

INAF U6800.001 : CONCEPTUAL FOUND OF INTL POLI (3 2011) SYLLABUS[Click to Print This Page](#)**Session 1**

Wednesday - August 25, 2010: 02:42 PM

There are no readings or assignments posted for this day.

Syll_all

Wednesday - August 25, 2010: 02:42 PM

Topic:

Syllabus

Class Plan:

Through a review of major academic writings, lectures, and class discussion, Conceptual Foundations of International Politics examines many of the central concepts, theories, and analytical tools used in contemporary social science to understand and explain international affairs. The theoretical literature is drawn from different fields in the social sciences, including comparative politics, international relations, political sociology and economics; the lecturers include members of the Columbia faculty who are authorities in these fields (as well as, in many cases, experienced practitioners in their own right). The course is designed to enhance students' abilities to think critically and analytically about current problems and challenges in international politics.

Conceptual Foundations is a semester-long course. The lecture/plenary session meets on Monday, and the seminar-style sections also meet every week. Attending lectures and sections is obligatory, and students are required to do the assigned readings before their (6804) section because the readings and lectures form the basis of the discussion sections. Students are expected to know when and where their sections meet.

Assignments:

- Two 6-8 page papers (60%)
- One in-section group debate (20%)
- Active class participation (20%)

The coursepack is available for purchase at the Copy Center. (4th floor IAB)

All course material will be placed on Reserve at Lehman Library.

**September 13: "Do We Really Need Theories of International Relations?"
Stephen Sestanovich**

Stephen Walt, "International Theories: One World, Many Theories," *Foreign Policy* (Spring 1998) (available online)

Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy* (November/December 2004) (available online)

Peter Beinart, *The Icarus Syndrome: A History of American Hubris*, (New York: HarperCollins 2010) p.15-37

Kishore Mahbubani, "The Case Against the West," *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2008) (available online)

September 20: "Power Politics: Is There Any Other Kind?"

Richard Betts

Hobbes *Leviathan*, *Leviathan* p. 183-201, 223-239

Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (Reading: Addison-Wesley 1979) p.102-128

Edward Hallett Carr, "Realism and Idealism;" Robert Gilpin, "Hegemonic War and International Change;" Geoffrey Blainey, "Power, Culprits, and Arms"; and Osama bin Laden, "Speech to the American People," in Richard K. Betts, ed. *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace*, Third Edition (New York: Pearson-Longman 2008)

John J. Mearsheimer, "The False Promise of International Institutions," in Karen Mingst and Jack Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*, Second Edition) (New York: Norton 2004) p.319-331

Eliot A. Cohen, "Thucydides, Really!" *The American Interest* Volume II, Issue 3 (January/February 2007); and Richard K. Betts, "Not With My Thucydides, You Don't," *The American Interest* Volume II, Issue 4 (March/April 2007)

September 27: "All Regimes Are Not the Same - And Why It Matters"

Michael Doyle

Immanuel Kant, "Perpetual Peace," in Hans Reiss ed., H. B. Nisbet (trans.), *Kant: Political Writings* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1991) p.93-109

Michael Doyle, *Ways of War and Peace* (New York: Norton 1997) p.205-212, 251-300, 474-84, 495-502

Robert Keohane and Lisa Martin, "The Promise of Institutional Theory," *International Security* Volume 20, Issue 1 (Summer 1995) p. 39-51

Robert Jervis, "Theories of War in an Era of Great Power Peace: Presidential Address, American Political Science Association 2001," *American Political Science Review* Volume 96, Issue 1 (March 2002) (available online)

Barack Obama, *Nobel Speech*, December 10 2009 (available online)

October 4: "Is the Balance of Power All In Our Minds?"

Jack Snyder

Alex Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization* Volume 46, Issue 2 (Spring 1992) (available online)

Martha Finnemore, "Constructing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention," in Peter J. Katzenstein, ed., *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1996) p.153-185

Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press 1998) p.39-78

Marc Lynch, "Al-Qaeda's Constructivist Turn," *Praeger Security International* (May 2006) (available online)

Saba Mahmood and Charles Hirschkind, "Feminism, the Taliban and the Politics of Counterinsurgency," *Anthropological Quarterly*, Volume 75 Issue 2 Spring 2002 (available online)

Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?" *The National Interest* Volume 16 (Summer 1989) (available online)

October 11: "States, Markets and the Global Economy"

Jeff Sachs

Paper Questions Distributed in Lecture

Jeffrey D Sachs, *Common Wealth: Economics for A Crowded Planet* (New York: The Penguin Press 2008) p.17-53, 205-226, 227-253

Vincent Ferraro, "Dependency Theory: An Introduction," in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge 2008) p. 58-71

Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson, "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation," *American Economic Review*, Volume 91 (December 2001) (available online)

Jeff Sachs, "Institutions Matter, But Not For Everything" in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge 2008) p.86-91

William Easterly, *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* (New York: Penguin Press 2006) p.37-59

Kenneth Waltz, "Globalization and American Power," *The National Interest* (Spring 2000) (available online)

