

POLS5360-001 Pro-seminar in International Relations
Fall 2015
Department of Political Science, Texas Tech University
M 3:00-5:50 PM in Holden Hall 0033

This syllabus contains the policies and expectations I have established for POLS5360: Pro-seminar in International Relations. Please read the entire syllabus carefully before continuing in this course.

1 Instructor Information

Dr. Carie Steele

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Phone: 834-2195

Office: Holden Hall 15

Office Hours: M 8-11AM and by apt.

2 Course Overview and Objectives

This seminar provides an introduction to the study of international relations. It will focus on two themes: theory and testing. This course is intended to familiarize students with international relations theories, debates in each of the subfields (Conflict, IPE, and IOs), as well as the basic elements and applications of the scientific method. We will engage in a broad survey of the literature in the field, focusing on the major theories that form the foundation of the study of international relations. In addition, this course is designed to assist students develop analytical thinking, writing, and study skills essential for preparing for comprehensive exams and conducting original research. Early weeks will focus on understanding the development of theory and its role in the scientific process. Later weeks will focus on application of these theories and empirical analysis within the three main IR subfields. Students should leave this course with a broad overview of the theoretical foundations and current state of international relations research.

2.1 Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Explain the fundamental elements of theory and its role in the study of international relations.
2. Summarize and critique the main theoretical perspectives within the discipline using clearly specified criteria.
3. Discuss the impact of key theoretical elements, (e.x. level of analysis) on research questions/agendas, research design, and other elements of the normal science process.
4. Effectively find and synthesize relevant literature.
5. Identify research questions and testable hypotheses.
6. Critically evaluate empirical analyses of theoretically-driven research questions using clearly specified criteria.

These learning objectives will be evaluated throughout the semester through class discussion and writing assignments.

3 Required Readings

The following books we will read in part or in whole. I suggest buying them, but ultimately, it is your choice. They are all available new on Amazon. Most are available used and are generally cheap.

- Baldwin, David A. .1993. *Neorealism and Neoliberalism* Columbia University Press.
- Clarke, Kevin A. and Primo, David M. 2012. *A Model Discipline: Political Science and the Logic of Representations*. Oxford University Press
- Keohane, Robert O. 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton University Press
- Keohane, Robert O. editor 1986. *Neorealism and Its Critics*. Columbia University Press.
- Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Additional readings are available online through TTU journal subscriptions, or, for book chapters or articles that are not unavailable through the TTU library, I will provide scanned copies on Blackboard. The last section of this syllabus is a bibliography of additional recommended readings.

4 Course Structure

This course will meet weekly and be conducted as a seminar. While discussion will be led by the instructor, students are expected to actively participate — raise questions, draw connections to other readings (including across weeks), and provide evaluation and critique. Course assignments are designed to incentivize participation and engagement.

4.1 Assignments and Evaluations

Students will be evaluated on the following assignments:

| Assignment | Percentage |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Class Participation: | 25% |
| Weekly Summaries: | 10% |
| Literature Reviews: | 25% |
| Final Exam: | 40% |

Class Participation

You are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Active participation is an essential part of graduate education and essential for a successful seminar. Everyone must come to class prepared to discuss all of the assigned readings for each class. Although being able to summarize the article is important, you are also expected to raise substantive and theoretical questions, draw connections to other readings/literatures, and provide critical assessment of the readings.

Participation will be graded on both quality and quantity of contribution to class discussion. Class discussion is part of the professionalization process. Students should focus on making relevant contributions to the general discussion, while engaging other students' ideas and input in a collegial

manner. Failure to participate, weak or irrelevant contributions due to failure to complete assigned readings, and/or uncivil behavior during discussion will be graded accordingly.

It should go without saying, but participation requires attendance. Missing multiple class meetings will result in a failing participation grade.

Finally, your participation is also expected at department functions, including the IR workshop and guest-speakers. At these functions, you should not feel pressure to provide comment or discussion, but your attendance is expected and feel free to ask questions if you have them.

