Immobility and the Politics of Trade Protection in Majoritarian Democracies," *Journal of Politics,* 2009.
Michael Hiscox, "Commerce, Coalitions, and Factor Mobility," *APSR*, 2002.
Jens Hainmueller and Michael Hiscox, Learning to Love Globalization: Education and Individual Attitudes Toward International Trade," *International Organization*, 2006.
Jeffry Frieden, "Real Sources of European Currency Policy," *International Organization,* 2002.
Helen Milner and Dustin Tingley, "Who Supports Global Economic Engagement?" *International Organization*, 2011
Richard K. Herrmann, Philip Tetlock, and Matthew Diascro, "How Americans Think About Trade," *International Studies Quarterly*, 45:2, 2001.

25 March
<u>State-level Constructivism</u>
Required
Jack Snyder, *Myths of Empire*, 1991, Chapters 1 and 2
Srdjan Vucetic, *The Anglosphere*, Stanford University Press, 2011. Selection.
Michael Barnett, "Culture, Strategy, and Foreign Policy Change: Israel's Road to Oslo" *European Journal of International Relations*, 1999.
Ted Hopf, *Social Construction of International Politics: Identities and Foreign Policies, Moscow, 1955 and 1999*, 2002. Selection.
Recommended
Barry O'Neil, *Honor, Symbols, and War*, 1999.
David Welch, *Justice and the Genesis of War*, 1995.
Etel Solingen, *Regional Orders at Century's Dawn*, 1998
Rogers Smith, *Stories of Peoplehood*, 2003

1 April
<u>Bureaucratic Politics and Group Dynamics</u>
Required
Graham Allison and Philip Zellikow, *Essence of Decision*
Mark Schafer, and Scott Crichlow. 2002. "The *Process-Outcome* Connection in Foreign Policy Decision Making: A Quantitative Study Building on Groupthink." *International Studies Quarterly* 2002.
Recommended
Lisa Martin, *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*, 2000
Hermann, M. G., How Decision Units Shape Foreign Policy: A Theoretical Framework. *International Studies Review*, 2001.
Mark Schafer and Scott Crichlow, *Groupthink*, 2010.
Aldag, Ramon and Sally Fuller. "Beyond Fiasco," *Psychological Bulletin*, 1993.
Esser, James. "Alive and Well After 25 Years: A Review of Groupthink Research," *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, 1998.
David Houghton. "Essence of excision: A critique of the new version of essence of decision," *Security studies,* 2000

8 April
Personality
Required
Margaret G. Hermann, "Explaining Foreign Policy Behavior Using the Personal Characteristics of Political Leaders," *ISQ*, 1980
Paul Kowert and Margaret Hermann," Who Takes Risks? Daring and Caution in Foreign Policy Making," *ISQ*, 1997.
Stanley Renshon, "George W. Bush's Cowboy Politics: An Inquiry." *Political Psychology*, 2005.
Jerrold Post, *The Psychological Evaluation of Political Leaders*, 2003, selection.
David G Winter, "Power, affiliation, and war: Three tests of a motivational model," *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology,* 1993.
Recommended
Alexander and Juliet George, *Woodrow Wilson and Colonel House*, 1964.
Rudolf Binion, *Hitler Among the Germans*, 1984.
Brian Dille, "The Prepared and Spontaneous Remarks of Presidents Reagan and Bush: A Validity Comparison for At-a-Distance Measurements," *Political Psychology* 2001

15 April
Cognition
Required
Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky, "Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk," *Econometrica*, 1979.
Amos Tversky and Daniel Kahneman, "Judgment under Uncertainty: Heuristics and Biases," *Science*, 1974.
Rose McDermott, *Risk Taking in International Politics*, 2001. Selection.
Stephen G. Walker, Mark Schafer and Michael D. Young, "Systematic Procedures for Operational Code Analysis: Measuring and Modeling Jimmy Carter's Operational Code," *ISQ*, 1998.
Houghton, David. "The Role of Analogical Reasoning in Novel Foreign Policy Situations", British Journal of Political Science, 26:523-552, October 1996.
Recommended
Y. F. Khong, *Analogies at War,* 1992
Robert Jervis, *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*. 1976
Yaacov Vertzberger, *The World in their Minds,* 1989
Deborah Larson, *Origins of Containment*, 1984.
Ried Hastie and Robyn Dawes, *Rational Choice in an Uncertain World*, 2010.
Roberta Wohlstetter, *Warning and Decision*, 1962.
Walker, S. G. and Schafer, M., "The Political Universe of Lyndon B. Johnson and His Advisors: Diagnostic and Strategic Propensities in Their Operational Codes." *Political Psychology*, 2000

22 April

Motivation and Emotion

Richard K. Herrmann, James F. Voss, Tonya Y. E. Schooler and Joseph Ciarrochi, "Images in International Relations: An Experimental Test of Cognitive Schemata," *ISQ*, 1997.

Thomas M. Dolan, "Emotion, Strategic Learning, and War," Working Paper.

Philip Tetlock and Ned Lebow, "Poking Counterfactual Holes in Covering Laws: Cognitive Styles and Political Learning," *APSR* 2001

Jacques Hymans, *Psychology of Nuclear Proliferation*. Cambridge, 2006. Selection.

Recommended

Philip E. Tetlock, *Expert Political Judgment: How Good Is It? How Can We Know?* 2006.

Richard K. Herrmann and Michael P. Fischerkeller, "Beyond the Enemy Image and Spiral Model: Cognitive-Strategic Research after the Cold War," *IO*, 1995

Ned Lebow, *Between Peace and War*, 1981.

Nehta Crawford, "The Passion of World Politics," *International* Security, 2000,

John Mercer, "Rationality and Psychology in International Relations," *International Organization*, 2005.

29 April, at 7:00 PM

Research Design Presentation