

IR 335
International Relations Theory
Fall 2010
Bilkent University

Lectures: M - 10:40 - 12:30, Th - 08:40 - 10:30
Lecture Room: M GZ09, TH GZ10

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Office Hours: M 13:40-14:30, T 10:40-11:30.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of some of the primary perspectives and analytical approaches for studying international relations. We will survey the classics and the contemporary literature with special emphasis on theory, methodology, and real world cases. Our main objective is to understand IR theories, assess their usefulness and apply them to particular world events. Participation and discussion are the only ways this course will be relevant to the real world. Following current news is also very necessary for implementation and relevance of theories. Thus, attendance is of utmost importance for the course.

Requirements

Final grades will be assigned according to the student's performance on the following items:

1) Midterm	30%
2) Final	40%
3) Presentation & Homeworks & Participation	30%

Both the final and the midterm will be in-class; essay and short definition questions will be asked. The final will be cumulative. Any necessary course announcement will be emailed to the students in a timely manner. Moodle is also used. Check your Bilkent email and Moodle page everyday, especially the night before the class.

There is formal attendance requirement for this course and active participation through team discussions and short homeworks will be held weekly. Students who have not attended one third of the classes will automatically receive an F in the course no matter what their grades are in the midterm and the final exams (for example; if you have 16 hours un-excused absences out of a total of 45 hours, you get an F even if you have scored an A from both exams).

Make-up Policy

No make-up examinations will be granted without a university-approved excuse to miss a scheduled exam or quiz. In cases of severe illness or deaths in the family, I require proof (e.g. a signed doctor's note and an explanation on the doctor's letterhead describing why you cannot take the exam; obituaries; e-mails from your academic adviser explaining the specific situation). Make-up exams will be possible only if you contact me *in advance* by e-mail and provide me with the appropriate document. There will be no make-up assignments or tests for unexcused absences. Also, I usually require a research paper as a replacement of a make-up exam.

Classroom Etiquette

I expect you to observe all rules of proper classroom conduct to provide an appropriate environment conducive to learning by all:

1. Please turn off your cell phones and pagers. No calls, incoming or outgoing, or text messaging are allowed.
2. Please refrain from talking, eating or other disruptive activity during class;
3. Please come to class on time and do not leave early; if you must do so, let me know beforehand and please sit near the door so your exit will be less disruptive. Unpunctuality will result in a lower participation grade.
4. Please do not read newspapers or any other publications in the classroom. Also, please do not play games or surf on the web when you use a laptop computer.

Policy on Academic Honesty

The academic work of all students must comply with all policies that appear in the Bilkent Website: <http://www.provost.bilkent.edu.tr/procedures/AcademicHonesty.htm>

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to the following: cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession of examinations, unauthorized changing of grades. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting or collaboration, consult the course instructor.

Required Readings

There is no textbook for this course. All of the course materials collected as a Reader can be found at the Copy Center in our building.

Your presentations will be from the following book:
Jennifer Streling-Folker. *Making Sense of IR Theory*. 2006. Rienner.
This book is available at the Bilkent Library Reserve.

Some additional articles to the Reader will be uploaded to Moodle.

