

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON®

# EXAMINATION BOOK

Mid-term 1

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SUBJECT International Relations 203

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First Exam, PS 203, Spring 2006  
Introduction to International Relations  
Professor James Caporaso

INSTRUCTIONS. PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME AND THE NAME OF YOUR TA ON THE FRONT OF THE BLUEBOOK. PROCEED TO THE FIRST PAGE AND BEGIN THE EXAM. IF YOU MAKE ANY NOTES OR OUTLINE YOUR ANSWER, DO NOT CROSS THIS MATERIAL OUT, AND DO NOT TEAR OUT ANY PAGES. IF YOU DO SO, IT WILL INVALIDATE YOUR EXAM. YOU HAVE UNTIL 11:20 TO COMPLETE YOUR EXAM. EXAMS WILL BE COLLECTED PROMPTLY AT THAT TIME. Budget your time carefully. My suggestion is to spend 15-20 minutes on Part I and 30-35 minutes on Part II. Good luck.

Part I. Short Identifications. Please answer five of the seven IDs. Give a brief description and explain the significance of the term in question. Two to three sentences should be adequate for each one. (30 points)

- (1) unipolarity -
- (2) security dilemma -
- (3) irredentism -
- (4) absence of peripheries -
- (5) Warsaw Treaty Organization -
- (6) The enemy of my enemy is my friend -
- (7) Balance of power -

Part II. Essays. Please answer just one of the following two questions. Label clearly which question you have selected. Be explicit about the use of both lecture and reading material in your answer. (70 points)

(1) Nationalism has been singled out as a major cause of wars, especially since the end of the Cold War. To what extent has nationalism contributed to war since 1990? Evaluate the importance of nationalism and assess its importance in relation to other causes of war at the first and third levels of analysis.

(2) What are Mearsheimer's main arguments in "Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War"? Has the post Cold War period (1990 and after) validated or invalidated Mearsheimer's view? In what ways? Be sure to present Mearsheimer's views about the Cold War itself. What was desirable about it and why does he think we will miss it?

5 1) Unipolarity - A systemic level of analysis, where there is one great power, referred to as a hegemon, that ~~is~~ is more powerful than its surrounding states/countries.

Significance: At the moment, the globe is in a state of unipolarity with the United States as its hegemon.

2) Security dilemma - A situation that is created between states where they fear for their own safety, and do not trust the actions of other states. What usually results from this is the build up of arms so countries feel more secure.

Significance: This is one of the causes of war, where leaders ~~people~~ misjudge the other countries' intentions ~~and~~

4 3) Irredentism - The annexation of a certain land due to prior ownership ~~of~~, religious or cultural importance.

Significance: This was the case with the Sudetenland and Germany. Germany wanted to obtain the land due to the ~~previous~~ previous and at that time present occupation of Germanic people in the area.

This is an example of significance

Absence of Peripheries: the lack of a grey area where political policies are clear and mis calculations of countries' actions are minimal.

5 Significance: This refers directly to the bipolar structure of the Cold War, where there <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ a lack of political confusion that sometimes occurs from a multipolar structure.

~~"The enemy of my enemy is my friend" - A realist point of view, states that~~

5.) Warsaw Treaty Organisation: An eastern europe and Soviet alliance to counter the Nato ~~Power~~

Organization; ~~states~~ ~~that~~ it is a military pact ~~that~~ where if one of the countries ~~that~~ gets attacked in the organisation, the others will provide military assistance.

Significance: was created at the end of ~~the 11th / 12th century~~

Beginning of cold war, Nato is still an active organization in today's world

- China
- India
- Bipolar structure

## Article chosen - #2

~~the~~ Mearsheimer's article "Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War" shocked many people when it first came to print. The reason for this was because at that moment in time, people were afraid of the Cold War and the destruction it might bring. But, never the less, Mearsheimer made many valid statements about the strength in ~~between~~ the balance of powers that the bipolar structure of ~~the~~ the Cold War brought.

~~the~~ In this bipolar structure there were two main global powers, Russia and the United States, that had economic and military superiority over everyone else. A key factor in their power layed with the two countries nuclear weapons abilities. In Mearsheimer's article, he argued that the bipolar structure created a sound global situation due to the absence of peripheries. This way, ~~the~~ smaller, ~~less~~ powerful countries lined up on one side or the other. From this ~~point~~ point, the process of tension escalation to war would not occur due to no countries comparitive advantage over the other and the situation of mutually assured destruction (MAD).

Mearsheimer's explanation of why the bipolar structure was so sound and that we will soon miss it is very valid. Since ~~the~~ 1990~~s~~, which is

the date of the end of the cold war, the United States ~~has~~ emerged as a hegemon in a Unipolar ~~and~~ international society. In the past ~~to~~ In these 10 to 15 years we have wielded our powerful ~~the~~ strength and acted without the consent of others in the global society, causing many countries to oppose our actions. Along with these countries oppositions come the rise of another great power, China. Due to our severe military ~~spending~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~because~~ of our hegemonic actions overseas (like Iraq), we have slowed economic growth and the thought of China catching up to us is real.

With the ~~opposed~~ international opposition to ~~our~~ the U.S's actions and the rising threat of China, it is possible that WWIII could be created. ~~It is a stretch, but these are the fears that were~~ ~~made~~ ~~edged~~ by Mearsheimer ~~in~~ of ~~the~~ ~~world~~ ~~is~~ an unstable multipolar world much like the world of 1913 which lead to WWII.

You need better examples of post cold war validation. What about the ethnic conflicts in the Balkans post cold war? Doesn't that validate Mears...