October 18: "American Primacy: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

Robert Jervis

Robert Jervis, *American Foreign Policy in a New Era* (New York: Routledge 2005) p.79-139

Stephen Brooks and William Wohlforth, *World Out of Balance: International Relations and the Challenge of American Primacy*, (Princeton University Press 2010) p.1-21

Robert Jervis, "Or: How I learned to Stop Worrying," *The National Interest*, November/December 2009 (available online)

National Intelligence Council, "Global Trends 2025," in Robert Art and Robert Jervis eds., *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 10th Edition, (New York: Pearson-Longman) p. 564-71

Barry Posen, "Emerging Multipolarity: Why Should we Care?" in Art and Jervis, eds., *International Politics* (New York: Pearson-Longman) p. 572-576

Walter Russell Mead, "The Jacksonian Tradition and American Foreign Policy," *The National Interest* (Winter

1999/2000) (available online)

October 25: "Political Development and Democratization"

Sheri Berman

Paper Due in Lecture

Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition* (New Haven: Yale University Press 1971) p. 1-16

Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy," *Foreign Affairs* (December 1997) (available online); and Robert Kagan, "The Great Unwashed," *The New Republic* July 7, 2003 (available online)

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Prone to Violence: The Paradox of the Democratic Peace," *The National Interest* (Winter 2005/2006) (available online)

Sheri Berman, "How Democracies Emerge: Lessons from Europe," *Journal of Democracy*, Volume 18, Issue 1, (January 2007); and "The Debate on Sequencing," responses by Thomas Carothers, Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder. (available online)

Carles Boix, "The Roots of Democracy," *Policy Review*, 135 February/March 2006, 3-21 (available on-line)

Amy Chua, "A World on the Edge," *The Wilson Quarterly* (Autumn 2002) (available online)

November 1: Academic Holiday

No Lecture

(No Section on Monday or Tuesday; Section Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

November 8: "Great Powers, Domestic Politics and Cold Wars"

John Coatsworth

John H. Coatsworth, "Central America" in Melvin Leffler and Arne Westad, eds., *Cambridge History of the Cold War* (New York: Cambridge Press 2009) p.201-221

Melvyn P. Leffler, "The Cold War: What Do 'We Now Know'?" *American Historical Review* (April 1999) p.501-24

G. John Ikenberry, "Getting Hegemony Right," *The National Interest* Volume 64 (Spring 2001) (available on-line)

Robert D. Putnam, "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of *Two-Level Games*." *International Organization* 42 (Summer 1988) p.427-435, 456-460

Peter Smith, *Talons of the Eagle: Dynamics of U.S.-Latin American Relations*, Second edition (New York: Oxford, 2000), p.117-42

Greg Grandin, *The Last Colonial Massacre: Mayas, Marxists, and the Cold War in Latin America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004), p.1-17

Piero Gleijeses, *Shattered Hope: The Guatemalan Revolution and the United States, 1944-54* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1991) p.361-94

November 15: "Is Colonialism to Blame for Ethnic Conflict and Failed States?"

Mahmood Mamdani

Debate Questions Distributed in Section

Mahmood Mamdani, *Saviors and Survivors: Darfur, Politics, and the War on Terror* (New York: Random House 2009) p.19-71

Mahmood Mamdani, "Beyond Settler and Native as Political Identities: Overcoming the Political Legacy of Colonialism," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* Volume 43, Issue 4 (October 2001)

Robert H. Jackson and Carl G. Rosberg, "Why Africa's Weak States Persist: The Empirical and the Juridical in Statehood," *World Politics* Volume 35, Issue 1 (October 1982) (available online)

Ian Lustick, "The Absence of Middle Eastern Great Powers: Political "Backwardness" in Historical Perspective," *International Organization*, Volume 51, Issue 4 1997 (available online)

Richard Just, "'We Can't Just Do Nothing: Can a liberal be both opposed to imperialism and devoted to human rights?" *The New Republic* August 27 2009 (available online)

November 22: "Can China's Rise Really Be Peaceful?"

Andrew Nathan

Andrew J. Nathan, "The Truth About China," *The National Interest* 105 (Jan/Feb 2010), pp. 73-80

John Mearsheimer and Zbigniew Brzezinski, "Clash of the Titans" *Foreign Policy* Issue 146 Jan/Feb 2005 p.46-50

Aaron L. Friedberg and Robert S. Ross, "Here Be Dragons: Is China a Military Threat?" *The National Interest* (September-October 2009), p. 19-34

Alistair Iain Johnston, "Is China a Status Quo Power?" *International Security* Volume 27 Issue 4 (Spring 2003) (available online)

Zheng Bijian, "China's 'Peaceful Rise' to Great-Power Status," *Foreign Affairs* (September-October 2005) (available online)

Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations," *Foreign Affairs* (Summer 1993) (available online)

November 29: "What Are International Organizations Good For?"

