

**WWS 541. *International Politics***  
**Revised, March 5, 2008.**  
Spring 2008  
Princeton University  
Woodrow Wilson School Graduate Program

Location: Robertson 015.

Time: Monday, 1:00-4:00.\*

\* Due to luncheon seminar schedules, this seminar will actually begin at 1:10 and finish at 4:00, instead of the conventional 1:00-3:50.

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This course introduces theories of international relations and seeks to use them to understand major events such as the origins of World War and the Cuban Missile Crisis, and broad trends such as interdependence and globalization. Policy issues considered include those involving security and international political economy, such as petro-politics, coping with the rise of China, terrorism, and democracy promotion. All students will be expected to participate actively in class discussions and be prepared to respond orally to questions from the instructor. Each student will write a short discussion paper, circulated to the class before one of the sessions in the first six weeks of the course. In the second half of the term, each student will be part of a project team that prepares a brief report (not more than 1500 words) analyzing a major policy issue and discussing the relevance of international relations theory, and history, to it. This report will be circulated to the class in advance. Well in advance of the class, the project team will research the issue they are studying and, in consultation with the professor and course assistant, assign 50-75 pp. of reading on it. There will be a final examination.

*Course Assignments and Grading*

Short paper: 20 percent  
Group presentation (oral and written): 20 percent  
Class participation apart from the paper and presentation: 20 percent  
Final examination: 40 percent

Articles will be available on Blackboard. The following books will be used extensively and are available for purchase in the bookstore:

David Held and Anthony McGrew, *Globalization/Anti-Globalization: Beyond the Great Divide* (London: Polity Press, 2007)

G. John Ikenberry, *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 2001)

Peter J. Katzenstein and Robert O. Keohane, eds., *Anti-Americanisms in World Politics* (Cornell 2007).

Joseph S. Nye, Jr., *Understanding International Conflict: An Introduction to Theory and History* (Longman's, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 2006).

Louise Richardson, *What Terrorists Want* (New York: Random House, 2006).

Kenneth N. Waltz, *Man, the State and War* (Columbia University Press, 1959).

### *Part I. Theoretical Perspectives and Historical Cases*

Week 1 (February 4). *Individuals, Conflict, and Cooperation* (137 pp.)

Joseph S. Nye, Jr., *Understanding International Conflict: An Introduction to Theory and History*, chapters 1-2 (1-57).

Kenneth N. Waltz, *Man, the State and War* (Columbia University Press, 1959), chs. 1-2 (1-41).

Daniel Bynum and Kenneth Pollack, "Let us Now Praise Great Men: Bringing the Statesman Back In," *International Security*, Spring 2001, pp. 107-146.

Week 2 (February 11 ). *The Impact of Political and Economic Systems on Conflict* (about 215 pp.) **Assignment of students to project teams.**

Waltz, *Man, the State, and War*, chs. 4-5 (80-158).

V.I. Lenin, *Imperialism: the Highest Stage of Capitalism* (New York: International Publishers, 1939), chs. V-VI (pp. 68-87).

Michael W. Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics." *American Political Science Review*, vol. 80, no. 4 (December 1986): 1161-1179.

John Owen, "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace." *International Security*, Fall 1994, pp. 87-125.

Joanne Gowa. "The Democratic Peace After the Cold War." Unpublished paper, 2007.

Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder. "Democratization and the Danger of War." *International Security* vol. 20, no 1 (summer 1995): 5-38.

Making the World "Safe for Democracy": Woodrow Wilson Asks for War. President Wilson's speech to Congress of April 2, 1917.

"X" (George F. Kennan). "The Sources of Soviet Conduct." *Foreign Affairs*, July 1947.

Week 3 (February 18). *Structural Anarchy, Alliances, and Conflict* (218 pp.).

Waltz, *Man, the State and War*, chs. 6-8 (159-238).

Robert Jervis, "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics*, vol. 30, no. 2 (January 1978): 167-214.

Stephen M. Walt, "Explaining Alliance Formation." Chapter 2 of Walt, *The Origins of Alliances* (Cornell University Press, 1987, pp. 17-49.

Nye, *Understanding International Conflicts*, ch. 3 (58-84).

James Joll, "The Alliance System and the Old Diplomacy," chapter 3 of Joll, *The Origins of the First World War*, pp. 49-86.

Week 4 (February 25). *Perception and Misperception* (190 pp.) **Project team bibliographies and suggested readings due.**

Robert Jervis. "Hypotheses on Misperception." *World Politics* volume 20, no. 3 (April 1968): 454-479.

Arthur Stein. "When Misperception Matters." *World Politics* vol. 34, no. 4 (July 1982): 505-526.

Ole R. Holsti. "The 1914 Case." *American Political Science Review*, vol. 59, no. 2 (June 1965): 365-378.

Ole R. Holsti. "The Belief System and National Images." *The Journal of Conflict Resolution*, vol. 6, no. 3 (September 1962): 244-252.

Graham Allison and Philip Zelikow. *Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis* (second edition, Longman, 1999), pp. 77-109.

Dani Kahneman. "Why Hawks Win." *Foreign Policy*, February 2007.

Alexander L. Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics." *International Organization*, vol. 46, no. 2 (spring 1992): 391-425.

Week 5 (March 3). *Institutions and Cooperation* (240 pp.)