Course Outline

- Lecture One **What is a theory? What is a hypothesis? Theoretical Study of International Relations**
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 2003. "Evaluating Arguments about International Politics." Chapter 2 in *Principles of International Politics*. CQ Press, pp. 51-81.
- Lecture Two **Grand Theories of International Relations 1: Realism and Liberalism**
- Jackson and Sorensen 2003: Chapter 3 "Realism" pp. 68-84 and Chapter 4 "Liberalism" pp. 106-124.
- Goldstein, Joshua S. *International Relations*. 2nd Edition. New York: Harper Collins, 1996. Chapter 2 (pp. 51-93).
- Lecture Three **Grand Theories of International Relations 2: Neo-Realism and Neo-Liberalism**
- Jackson and Sorensen 2003: Chapter 3 "Realism" pp. 84-104 and Chapter 4 "Liberalism" pp. 124-137.
- Baldwin, David A. 1993. "Neoliberalism, Neorealism, and World Politics." In *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*, edited by David A. Baldwin. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 3-25.
- "Neoclassical Realism and Foreign Policy Crises", Özgür Özdamar and Balkan Devlen, in Annette Freyberg-Inan, Ewan Harrison, Patrick James eds. *Rethinking Realism in International Relations: Between Tradition and Innovation*. (Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming, 2008/2009.)
****Watch <http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/people3/Waltz/waltz-con0.html>
- Lecture Four **Grand Theories of International Relations 3: The English School, Marxism and Critical Theory**
- Andrew Linklater. 2009. "The English School" in *Theories of International Relations*, edited by Scott Burchill et al. London: MacMillan. pp. 86-110.
"The English School, International Relations and Progress", Özgür Özdamar, Balkan Devlen and Patrick James, *International Studies Review* 7 (2005): 171-197.
"Uluslararası İlişkilerde İngiliz Okulu Kuramı: Kökenleri, Kavramları ve Tartışmaları", Özgür Özdamar ve Balkan Devlen, *Uluslararası İlişkiler*, Cilt 7, Sayı 25 (Bahar 2010), s. 43-68.
- Lecture Five **Grand Theories of International Relations 4: Critical Theory, Postmodernism/Post Structuralism**
- Richard Devetak. 2009. "Critical Theory" in *Theories of International Relations*, edited by Scott Burchill et al. London: MacMillan. pp. 159-182.
- Mark Rupert. 2007. "Marxism and Critical Theory" in *International Relations Theories*, edited by Dunne et al. Oxford: OUP.
- Anthony Burke. 2008. "Postmodernism" in the *Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, edited by Reus-Smit and Snidal. pp. 359-377.

- Lecture Six **Grand Theories of International Relations 5: Constructivism and the Methodological Debate**
 - Christian Reus-Smit. 2009. "Constructivism" in *Theories of International Relations*, edited by Scott Burchill et al. London: MacMillan. pp. 212-236.
- Lecture Seven **Middle Range Theories in IR: Power Transition Theory**
 - Organski and Kugler. 1980. *The War Ledger*. Ch 1, pp. 13-28.
 - Gilpin, Robert. "Hegemonic War and the International System." In *War and Change in World Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1981. Chapter 5 (pp.186-210).
- Lecture Eight **Power Cycle Theories and the Theory of Complex Interdependence**
 - Keohane, Robert O. and Joseph S. Nye. 1971. "[Transnational Relations and World Politics: An Introduction](#)" *International Organization*, 25 (3), 329-49.
- Lecture Nine **MIDTERM EXAM**
- Lecture Ten **Theories of Conflict 1: Domestic Influences – Democratic Peace & Diversionary Theory of War**
 - Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 2003. *Logic of Political Survival*. pp. 3-7.
 - Russett, Bruce. *Grasping the Democratic Peace*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1993. Chapter 1 (p.1-23).
 - [William D. Baker](#). 'The Dog That Won't Wag: Presidential Uses of Force and the Diversionary Theory of War' *Strategic Insights*, Volume III, Issue 5 (May 2004).
- Lecture Eleven **Theories of Conflict 2: Deterrence and War**
 - Zagare, Frank C. 2004. "[Reconciling Rationality with Deterrence: A Re-examination of the Logical Foundations of Deterrence Theory](#)." *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, 16 (2): 107 – 141.
- Lecture Twelve **Theories of International Cooperation**
 - Axelrod, Robert, and Robert O. Keohane. 1993. "Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions." In *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*, edited by David A. Baldwin. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 85-115.
- Lecture Thirteen **International Regime Theory**
 - Mearsheimer, John J. 1994/95. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security* 19 (3): 5-49.
 - Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa L. Martin. 1995. "The Promise of Institutional Theory." *International Security*, 20 (1): 39-51.
- Lecture Fourteen **Current Theory and Policy Challenges & Final Exam Review**
 -Leppgold, Joseph. 1998. "Is Anyone Listening? International Relations Theory and the Problem of Policy Relevance." *Political Science Quarterly*, 113 (1): 43-62.
- FINAL EXAM**

