

Syllabus of Record



Program: CET Shanghai

Course Code / Title: (SH/INTR 100) Introduction to International Relations

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: International Relations / Political Science, History, Area Studies, Global Studies

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: None

Description

This course introduces students to the prominent themes and analytical frameworks that guide the study of modern international relations. It examines the basic concepts and theories that are useful for making sense of the world's contemporary challenges and debates, such as the canonical theories of realism, liberalism, and Marxism and the relatively new and increasingly influential theory of constructivism. Major topics surveyed include international cooperation, security and conflict, trade, international law, and human rights. Students achieve a basis from which to appreciate the major issue areas in international affairs and a strong foundation for further study in international politics, history, economics, business, or culture.

Objectives

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- understand the diverse range of available concepts and explanations for states' international behaviors and the evolution of the international system.
- grasp and evaluate the assumptions, logical structure, and empirical implications of various theoretical positions and basic empirical evidence for and against key theories.
- apply essential concepts and theories to analyze contemporary global issues and engage in debates about world politics.

Course Requirements

Students are required to complete all assigned reading materials before each class. This is vital as students are expected to actively participate in class discussion. Attendance requirements are outlined in the CET Attendance Policy. There are three assignments required for this course.

- Two response papers that briefly summarize an assigned reading (one from class sessions 3-7, one from sessions 8-11) and discuss how the ideas in the text relate to other readings and class discussions. The response papers should be around 600 words and include only a brief summary of the readings while focusing on critical analysis. These papers must be completed 36 hours before the seminar meeting and sent to the instructor and classmates. All students are required to read the response papers of other students before the seminar meets.
- A midterm examination answering three essay questions using course content and their own analysis.

Syllabus of Record

- A final group project applying key concepts and theories to analyze significant issues in contemporary world politics. Examples of topics are China's rise and its strategic competition with the United States, the Covid-19 pandemic and the future of the international order, or management of global warming and climate change, etc. The project consists of submission of a preliminary outline (before week 8, including bibliography), a class presentation, and a final paper (3,000-3,500 words if written individually or 6,000–7,000 words if written as a team).

Grading

The final grade is determined as follows:

- Response papers: 10% (2 at 5% each)
- In-class preparation and discussion: 20%
- Midterm examination: 30%
- Group project: 40% (preliminary outline and bibliography 10%, presentation 10%, and paper 20%)

Readings

Acharya, Amitav. "How Ideas Spread: Whose Norms Matter? Norm Localization and Institutional Change in Asian Regionalism." *International Organization* 58, no. 2 (2004): 239-275.

Allison, Graham T. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *The American Political Science Review* 63, no. 3 (1969): 689-718.

Bendor, Jonathan, and Thomas H. Hammond. "Rethinking Allison's Models." *The American Political Science Review* 86, no. 2 (1992): 301-322.

Bull, Hedley, Stanley Hoffmann, and Andrew Hurrell. *The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics*. 3rd ed. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave, 2002.

Carr, Edward Hallett. *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939: An Introduction to the Study of International Relations*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK: Palgrave, 2001.

Doyle, Michael W. "Liberalism and World Politics." *The American Political Science Review* 80, no. 4 (1986): 1151-1169.

Fearon, James D. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49, no. 3 (1995): 379-414.

Finnemore, Martha, and Kathryn Sikkink. "International Norm Dynamics and Political Change." *International Organization* 52, no. 4 (1998): 887-917.

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2010.

Gilpin, Robert. *War and Change in World Politics*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 1981.

Syllabus of Record

- Gourevitch, Peter. "The Second Image Reversed," *International Organization* 32, no.4 (1978): 881-912.
- Jervis, Robert. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics* 30, no. 2 (1978): 167-214.
- _____. "Hypotheses on Misperception." *World Politics* 20, no. 3 (1968): 454-479.
- Kennedy, Paul M. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*. London: Unwin Hyman, 1988.
- Keohane, Robert O. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1984, 2005.
- Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal. "The Rational Design of International Institutions." *International Organization* 55, no. 4 (2001): 761-799.
- Krasner, Stephen D. *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Krook, Mona Lena, and Jacqui True. "Rethinking the Life Cycles of International Norms: The United Nations and the Global Promotion of Gender Equality." *European Journal of International Relations* 18, no. 1 (2012): 103-127.
- Martin, Lisa L. "Interests, Power, and Multilateralism." *International Organization* 46, no. 4 (1992): 765-792.
- Marx, Karl, and Friedrich Engels. *The Communist Manifesto*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012.
- Mearsheimer, John J. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. New York: Norton, 2003.
- Moravcsik, Andrew. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics." *International Organization* 51, no. 4 (1997): 513-553.
- Morgenthau, Hans Joachim. *Politics Among Nations*. 5th ed. New York: Knopf, 1978.
- Nye, Joseph S., and David A. Welch. *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History*. 9th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2013.
- Putnam, Robert D. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games." *International Organization* 42, no. 3 (1988): 427-460.
- Ruggie, John Gerard. "International Regimes, Transactions, and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order." *International Organization* 36, no. 2 (1982): 379-415.
- 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, no. 2 (2010): 411-431.

Syllabus of Record

Snyder, Jack. "One World, Rival Theories." *Foreign Policy* 145 (2004): 52. doi:10.2307/4152944.

Viotti, Paul R., and Mark V. Kauppi, *International Relations Theory*. 5th ed. New York: Longman, 2012.

Walt, Stephen M. "The Relationship between Theory and Policy in International Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science* 8, no. 1 (2005): 23-48.

Waltz, Kenneth Neal. *Man, the State, and War: A Theoretical Analysis*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1959.

_____. *Theory of International Politics*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 1979.

Wendt, Alexander. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.

Outline of Course Content

Part I: An Overview

Topic 1 – Understanding International Relations; Historical Introduction and Basic Concepts

Topic 2 – Building Blocks for the Study of International Relations: Levels of Analysis, Strategic Interactions Framework, and Research Methods

Part II: Theories of International Relations

Topic 3 – Realism

Topic 4 – Liberalism

Topic 5 – Constructivism and the English School

Topic 6 – Marxism and Critical Theories

Topic 7 – Foreign Policy Decision Making

Part III: Major Topics in International Relations

Topic 8 – International Security: Causes of Wars and Pathways to Peace

Topic 9 – International Security: Weapons of Mass Destruction and Terrorism

Topic 10 – International Political Economy: Trade, Finance, and Development

Topic 11 – Transnational Politics: Global Health, Human Rights, and the Environment

Part IV: Looking Ahead

Topic 12 – The Future of International Relations