Robert Axelrod and Robert O. Keohane, "Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions." *World Politics* 38 (October 1985): 226-254.

Robert O. Keohane, *Power and Governance in a Partially Globalized World* (Routledge 2002): chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 1-38).

G. John Ikenberry, *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 2001), chs. 1-3; 6-7(pp. 3-79; 163-256).

Week 6 (March 10). *Foundations of International Political Economy* (about 180 pp.). **Suggested readings by project teams announced.**

Martin Wolf, *Why Globalization Works* (Yale University Press, 2005), pp. 96-134. "Globalization in the Long Run." **This material was just added to the syllabus**

**and is not on Blackboard. Copies will be available from Bernadette Yeager, Robertson 421.**

Robert O. Keohane, *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy* (Princeton University Press, 1984), ch. 2-3 (pp. 18-46).

Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation*, chapter 1, "The Hundred Years' Peace."

Charles Kindleberger, *The World in Depression*, chs. 1 and 14 (pp. 1-13 and 288-306).

John Gerard Ruggie, "International Regimes, Transactions and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order," *International Organization*, vol. 36, no. 2 (spring, 1982): 379-415.

*Closing lecture on globalization.*

***Spring break.***

## ***Part II. Interpretations of Change and Policy Challenges.***

Week 7 (March 24). *Globalization in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (160 pp. plus policy readings to be assigned by project team)*.

**Topic for discussion: contemporary petropolitics. Do high oil prices generate autocracy and conflict? If they have adverse effects on world politics, what should be done (by states, international organizations, or other entities) about this?**

Nye, *Understanding International Conflict*, chapter 7 (191-216).

**Readings proposed by project group: Collier-Hoeffler, Ross, Friedman, Colgan, Le Billon.**

*Closing lecture on ideas and foreign policy.*

Week 8 (March 31). *Ideas and Foreign Policy (150 pp. plus policy material)*.

**Topic for discussion: Should established democracies and international organizations make it a priority to promote democracy abroad? Unconditionally, or only under certain conditions?**

John C. Pevehouse, "Democracy from the Outside In? International Organizations and Democratization." *International Organization* 56-3 (summer 2002): 515-550.

Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy." *Foreign Affairs*, November-December 1997, pp. 22-43.

**Readings proposed by project group. Articles on course materials by Berman, McFaul, Finkel, Carothers, and the OECD.** In addition, you will find the following readings on E-Reserve for Week 8:

Carothers, Thomas. Aiding Democracy Abroad: The Learning Curve

Slaughter, Anne-Marie. "Chapter 2: Democracy," *The Idea That is America: Keeping Faith with our Values in a Dangerous World*.

Diamond, Larry. Chapter 14 "Promoting Democracy Effectively."

*Closing lecture on the information revolution.*

Week 9 (April 7). *The Information Revolution and Terrorism (125 pages plus policy material.)*

**Topic for discussion. Should the United States continue to emphasize the "Global War on Terrorism?" How should the struggle against terrorism be conceptualized?**

Robert O. Keohane, "The Globalization of Informal Violence, Theories of World Politics, and the "Liberalism of Fear." In Keohane, *Power and Governance in a Partially Globalized World*, pp. 272-287.

Jessica Stern, "The Protean Enemy." *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 82, no. 4 (July/August 2003).

Louise Richardson, *What Terrorists Want* (New York: Random House, 2006), chs. 3-4 (38-103).

**Readings proposed by project group.**

*Closing lecture on anti-Americanism.*

Week 10 (April 14). *Anti-Americanism (130 pp. plus policy material.)*

**Topic for discussion. Should the United States direct foreign policy effort toward reducing the amount or intensity of anti-Americanism; and if so, how?**

Peter J. Katzenstein and Robert O. Keohane, *Anti-Americanisms in World Politics* (Cornell University Press, 2007), pp. 1-54, 196-224, and 273-316.

**Readings proposed by project group.**

*Closing lecture on great power rivalry and "hegemonic war."*

Week 11 (April 21). *Coping with the Rise of China (145 pp. plus policy materials.)*

**Topic for discussion. Should the United States treat China as a partner, a strategic rival, or a potential "responsible stakeholder?" What strategy should the US pursue?**

Aaron Friedberg, "The Future of US-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" *International Security*, Fall 2005, pp. 7-45.

Iain Johnston, "Is China a Status Quo Power?" *International Security*, vol. 27, no. 4 (spring 2003), pp. 5-56.

XuXin, "A Dialectic of Multipolarity and Multilateralism: China's Regional Security Practice in an Age of Globalization." In David A. Kelly, Ramkishan S. Rajan, and Gillian H. L. Goh, editors, *Managing Globalization: Lessons from China and India* Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Company, 2006, pp. 243-281.

**Readings proposed by project group.**

Week 12 (April 28) *Global Governance and Accountability* (100 pp. plus policy materials).

**Topic for Discussion: Can the UN be reformed?**

Nye, *Understanding International Conflict*, chapter 9 (pp. 242-261).

Anne-Marie Slaughter, *A New World Order* (Princeton University Press, 2004), pp. 231-251, 166-188.

Ruth Grant and Robert O. Keohane, "Accountability and Abuses of Power in World Politics, *American Political Science Review* volume 99, no. 1 (2005): 19-43.

**Readings proposed by project group.**

*End-of-semester celebration!*