

J2P216: International Cooperation and Conflict

Spring 2016

Time: Thu/Fri, 12:15-14:00

Place: M 2150 (Thu) / M S050 (Fri)

Instructor: Reto Wüest

Email: reto.wuest@unige.ch

Office Hours: Wed, 13:00-15:00

Course Website: <http://retowuest.github.io/j2p216/>

Description

This seminar is an introduction to the analysis of international conflict and cooperation. The seminar begins with a review of the levels at which states interact and the primary theoretical paradigms in the field. It then addresses how states achieve cooperation in the face of international anarchy and how bargaining breakdowns, commitment and information problems can lead to conflict. We also explore psychological perspectives and the role of leaders, domestic politics, and international institutions in international cooperation and conflict.

Resources

Readings

Course Website

Piazza

Grading

Schedule

Introduction to International Relations

MARCH 3: INTRODUCTION

Required Readings

- Walt, Stephen M. 1998. "International Relations: One World, Many Theories." *Foreign Policy* 110: 29-46.

MARCH 10: LEVELS OF ANALYSIS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Required Readings

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Further Readings

- James, Patrick. 1995. "Structural Realism and the Causes of War." *Mershon International Studies Review* 39(2): 181-208.

MARCH 17: COOPERATION IN THE FACE OF ANARCHY

Required Readings

- Grieco, Joseph, Robert Powell and Duncan Snidal. 1993. "The Relative-Gains Problem for International Cooperation." *American Political Science Review* 87(3): 727-743.
- Wendt, Alexander. 1992. "Anarchy is what States Make of it: The Social Construction of Power Politics." *International Organization* 46(2): 391-425.
- Jervis, Robert. 1978. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics* 30(2): 167-214.

Further Readings

- Milner, Helen. 1991. "The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique." *Review of International Studies* 17(1): 67-85.
- Powell, Robert. 1994. "Review: Anarchy in International Relations Theory: The Neorealist-Neoliberal Debate." *International Organization* 48(2): 313-344.
- Axelrod, Robert and Robert O. Keohane. 1985. "Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions." *World Politics* 38(1): 226-254.
- Hurd, Ian. 1999. "Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics." *International Organization* 53(2): 379-408.
- Lake, David A. 2007. "Escape from the State of Nature: Authority and Hierarchy in World Politics." *International Security* 32(1): 47-79.

Why Do States Bargain?

MARCH 24: COMMERCE

Required Readings

- Gowa, Joanne and Edward D. Mansfield. 1993. "Power Politics and International Trade." *American Political Science Review* 87(2): 408-420.
- Gartzke, Erik. 2007. "The Capitalist Peace." *American Journal of Political Science* 51(1): 166-191.

Further Readings

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APRIL 7: TERRITORY

Required Readings

- Walter, Barbara F. 2003. "Explaining the Intractability of Territorial Conflict." *International Studies Review* 5(4): 137-153.
- Simmons, Beth A. 2005. "Rules over Real Estate: Trade, Territorial Conflict, and International Borders as Institution." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49(6): 823-848.
- Branch, Jordan. 2011. "Mapping the Sovereign State: Technology, Authority, and Systemic Change." *International Organization* 65(1): 1-36.
- Carter, David B. and H. E. Goemans. 2011. "The Making of the Territorial Order: New Borders and the Emergence of Interstate Conflict." *International Organization* 65(2): 275-309.

Further Readings

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APRIL 14: IDEOLOGY

Required Readings

- Lake, David A. 1992. "Powerful Pacifists: Democratic States and War." *American Political Science Review* 86(1): 24-37.
- Bukovansky, Mlada. 1999. "The Altered State and the State of Nature: The French Revolution and International Politics." *Review of International Studies* 25(2): 197-216.

