



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
INTP374: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY**

TRIMESTER 1 2011
28 February to 2 July 2011

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 28 February to 3 June 2011
Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 1 May 2011
Study week: 6–10 June 2011
Examination/Assessment period: 10 June to 2 July 2011
There is no final examination for this course.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

Dr Robert Deuchars
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Office hours: Tuesday 3-4 pm; Friday 11am-12 noon

Class times and locations

Seminar time: Tuesday 10:00 -11:50

Seminar venue: Hugh McKenzie 003

Course Delivery

The course has one seminar per week. The seminar is scheduled for one hour and fifty minutes and will involve a lecture and seminar-style class discussions.

Communication of Additional information

Information on any changes will be announced in lectures and posted on the Programme notice Board

Course content

Week 1 March 1	International Relations Theory: An Introduction
Week 2 March 8	Modernity, Knowledge and International Relations
Week 3 March 15	Why does theory matter in International Relations?
Week 4 March 22	Theorising the World Political Order
Week 5 March 29	Theorising the World Market
Week 6 April 5	Theorising Global Civil Society
Week 7 April 12	Theorising the World through Marxism
Mid Trimester Break	
Week 8 May 3	Postmodernism in International Relations
Week 9 May 10	Thinking about the Constructed Nature of World Politics
Week 10 May 17	Feminist International Relations Theory
Week 11 May 24	International Relations versus the Future: Environmentalism
Week 12 May 31	In-Class Test

Learning objectives

Students completing this course should:

- Be able to recognise and articulate the main IR theories
- Be able to locate those theories in the context of occidental modernity
- Understand the cultural context in which these theories apply
- Be able to relate these theories to the execution of foreign policy
- Be able to understand the main theoretical debates within the discipline

Graduate attributes**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

As with all POLS and INTP courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of critical thinking, creative thinking, communication and leadership. Please consult the Programme website at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/subjects/pols.aspx#grad-attributes> for more details.

Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote a total of 200 hours during the trimester for reading, writing, and researching material for this course. This includes 2 hours of seminars per week.

Group work

There is no assessed group work as a part of this course, although seminars will involve group discussions.

Readings

The book of course readings is available from Student Notes.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 7 February to 11 March 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 3 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

2 short essays (word limit 2500-3000)

First essay due March 29 (30%)

Second essay due May 3 (30%)

1 in-class test on Tues 31 May (40%)

Short Essays (due March 29 and May 3)

- b) The essays are for you to develop your analytical capabilities and your research skills at greater length/time. A list of topics will be provided early in the course but you can also choose your own topic in consultation with the course co-ordinator. No late submissions will be accepted unless approved by the course co-ordinator. You are also required to attach the Programme's 'Assignment Cover Sheet' to your essays.

In-class test (Tuesday 31 May)

This is meant to evaluate how well you have realized the course objectives. It is a one hour and fifty-minute, closed-book test.

An aegrotat pass will normally be approved only when a candidate has completed at least 30% of the course assessment.

Return of assignments

The lecturer in class will return all assignments.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays – a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary. These are standard Political Science and International Relations penalties.

Mandatory course requirements

- a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work).
- b) Complete the in-class test.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool, which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

Outline of Lectures

International Relations Theory: An Introduction (Week 1: March 1)

* Steve Smith (1995), 'The Self-images of a Discipline: A Genealogy of International Relations Theory', in Ken Booth and Steve Smith (eds), *International Relations Theory Today*, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania University Press.

Questions:

What does it mean to think theoretically?

Modernity, Knowledge and International Relations (Week 2: March 8)

* James Mensch (1996), *Knowing and Being: A Postmodern Reversal*, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State University Press, Ch1.

* Richard Devetak (1995), 'The Project of Modernity and International Relations Theory', *Millennium*, Vol. 24, No. 1, pp.27-51.

Questions:

What is modernity?

What kind of self seems most appropriate for these world affairs?