Weekly Summaries

Each week, you will compose a brief summary of the readings assigned for that week. I will be looking for evidence that you have read and understood the main arguments and conclusions of **each** reading. Outstanding summaries will discuss how readings within a week and across weeks relate to one another. Summaries should be typed, double-spaced, with no smaller than 11-point font, with 1 inch margins all around, and written in paragraph form with proper grammar and spelling. Although the length of summaries may vary week to week, your summaries should never exceed 3 pages in length. These summaries are due by noon on the day of class. They may be submitted as email attachments in PDF or Microsoft Word format. If you are having electronic difficulties, you may leave a hard copy in my mailbox in the political science department. I will not accept late summaries.

Successful summaries will address all of the following questions for each reading:

- What is the central research question and what puzzle motivates it?
- What is the dependent variable?
- What is the independent variable(s)?
- What is the expected relationship?
- What is the causal mechanism?
- What is the evidence?
- What is the conclusion?
- What is your evaluation of the reading?

Summaries will be graded using a three tier system, with each grade roughly corresponding to the following grade:

✓+ = Outstanding

✓ = Acceptable

✓- = Unacceptable

Literature Reviews

Twice during the semester you will write a detailed literature review on a topic. These assignments will require you to demonstrate familiarity with the literature we have read during that section of

the course, as well as the ability to find and synthesize additional literature. This means that you should spend a fair amount of time seeking out and reading literature that is NOT on the course syllabus.

Literature reviews are *not* simply summaries of literature on single topic. A well-written literature review should:

- Identify the main themes in a collective literature and explain the collective debates
- Situate the readings within the broader themes and debates of the literature
- Articulate linkages among readings
- Identify strengths and weaknesses within the literature
- Identify profitable directions for future research
- Provide independent insight about the literature

Your first literature review will be due at the beginning of class on **October 12th**, and will cover the current state of one of the theories covered in the first section of the course. Students may choose among the following options: realism/neorealism, liberalism/neoliberalism, constructivism, post-structuralism, or feminism. Your second literature review will be due to either my email inbox, or my mailbox in the political science department by 3 pm on **November 23rd** and will address an international relations topic of your choosing.

Although there is no page minimum or limit, I would guess that your literature reviews will be 8-12 pages in length. Literature reviews should be typed, double-spaced, with no smaller than 11-point font, and written with proper grammar and spelling.

Final Exam

The final exam will consist of two components: a written exam and an oral exam. I will hand out the prompt for the written portion of the final exam on the last day of class (November 30th). It will be similar in format to the comprehensive exams administered to doctoral students in the Political Science department. It will include three sections, each section will include two questions. You will be required to answer one question in each of the three sections. You should write no more than ten pages per question. The written portion of the exam will be due to Turnitin by 6:00 pm (noon) on Friday, December 4th.

Each student will be required to sign up for a half-hour time slot for their oral exam between December 7th and 9th. Oral exams will cover your written exam answers, as well as readings assigned in class.

5 Course Policies

This section of the syllabus details the policies for this class. Please read it carefully as these are the policies that you will be subject to throughout the semester.

5.1 Attendance

Attendance is required. To succeed in this class, you will need to attend class and take notes. Failure to do so will jeopardize your successful completion of this course.

5.2 Classroom Etiquette

In order to create a classroom environment that is conducive to learning, you are expected to adhere to basic classroom etiquette. Do not disrupt class. This includes arriving late, leaving early, holding side conversations with others, reading newspapers, and using electronic devices in a distracting manner. Do not interrupt or engage in side conversations while someone else is speaking. Be civil, constructive, and respectful — derogatory and sarcastic comments have no place in the classroom. Comments that are derogatory toward any group — particularly on the basis of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or disability — are strictly prohibited. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if you are disrupting or obstructing normal class functions.

5.3 Seeking Help

If you are having difficulty with any part of this course — whether it is difficulty understanding the readings or poor performance on assignments — **SEEK HELP IMMEDIATELY**. Ask questions in class, meet with the TA, come to office hours, or send me an email. I am happy to help you learn the course material, however I can't help if I don't know there is a problem. Additionally, **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER**. I will not provide extra credit opportunities, nor will I negotiate on final grades.

