

WEEK 1

- International Relations (IR): Sub-field of Political Science

- Why study IR?

- World divided into independent states → people affect the way others think → find a way to co-exist
- States involved in economics → relations must be stable
- Cut out not an option, people suffer
- Multi-polar world → BOP, MAD
- State & Non-state actors
- Ambassadors ↗
- Kings, Queens / Roman Empire / City-States Era finished.
→ open diplomacy, so IR needed

- IR vs IP

- City states
- Roman Empires
- King's & Queens era
- Secret diplomacy

WEEK 2

1648

- Westphalian Treaty to end European wars, and form nation states → separation of church and affairs of the state
- Sovereign: Having abs power
→ sovereign
- Features of Nation-State system:
 - Sovereignty → Internal → right to order the behaviour of citizens / External → carry out desired role in IR based on policies
→ National Interest being abs
 - Nationalism → citizens to draw benefits from the nation, and in return remain loyal to the state → cause of WWI, II.
 - Territorial Integrity → Nation conceptualized as a territorial entity → chief responsibility → protection of citizens → defensible units + internally pacified areas.
 - Sovereign Equality of all nation-states → Equal legal status & rights → international Actors
- Decline of Nation-State Systems:
 - Globalisation → must accept for development → influence all other factors listed below
 - Increased Interdependence → nations dependent on each other e.g.: trade / resources
 - Universalism → nation's interest, and other nations' interests must align e.g.: disarmament
 - International Integration → cooperate with others to achieve development objectives → trade blocs, BRICS → common goals like human rights → UNICEF
 - Nuclear Age → Alliances of non-nuclear states.
 - Limiting National Power → failure of local wars ... Indo-Pak, Arab-Israel → world public opinion, International Morality, International Law influence
 - Influence of Strong States → U.S.A (economy, IT revolution, globalisation, nuclear power, space age), dependency of other states
 - Rise of NSAs (NGOs, Transnational bodies) → influence activities, and national interests → allow for nation-state system to be alive

Week 3 + 4

- Realism:
- World is Anarchic - Absence of central authority
- States are autonomous → no inherent structure / society can emerge to order relations b/w them
- Emphasizes power as determinant of international politics

Four principles:

- Survival is everything
- States are rational actors → act the best they can in order to maximise their likelihood of continuing to exist.
- Assuming all states possess some military capacity
- Great Powers rule the world

NeoRealism:

- More scientific than classical realism
- Structure of International system has the most influence

3 Principles:

- Ordering principle is anarchic, not hierarchical → absence of central authority → self-help system → states compete for security & survival through military power
 - Each state is a separate and autonomous unit.
 - Distribution of capabilities are unequal, and shifting → BOP.
- Neo → more security-oriented.
Real → power in itself at the end.

Liberalism:

- Give people as much liberty + freedom as possible

Principles:

- Peace is achieved by spreading democratic institutions globally
- Natural harmony of interests - "Invisible hand" → states making international and national interests the same.
- Disputes resolved by judicial procedures under rule of law.
- Promotion of collective security

Neoliberalism:

- Institutional liberalism
- Broader sense of "security" oriented unlike Neo-realism
- States consistently act according to values than power

Week 5

BOP:

- Equilibrium of Power
- Preventing states from dominating each other
- Ensuring relative peace by deterring potential conflicts

Ways to achieve BOP

- Divide & Rule
- Compensations
- Armaments
- Alliances
- Balancer

Internal Balancing:

- States enhance their military capacity
- Develop internal resources to counter potential threats
- Enhance defensive capabilities independently

External Balancing:

- Form alliances with other states
- Seek external support against common threats
- Collaborate to counter balance powerful rivals.

* Week 6

- Foreign Policy: Method to engage in discussion, negotiation, diplomatic interactions
- Purpose:
 - Promoting and protecting national interest
 - Attempting to reduce unfavourable conditions
 - Foster relations
- ↑
- Objectives:
 - Promoting national unity and integrity
 - fulfilling citizen's interests within and beyond border
 - Develop sustainable relations
 - Protect national sovereignty
 - Achieve honour and competitive edge in international market
 - Economic and technological cooperation
 - Maintaining global dignity & sentiments.
- Internal Determinants:
 - Geography
 - Culture and history
 - Public mood
 - Economy
 - Technology
 - Leadership
 - Bureaucracy
 - Social Structure
- External:
 - International Organizations
 - International Standing
 - International grouping
 - Global public opinion
 - Perceptions of other countries

Week 7

- Diplomacy: A method of communication b/w govt to maintain IR.
- Tasks:
 - Determine a state's objective and available power
 - Assess other states' objectives and power
 - Determine compatibility of objectives
 - Employ suitable means to achieve objectives
- Economic Diplomacy:
 - After cold-war
 - focus on trade, economic cooperation, transcend political differences (US-China relationship)
- Future:
 - crucial for IR
 - Diplomats lay groundwork
 - challenged by technology & direct communication b/w leaders