Why does theory matter in International Relations? (Week 3: March 15)

* Scott Burchill (1996), 'Introduction', in Scott Burchill and Andrew Linklater (eds.), *Theories of International Relations*, New York, St. Martin's Press.

Questions:

Why do you think there are so many different ways to theorise the "international"?

Which dimension to world affairs do you think is the most important and why?

Theorising the World Political Order (Week 4: March 22)

* Tim Dunne and Brian Schmidt (2005), 'Realism', in John Baylis and Steve Smith (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford, Oxford University Press 3rd ed.

* Ralph Pettman (2001), *World Politics: Rationalism and Beyond*, London, Palgrave, Ch8.

Questions:

Why do you think realism dominates IR theory?

Is Waltz's neo-realism better than more classical realist dialects?

Why do democracies (tend) not fight each other?

Is it fair to say that realism is actually idealism and that idealism is quite realistic?

Theorising the World Market (Week 5: March 29)

* Tim Dunne (2005), 'Liberalism', in John Baylis and Steve Smith (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford, Oxford University Press 3rd ed.

* David Levi-Faur (1997), 'Economic nationalism: from Friedrich List to Robert Reich', *Review of International Studies*, 23, pp.359-370.

* Hugh Stretton (1999), *Economics; a new introduction*, University of New South Wales Press Ltd, pp. 751-752.

Questions:

How is world production currently organized and for whom?

What, if anything, is globalization?

The world market is said to be increasingly liberal. Is this a fair assessment?

The market rules, ok?

Theorising Global Civil Society (Week 6 April 5)

* Ralph Pettman (2001), *World Politics: Rationalism and Beyond*, London, Palgrave, Ch6.

Questions:

Whose global civil society is it anyway?

Is global civil society Kantian idealism at its worst/best?

Are new social movements any "good"?

Mid Trimester Break

Theorising the World through Marxism (Week 7: April 12)

* Karl Marx and Frederick Engels (1848), *The Communist Manifesto*, part 1.

* V. I. Lenin (1916), *Imperialism, the highest stage of capitalism*, Preface to the French and German editions, pp. 69, 73.

Questions:

Is Marxism defunct as a theory of international relations after the collapse of the Soviet Union? Or;

Is Marxism still relevant as a theory of International Relations?

Who does the world's work and why?

What does it mean to be developed?

Postmodernism in International Relations Theory (Week 8: May 3)

* Jim George (1994), *Discourses of Global Politics*, Boulder, Colorado, Lynne Rienner, Ch 1

Questions:

What does postmodernism have to offer International Relations Theory?
Do you think postmodernism has run its course in International Relations Theory?
Do you think postmodern theory is a good reflection of the real world?

Thinking about the Constructed Nature of World Politics (Week 9: May 10)

* Cynthia Weber (2004), *International Relations Theory: A critical Introduction*, London and New York, Routledge, Ch4.

Questions:

Is the world is what we make of it?
To what extent, if any, is reality socially constructed?
Is the world made or found?
Is Wendt wrong?

Feminist International Relations Theory (Week 10: May 17)

* V. Spike Peterson (2003), *A Critical Re-Writing of Global Political Economy*, London and New York, Routledge, Ch4.

* Jan Jindy Pettman (1997), "Gender Issues", in John Baylis and Steve Smith (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Questions:

Why do we need a gendered account of International Relations?
Do liberal feminists help or hinder the feminist cause?
Do you think that feminism is part of a wider problem i.e. race/class/gender?

International Relations versus the Future: Environmentalism (Week 11: May 24)

* M Elsis (2000) 'Zero Population Growth will occur somewhere between 2020 to 2029'

* S Kapitza (2001), 'Population Growth, sustainable Development and the environment'.

* WSSD (2002), 'Key Issues at WSSD: Food and Water'.

Questions:

Are these particular world affairs sustainable?
Is green the new red?
What is Nature?

In Class Test (Week 12: May 31)