5.4 Excused Absences

Absences are excused under the following circumstances only: death in the family (parent, spouse, sibling, child or grandparent), participation in an official TTU sponsored academic or sporting event, observance of a religious holy day, unforeseeable medical emergency affecting yourself, your spouse, or your child. In cases involving the death of a family member, you must give me notice via email at least 24 hours prior to the absence. In cases involving university sponsored activities and observance of religious holy days, you must give me notice via email at least 2 weeks prior to the event. In all cases I may require supporting documentation. Whether missing class for an excused or unexcused reason, you are responsible for the material covered during your absences.

5.5 Religious Observances

Texas House Bill 256 regarding religious observances requires that faculty and the university make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Students are advised to notify the course instructor well in advance of the conflict and must submit documentation in order to make-up the missed assignment within two weeks of the original due date.

5.6 Late Work

Please note: late work will not be accepted. Excused absences do not excuse you from turning your assignments in on time. If you will miss class for an excused absence, you are still responsible for turning in your assignment before your absence. The instructor will deal with cases of medical emergency on a case-by-case basis. **IMPORTANT:** Students are encouraged to discuss any circumstances that might affect their performance in class with the instructor **BEFORE** it becomes an issue. This includes physical/mental/intellectual challenges, illnesses, emergencies, or any event that may affect your performance in class. Specific needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis between the student and the instructor.

5.7 University Policy Regarding Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor within the first two weeks of class to make any necessary arrangements. Official university documentation regarding disabilities will be required. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information consult Student Disability Services: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentaffairs/sds/>

5.8 Academic Dishonesty Policy:

According to the Texas Tech Student Handbook: “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Any such act will not be tolerated in this class. Any student caught plagiarizing work will be given a failing grade for the course and reported to University officials for possible expulsion from the University. Additional information on TTU’s policy concerning academic dishonesty can be found at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentjudicialprograms/AcademicIntegrity.htm>

5.9 Turnitin

The University has a license agreement with Turnitin, an educational tool that helps prevent or identify plagiarism. This course will use the service by requiring you to submit assignments electronically to Turnitin. The Turnitin Originality Report will indicate the amount of original text in your work and whether all material that you quoted, paraphrased, summarized, or used from another source is appropriately referenced. This service checks students’ work for originality against both internet sources as well as other work submitted to Turnitin.

5.9.1 Using Turnitin:

You will be using Turnitin to submit your assignments. Using this tool requires you to sign into the class. On the TTU Libraries website use the left-hand navigation bar. Go to Library Instruction — Plagiarism Prevention — Turnitin. Click the Sign In Using eRaider button. Enter your eRaider

credentials when prompted to do so. To sign-up for a class for the first time enter the class ID: 10456372 and the password: POLS5360 (be aware that the password is case sensitive). Once you have signed in, you will see a list of your classes. Click on Proseminar in International Relations to see the list of assignments associated with it. To turn in an assignment, look for the title of your assignment in the assignment list. To the right of the title, click the Submit icon. Where you see choose a paper submission method, leave the default setting single file upload. Enter submission title. To upload a file, click on the Browse button, find the paper on your disk or computer, then click Upload. Be sure it is the paper you want to send, then click submit. If you have additional questions or issues, first consult the Turnitin.com help page at http://turnitin.com/en_us/training/student-training. If you cannot find the information you need, then contact the TA or professor.

6 Course Schedule

| Week | Topic and Readings |
|-----------------|---|
| Aug. 24 | <p>Introduction to Course Review Syllabus and Course Expectations</p> <p>Clarke, Kevin A. and Primo, David M. 2012. <i>A Model Discipline: Political Science and the Logic of Representations</i>. Oxford University Press</p> <p>Keohane, Robert O. 2009 “Political Science as a Vocation”. PS: Political Science and Politics. 42(02):359-363</p> |
| Aug. 31 | <p>Realism and Neorealism David, Paul A. 2001. “Clio and the Economics of Qwerty.” <i>American Economics Review</i>. 75:2.</p> <p>Keohane, Robert O. editor 1986. <i>Neorealism and Its Critics</i>. Columbia University Press. chapters 2-5.</p> <p>Morgenthau, Hans J. and Kenneth W. Thompson. 1985. <i>Politics Among Nations</i>. Knopf Press. pg 1-29 (Blackboard).</p> |
| Sept. 7 | No Class — Labor Day |
| Sept. 14 | <p>Liberalism, Cooperation, and Rationality Milner, Helen. “The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique”. in <i>Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate</i>. edited by David A. Baldwin. Columbia University Press.</p> <p>Singer, J David. 1961. “The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations”. <i>World Politics</i>. 77-92.</p> <p>Putnam, Robert D. 1988. “Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: the logic of two-level games”. <i>International Organization</i>. 42(3)</p> |