Further Readings

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APRIL 21: IDENTITY

Required Readings

- Huntington, Samuel P. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72(3): 22-49.
- Henderson, Errol A. and Richard Tucker. 2001. "Clear and Present Strangers: The Clash of Civilizations and International Conflict." *International Studies Quarterly* 45(2): 317-338.

Further Readings

- Posen, Barry R. 1993. "The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict." *Survival* 35(1): 27-47.
- Gagnon, V. P., Jr. 1994/95. "Ethnic Nationalism and International Conflict: The Case of Serbia." *International Security* 19(3): 130-166.
- Snyder, Jack and Karen Ballentine. 1996. "Nationalism and the Marketplace of Ideas." *International Security* 21(2): 5-40.

Why Does Bargain Fail?

APRIL 28: BARGAINING THEORY

Required Readings

- Powell, Robert. 2002. "Bargaining Theory and International Conflict." *Annual Review of Political Science* 5: 1-30.

Further Readings

- Muthoo, Abhinay. 2000. "A Non-Technical Introduction to Bargaining Theory." *World Economics* 1(2): 145-166.
- Reiter, Dan. 2003. "Exploring the Bargaining Model of War." *Perspectives on Politics* 1(1): 27-43.

MAY 5: UNCERTAINTY

Required Readings

- Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.
- Levy, Jack S. 1983. "Misperception and the Causes of War: Theoretical Linkages and Analytical Problems." *World Politics* 36(1): 76-99.

Further Readings

- Gartzke, Erik. 1999. "War Is in the Error Term." *International Organization* 53(3): 567-587.

- Garfinkel, Michelle R. and Stergios Skaperdas. 2000. "Conflict without Misperceptions or Incomplete Information: How the Future Matters." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 44(6): 793-807.
- Leventoglu, Bahar and Ahmer Tarar. 2008. "Does Private Information Lead to Delay or War in Crisis Bargaining?" *International Studies Quarterly* 52(3): 533-553.

MAY 12: COMMITMENT PROBLEMS

Required Readings

- Powell, Robert. 2006. "War as a Commitment Problem." *International Organization* 60(1): 169-203.

Further Readings

- Walter, Barbara F. 1997. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51(3): 335-364.
- Lake, David A. 2010/11. "Two Cheers for Bargaining Theory: Assessing Rationalist Explanations of the Iraq War." *International Security* 35(3): 7-52.
- Findley, Michael G. and Joseph K. Young. 2011. "Terrorism, Democracy, and Credible Commitments." *International Studies Quarterly* 55(2): 357-378.

MAY 19: MOBILIZATION

Required Readings

- Fearon, James D. 1997. "Signaling Foreign Policy Interests: Tying Hands versus Sinking Costs." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41(1): 68-90.
- Slantchev, Branislav L. 2005. "Military Coercion in Interstate Crises." *American Political Science Review* 99(4): 533-547.

Further Readings

- Debs, Alexandre and Nuno P. Monteiro. 2014. "Known Unknowns: Power Shifts, Uncertainty, and War." *International Organization* 68(1): 1-31.

MAY 26: DOMESTIC POLITICS

Required Readings

- Putnam, Robert D. 1988. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games." *International Organization* 42(3): 427-460.
- Fearon, James D. 1994. "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes." *American Political Science Review* 88(3): 577-592.

Further Readings

- Schultz, Kenneth A. 1998. “Domestic Opposition and Signaling in International Crises.” *American Political Science Review* 92(4): 829-844.
- Chiozza, Giacomo and H. E. Goemans. 2004. “International Conflict and the Tenure of Leaders: Is War Still ‘Ex Post’ Inefficient?” *American Journal of Political Science* 48(3): 604-619.
- Jackson, Matthew O. and Massimo Morelli. 2007. “Political Bias and War.” *American Economic Review* 97(4): 1353-1373.
- Weeks, Jessica L. 2008. “Autocratic Audience Costs: Regime Type and Signaling Resolve.” *International Organization* 62(1): 35-64.

Conclusion

JUNE 2: TBA