This course is an introduction to theories of international politics. It is intended as a survey course for first year graduate students in the Ph.D. program. Its focus is on theories of international politics, not current world events. The course begins with an introduction to the central concepts and methodological issues in social science. It then surveys theories on the three different levels of analysis used in international relations. It concludes with an examination of other key concepts and debates in the field.

The course requirements are weekly readings and two take-home exams. The first exam (midterm) will be given out on Oct. 7 and due Oct. 14 in class. The answers to the questions for the second exam (final) will be due the Monday after the last day of class, Dec. 8th. No late exams are accepted. Double-spaced answers for each exam question can be up to 2000 words in length. The midterm exam will count for about 30% of your grade, participation in section and email discussion for about 10%, and the final exam for the remainder.

All written work done in this class must be your own. It is your responsibility to properly cite ideas or exact words of others that you use. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade and likely termination from the Ph.D. program. All written work must be submitted in hard copy as well as on a disk in WORD or PDF format.

Participation in section is highly recommended.

The course has a bulletin board at https://courseworks.columbia.edu/ to facilitate on-line extensions of class discussions; access to the bulletin board is restricted to students registered for the class. All students are required to participate in weekly email discussions.

Many of the required books are available at Labyrinth Books (112th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam). Buy those that you want. All the readings are on reserve at Lehman Library. Many articles are also available online, linked from the web-based listing of readings (see course website URL above).
Week 1: National Security & IR Theory: Unipolarity, WMD & Terrorism (Sept. 2)


Recommended:

For Debate on the Terrorist Attacks and IR theory, see *Dialogue IO.* April 2002. “Symposium on September 11.” Articles by Lake, Keohane and Leheny.


Week 2 & 3: The Logic of Scientific Inquiry (Sept. 9 & 16)


["Qualitative-Quantitative Disputation" (on reserve under King 1995):]


Recommended:


Popper, The Logic of Scientific Discovery.

Nagel, The Structure of Science.

Goodman, Fact, Fiction, Forecast.

Suppes, ed., The Structure of Scientific Theories.

Toulmin, Foresight and Understanding.

Lakatos and Musgrave, Criticism and the Growth of Knowledge.

Hempel, Aspects of Scientific Explanation.


Brecht, Political Theory, chs. 1-3 esp.

Kaplan, The Conduct of Inquiry.

Przeworski and Teune, The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry.

Stinchcombe, Constructing Social Theories.

Mannheim, The End of Ideology.

McClelland, Peter D. Causal Explanation and Model-Building in History, Economics, and the New Economic History.


Week 3: Criticism of the Scientific Method (Sept. 16)


Recommended:


Foucault, Michel. The Order of Things.
Foucault, Michel. The Birth of the Clinic.
Foucault, Michel. The History of Sexuality.
Foucault, Michel. Discipline and Punish.
Habermas, Jürgen. The Theory of Communicative Action. vols 1 and 2.
Giddens, Anthony. The Construction of Society.
Bashkar, Roy. The Possibility of Naturalism.
Geertz, Clifford. Interpretation of Cultures.
Geertz, C. Local Knowledge.
Caldwell, D. Beyond Positivism.
Fay, Critical Social Science.
Der Derian, James and Shapiro, M., eds., International/Intertextual Relations. Ch.1.

Week 4: Strategic Interaction, Power and Bargaining (Sept. 23)


Recommended on Strategic Interaction and Bargaining:
Schelling, Thomas C., *Arms and Influence.*
Powell, Robert. *In the Shadow of Power.*
Zartman, *The 50% Solution.*
Lockhart, *Bargaining in International Conflicts.*
Luce and Raiffa, *Games and Decisions.*
Young, *Bargaining.*
Siverson, Randolph, ed. *Strategic Politicians, Institutions, and Foreign Policy.*
Baldwin, David A. *Economic Statecraft.*
George, Alexander *The Limits of Coercive Diplomacy,* intro, chs. 1, 5.
George and Smoke, *Deterrence in American Foreign Policy.*
Lebow, *Between Peace and War.*
D. Lax and J. Sebenius, *The Manager as Negotiator.*

Recommended on Power and Levels of Analysis:
Barry, Brian. *Power and Political Analysis.*
Wrong, Dennis. *Power,* chs.1-5, 9.

**Week 5: Choosing War (Sept. 30)**


**Recommended:**

Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, The War Trap, chs. 1-5.
Organski, Kenneth and Kugler, The War Ledger.
Vásquez, John. The War Puzzle.
Wright, Quincy. The Study of War. Esp. chs. 1, 5-7, 12, 15-19, 21-22. [in abridged edition]
Axelrod, Robert. Conflict of Interest.
Coser, Lewis. The Functions of Social Conflict.
Walzer, Michael. Just and Unjust Wars.
Singer in Russett, Peace, War and Numbers.
North, Robert. and N. Choucri, Nations in Conflict.
Holsti, Kal. Peace and War.
Mansfield, Edward. Power, Trade and War.
Boulding, Kenneth. Conflict and Defence.
Richardson, Lewis. Arms Races and Insecurity.
Holsti, Kalevi. The State, War and the State of War.
Morgan, Clifford. Untying the Knot of War.

Week 6: Realism, the Balance of Power and War (Oct. 7)


Recommended:


Smith, Michael. Realist Thought from Weber to Kissinger.


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**Week 7: Hegemony, Imperial Overstretch and War.** (Oct.14) **MIDTERM DUE.**

Please see the readings for week #1 also.


**Recommended:**


Recommended:


Week 9: International Institutions in World Politics (Oct.28)


Recommended:


Week 10: Constructing International Politics (Nov. 11).


[Forum on Social Theory of International Politics (on reserve under Wendt 2000):]


Recommended:


[F] [https://www1.columbia.edu/sec/dlc/cup/katzenstein/index.html]


Klotz, Audie. *Norms in International Politics.*


Tickner, J. Ann, Gender in International Relations.


**Week 11: Domestic Politics I: The Democratic Peace** (Nov. 18)


**Recommended:**


Elman, Miriam. ed. Paths to Peace.


Week 12: Domestic Politics II: Domestic Politics and International relations: Domestic and International Interactions. (Nov. 25)


Recommended:


Milner, Helen, *Resisting Protectionism* chs. 1, 2, 6, 8.

Nincic, Miroslav. *Democracy and Foreign Policy*.

Simmons, Beth. *Who Adjudges?*


Holsti, Ole. *Public Opinion and American Foreign Policy*.


Rosenau, James., ed., *Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy*.

Waltz, Kenneth. *Foreign Policy and Domestic Politics*.

Gerschenkron, Alexander. *Bread and Democracy in Germany*, pp. 3-88.

Kissinger, Henry. "Domestic Structure and Foreign Policy", in Kissinger, American Foreign Policy
Almond, Gabriel. Public Opinion and American Foreign Policy.
Kehr, Eckhart. Economic Interest, Militarism, and Foreign Policy.
Downs, George and Rocke, D. Optimal Imperfection.

Week 13: Decision-Making (Dec. 2)
Recommended:


Mintz, Alex and Nehemia Geva, eds., *Decision-making on War and Peace*.


Hart, Paul t’. *Groupthink in Government*.


Larson, Deborah. *Origins of Containment*.

May, Ernst. *Lessons of the Past*.

George, Alexander. *Presidential Decisionmaking in Foreign Policy*.


George, Alexander and George, Juliette L. *Woodrow Wilson and Colonel House*.

Braybrook and Lindblom. *A Strategy of Decision*.