Martin, Lisa L. 1992. "Interests, Power, and Multilateralism." *International Organization*. 46(4):765-792.

Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A liberal Theory of International Politics". *International Organization* 51: 513-553

Axelrod, Robert. 1981. "The Emergence of Cooperation Among Egoists". *American Political Science Review*. 75(2): 306-318

Greico, Joseph et al. 1993. "The Relative-Gains Problem for International Cooperation". *American Political Science Review*. 87(3): 727-743.

Sept. 21

Neoliberal Institutionalism

Stein, Arthur. "Coordination and Collaboration: Regimes in an Anarchic World". in *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*. edited by David A. Baldwin. Columbia University Press.

Keohane, Robert O. 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton University Press. chapters 1-5.

Mearsheimer, John. 1995. "The false promise of international institutions". *International Security*. 19:3 5-49.

Keohane, Robert O. and Martin, Lisa L. 1995 "The promise of institutionalist theory." *International Security*. 20(1): 39-51.

Sept. 28

Constructivism

Ruggie, John Gerard. 1998. "What makes the World Hang Together? Neo-Utilitarianism and the Social Constructivist Challenge". *International Organization*. 52: 855-885.

Finnemore, Martha and Sikkink, Kathryn. 1998. "International Norm Dynamics and Political Change.". *International Organization*. 52(4): 887-917.

Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge University Press. chapters 1,3,6-8.

Oct. 5

Critical Theories

Wallerstein, Immanuel. 1976. "A World-System Perspective on the Social Sciences". *British Journal of Sociology* 27(3):343-352.

Cox, Robert. "Social Forces, States, and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory". in *Neorealism and its Critics*.

Tickner, Arlene. 2003. "Seeing IR Differently: Notes from the Third World". *Millenium: Journal of International Studies*. 32(2): 295-324

Murphy, Craig N. 1996. "Seeing Women, Recognizing Gender, Recasting International Relations". *International Organization*. 50(3): 513-538.

Tickner, J. Ann. 1997. "You Just Don't Understand: Troubled Engagements between Feminists and IR Theorists". *International Studies Quarterly*. 41(4): 611-632.

Sylvester, Christine. 2013. "Experiencing the end and afterlives of International Relations/theory". *European Journal of International Relations*. 19(3):609-626.

Oct 12

Conflict I

Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations of War". *International Organization*. 49:3 379-414.

Filson, Darren and Suzanne Warner. 2002. "A Bargaining Model of War and Peace: Anticipating the Onset, Duration, and Outcome of War". *American Journal of Political Science*. 46: 819-838.

Fearon, James D. 1997. "Signaling foreign policy interests — tying hands versus sinking costs". *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 41(1): 68-90.

Barbieri, Katherine. 1996. "Economic Interdependence: A Path to Peace or a Source of Interstate Conflict?". *Journal of Peace Research*. 33(1): 29-49.

Leeds, Brett Ashley. 2003. "Do Alliances Deter Aggression? The Influence of Military Alliances on the Initiation of Militarized Interstate Disputes". *American Journal of Political Science*. 47(3).

Fortna, Virginia Page. 2003. "Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace". *International Organization* 57:337-372.

Oct 19

Conflict II

Fearon, James D. 1994. "Domestic political audiences and the escalation of international disputes". *American Political Science Review*. 88(3).

Maoz Zeev, and Russett, Bruce. 1993. "Normative and structural causes of democratic peace, 1946-1986". *American Political Science Review*. 87(3): 624-638.

Bueno de Mesquita, et al. 1999. "An Institutional Explanation of the Democratic Peace". *American Journal of Political Science*. 93(4): 791-807.

