This course surveys the field of international relations, focusing on the foundational concepts, methods, and theories that underlie contemporary research. The primary goal is to provide graduate students who intend to take comprehensive exams in the IR field with the grounding necessary to do so successfully. Others will be permitted to take the course only if they can demonstrate the prior knowledge and ability to participate successfully and if they can convince me that they will benefit from doing so.

There are three requirements for the course. First, students are expected to read assigned materials in advance of every session after the first and to participate actively in discussion (20% of final grade). At the end of each session, I will briefly preview the readings for the upcoming week, identifying the most central readings and organizing the remaining material into groups. We will then apportion the groups to different people in the class, who will have primary responsibility for those readings in the next week’s discussion. In preparing for discussion, I expect you to be able to give a short summary of the central argument, discuss how the argument relates to others from the week or from previous weeks, present what you see at the main strengths and weaknesses of the argument, and raise questions or points of interest as a basis for discussion. The second assignment will be a midterm take-home exam loosely modeled on the comprehensive exam (20% of final grade). I will distribute the midterm on November 3, and will collect it at the beginning of class on November 10. Finally, students must complete a take-home final exam, which like the midterm will use questions and a format similar to those found in comprehensive exams (60%). Final exam questions will be distributed either December 1 or December 8 (determined by our discussions), with essays due one week later.

Discussion during some weeks will be led by Ed Mansfield. Because of his duties as department chair, Ed will not be teaching courses during the next two years; these discussions will thus provide an important opportunity to get to know him, as many of you will want to have him advise you on your dissertations down the line.

Books marked on the syllabus with a star (*) are available at the University of Pennsylvania bookstore (36th & Walnut St.). If you do not wish to purchase some or all of the books, these books are also available from Rosengarten Reserve at Van Pelt Library. The remaining readings
are available either through JSTOR (J) or on the course Blackboard site (B). If you would like to photocopy a large portion of the course readings simultaneously, I have printouts of many (but not all) of the chapters from books that are not available for purchase.

Class Schedule

Introduction (Sept. 8)

No assigned readings.

The History, Geography, and Purpose of International Relations (Sept. 15)

(B) Ido Oren, Our Enemies and US: America’s Rivalries and the Making of Political Science, Introduction.


(Readings from the Autumn 1998 issue of International Organization are also available in Exploration and Contestation in the Study of World Politics, edited by Katzenstein, Keohane, and Krasner.)


SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS


Theories, Evidence, and (the Limits to) Inference (Sept. 22)

*Kenneth Waltz, Theory of International Politics, ch. 1. (also available in Robert O. Keohane, ed., Neorealism and Its Critics, ch. 2.)
(P) Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman, *Progress in International Relations Theory*, forward by Waltz and ch. 2 (Lessons from Lakatos) by Elman and Elman.

*Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry*, ch. 1-4 (don’t worry about understanding the mathematical formalizations, and feel free to skim chapter 2 after page 49. Chapters 5 and 6 are also useful.)


(J) Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry*, ch. 1-4 (don’t worry about understanding the mathematical formalizations, and feel free to skim chapter 2 after page 49. Chapters 5 and 6 are also useful.)


(B) Steve Smith, “Positivism and Beyond,” in Smith, Ken Booth, and Marysia Zelwski, eds., *International Theory: Positivism and Beyond*, 11-44.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

Thomas Kuhn, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*.


Doug MacAdam, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly, *Dynamics of Contention*, ch. 1.


**Levels of Analysis** (Sept. 29)

*Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State, and War*, ch. 1, 2, 4, 6, 8.

(B) Arnold Wolfers, *Discord and Collaboration*, ch. 1.


(B) Robert Jervis, *System Effects*, ch. 3.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

**Power and Classical Realism** (Oct. 6)

(B) David Baldwin, “Power and International Relations,” in Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse, and Beth A. Simmons, *Handbook of International Relations*, pp. 177-191.
(B) E. H. Carr, *The Twenty Years’ Crisis, 1919-1939*, ch. 5-8.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

**Anarchy, Neorealism, and the Balance of Power** (Oct. 13)

*Kenneth Waltz, Theory of International Politics*, ch. 2, 5-8.
(B) Inis L. Claude, Jr., *Power and International Relations*, ch. 2-3.
(B) Douglas Lemke, *Regions of War and Peace*, ch. 2.
SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS


Inis L. Claude, Jr., Power and International Relations, ch. 4-5 (a critique of collective security as an alternative to the balance of power).

Edward Vose Gulick, Europe’s Classical Balance of Power.


Oct. 13: no class (fall break)

Cooperation under Anarchy (Oct. 20)


SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS


Institutions and Neoliberal Institutionalism (Oct. 27)


**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS**

David A. Baldwin, ed., *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*, remaining chapters not listed above.

Stephen D. Krasner, ed., *International Regimes*.

**Constructivism** (Nov. 3)


*Alexander Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics*, ch. 1, 3, 6-7.


(The two essays by Ruggie are also available in John Gerard Ruggie, *Constructing the World Polity: Essays on International Institutionalization*, Introduction, ch. 5.)


**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS**


Hendrik Spruyt, *The Sovereign State and Its Competitors*.

Elizabeth Kier, *Imagining War: French And British Military Doctrine Between The Wars*.

Margaret E. Keck and Katherine Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders*.


Martha Finnemore, *The Purpose of Intervention: Changing Beliefs about the Use of Force*.


**MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED NOVEMBER 3 AND DUE NOVEMBER 10!**

**Psychology and Strategic Choice** (Nov. 10)


(B) R. Harrison Wagner, *War and the State*, ch. 1.


**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS**


Thomas C. Schelling, *Arms and Influence*.

Robert Jervis, *The Logic of Images in International Politics*. 7
Jonathan Mercer, *Reputation and International Politics*.
Robert Jervis, *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*, remainder of parts II and III.
Dan Reiter, *Crucible of Beliefs: Learning, Alliances, and World Wars*, ch. 1-3.
Larson, Deborah W. *The Origins of Containment: A Psychological Explanation*.
Dominic D. P. Johnson, *Overconfidence and War: The Havoc and Glory of Positive Illusions*

**Domestic Politics I: The Democratic Peace** (Nov. 17)

(B) Emmanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace*.
(B) Michael W. Doyle, “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs,” in Michael E. Brown et al., eds., *Debating the Democratic Peace*, pp. 3-57.


(B) Dan Reiter and Allan C. Stam, *Democracies at War*, ch. 1-3, 8.

**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS**

Michael E. Brown et al., eds., *Debating the Democratic Peace*, chapters by Owen, Layne, Spiro, Farber and Gowa, and Oren (includes most of the prominent arguments against the existence of a relationship between democracy and peace).

Bruce Russett and John Oneal, Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations, read ch. 1-2, skim ch. 3-5.


**Domestic Politics II: Foreign Economic Policy** (Nov. 24)


**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS** (including miscellaneous readings on domestic politics and foreign policy)


Louis Hartz, The Liberal Tradition in America, ch. 11.

Jack Snyder, Myths of Empire, ch. 1-2.

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita et al., The Logic of Political Survival, ch. 1.


Hein E. Goemans, War and Punishment: War Termination and the First World War.


**Causes of War** (Dec. 1)


(B) Robert Gilpin, War and Change in World Politics, ch. 1 and 5.
(B) Robert Jervis, *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*, pp. 62-76.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

Douglas Lemke, *Regions of War and Peace*, ch. 2. (assigned earlier)
Dale Copeland, *The Origins of Major War*.
Fred Charles Iklé, *Every War Must End*.

**Current Trends in International Relations** (Dec. 8)