Collier, Paul and Hoeffler Anke. 2004. "Greed and Grievance in Civil War". *Oxford Economic Papers*. 56: 563-595.

Walter, Barbara F. 1997. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement". *International Organization*. 51: 335-364.

Oct 26

International Organizations I

Kratochwil, Friedrich and Ruggie, John G. 1986. "International Organization: A State of the Art on an Art of the State". *International Relations*. 40(4):753-775.

Abbot, Kenneth W. and Duncan Snidal. 1998. "Why States Act Through Formal International Organizations". *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 42(1): 3-32.

Martin, Lisa L. and Simmons, Beth A. 1998. "Theories and Empirical Studies of International Institutions". *International Organization*. 52(4): 729-757.

Koremenos, Babara, et al. 2001. "The Rational Design of International Institutions." *International Organization* 55(4):761-799.

Hawkins, Darren, et. al. (2006) *Delegation and Agency in International Organizations*. New York: Cambridge University Press. chapter 1. (Blackboard).

Nov 2

International Organizations II

Chayes, Abram and Chayes, Antonia. 1993. "On Compliance". *International Organization*. 47(2): 175-205.

Simmons, Beth A. (1998) "Compliance with International Agreements". *Annual Review of Political Science* 1: 75-93.

Downs, George, Roake, David, and Barsoom, P. 1996. "Is good news about compliance good news about cooperation?". *International Organization* 50(3): 379-406.

Tallberg, Jonas. 2002. "Paths to Compliance: Enforcement, Management, and the European Union". *International Organization*. 56(3):609-643.

Kelley, Judith. (2007). "Who Keeps International Commitments and Why? The International Criminal Court and Bilateral Nonsurrender Agreements". *American Political Science Review* 10(3): 575-539.

Barnett, Michael and Finnemore, Martha. 1999. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations". *International Organization* 53(4):699-732.

Nov 9

International Political Economy I

Frieden, Jeffrey and Martin, Lisa L. 2003. "International Political Economy: Global and Domestic Interactions". in *Political Science: The State of the Discipline*. Ed. Ira Katznelson and Helen V. Milner. (Blackboard).

Goldstein, et al. 2007. "Institutions in International Relations: Understanding the Effects of the GATT and the WTO on World Trade". *International Organization*. 61(4).

McGillivray, Fiona and Alistair Smith. 2004. "The Impact of Leadership Turnover on Trading Relations Between States". *International Organization* 58: 567-600.

Hiscox, Michael J. 2001. "Class Versus Industry Cleavages: Inter-Industry Factor Mobility and the Politics of Trade". *International Organization* 55(1):1-46.

Simmons, Beth A. 2002. "International Law and State Behavior: Commitment and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs". *American Political Science Review*. 94(4): 319-335.

Singer, David A. 2004. "Capital Rules: The Domestic Politics of International Regulatory Harmonization". *International Organization*. 58(3):459-484.

Nov 16

International Political Economy II

Frieden, Jeffrey A. and Rogowski, Ronald. 1996. "The Impact of International Economy on National Policies: An Analytical Overview". in *Internationalization and Domestic Politics*. eds. R.O. Keohane and H.V. Milner.

Li Quan, and Reuveny, Rafeal. 2003 "Economic Globalization and Democracy: An Empirical Analysis". *British Journal of Political Science*. 33(1):29-54.

Caroline, Thomas. 2001. "Global Governance, Development, and Human Security: Exploring the Links". *Third World Quarterly* 22(2):159-175.

Dunning, Thad. 2005. "Resource Dependence, Economic Performance, and Political Stability". *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 49(4):451-482.

Alesina, Albert, and Dollar, David. 2000. "Who Gives Foreign Aid to Whom and Why?". *Journal of Economic Growth*. 5(1):33-63.

Kono, Daniel Y. and Montinola, Gabriella R. 2009. "Does Foreign Aid Support Autocrats, Democrats, or Both?". *The Journal of Politics*. 71(2):704-718.

Nov 23

No Class — Happy Thanksgiving

Nov. 30

Hand Out Exam and Schedule Oral Exams