Elisabeth Lindenmayer

Debates Held in Section

Robert Keohane, "Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge After the Cold War," in Harold Koh and Oona Hathaway, eds., *Foundations of International Law and Politics* (New York: Foundation Press, 2005) p.51-58

Thomas Weiss et al., *The United Nations and Changing World Politics* Sixth Edition (Boulder: Westview Press 2010), p.xlvi-lxv

Report of the Secretary-General, *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All* (New York: United Nations, 2005) p. 3-71

President Obama's Address to the United Nations General Assembly, September 2009 (available online)

Adam Roberts, "A Hundred Little Napoleons: Is Anyone in Charge in Today's Nonpolar World?" *Der Spiegel* 23 (October 2008) (available online)

Thomas Weiss, "Towards a Third Generation of International Institutions: Obama's UN policy," *The Washington Quarterly* (July 2009) (available online)

December 6: "Free Trade: Are the Critics Right?"

Paper Questions Distributed (Posted Online on December 3)

Jagdish Bhagwati, *Free Trade Today* (Princeton University Press 2002) p.1-45

Jagdish Bhagwati, "The Critiques of Capitalism After the Crisis: Myths and Fallacies," Manuscript, Columbia University (September 2009)

Arvind Panagariya, "Miracles & Debacles: In Defense of Trade Openness," Manuscript, Columbia University (December 2003)

Joseph Stiglitz "Social Justice and Global Trade," *Far Eastern Economic Review* (March 2006) p.18-22 (available online)

Joseph Stiglitz, "Globalism's Discontents," *The American Prospect* Volume 13, Issue 1 (January 2002) (available online)

Dani Rodrik "The Cheerleaders' Threat to World Trade" *The Financial Times* (March 27 2007) and Dani Rodrik, "Feasible Globalizations," Harvard University (July 2002) (available online)

December 13: "How to Save the World: Global Public Goods and the Theory of International Cooperation"

Scott Barrett

No Section This Week

Charles Kindleberger, "International Public Goods without International Government." *American Economic Review* 76 1 (March 1986) (available online)

Richard Haass, "The Age of Nonpolarity," *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2008) (available online)

Scott Barrett, "The Problem of Averting Global Catastrophe," *Chicago Journal of International Law*, 6 (2) p.1-26 (Winter 2006) (available online)

Daniel Sarewitz and Richard Nelson, "Three Rules for Technological Fixes," *Nature* 456 p.871-872 (December 2008) (available online)

David Victor et al., "The Geoengineering Option: A Last Resort Against Global Warming?" *Foreign Affairs* (March/April 2009) (available online)

Kenneth N. Waltz, "The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: More May Be Better;" in Richard Betts, ed., *Conflict After the Cold War*, 3rd Edition (New York: Pearson-Longman 2008)

Scott D. Sagan, "The Perils of Proliferation: Organization Theory, Deterrence Theory, and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons," *International Security* Volume 18, Issue 4 (Spring 1994)

December 17: Paper Due

Academic Integrity Statement:

The School of International & Public Affairs does not tolerate cheating and/or plagiarism in any form. Those students who violate the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct will be subject to the Dean's Disciplinary Procedures. Click here to view the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct online.

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/deans_discipline_policy.html

Please familiarize yourself with the proper methods of citation and attribution. The School provides some useful resources online; we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with these various styles before conducting your research:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/code_of_conduct.html

Violations of the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct should be reported to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

Session 3

Friday - December 03, 2010

Topic:

CF Final Paper

Essay #2: :

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Choose one of the three questions below and write an essay of 6-8 pages (1500-2000 words) in length. Please make sure that your essay has a focused argument, cites readings for support, refers to empirical examples, considers alternative explanations and counterarguments, and answers every part of the question. Your essay must be handed in on Friday, December 17 at noon. All late papers will be penalized — there will be no exceptions. Your essay must

- comply with standard formatting rules (1-inch margins, 12 point font, double-spaced text)
- cite readings appropriately (See Writing Guide)
- state the day and time of your 6804 section
- state the name of your discussion section leader

1/ "Nothing will be more important in defining the potential for future global cooperation than the changing distribution of power among major states. The decline of American primacy will be disruptive in many ways, but it will facilitate cooperation on almost all major problems."

Do you agree with this statement? Will a new distribution of power produce a world that is more peaceful, prosperous and politically open, marked by more effective regulation of conflict - or a less liberal and stable world, marked by less cooperation?

2/ While some scholars maintain that Western states and international organizations have aided state formation in the developing world by introducing bureaucratic institutions and norms of economic and political liberalism, or simply by recognizing the sovereignty of post-colonial states, others argue that such external influences distort institutional development, undermine democratic practice and can even lead to "failed states." Explain which side of this debate you find more persuasive. How has the external environment shaped state formation in the developing world?

3/ "Economic and political liberalism can lead to democracy, but not the other way around."

Do you agree with this statement? Discuss the relationship between liberalism and democracy. Must one precede the other? Your answer should explore - and explain - the connection between economic and political development. Be sure to make use of the most important assigned readings that address this issue.

Required Readings:

- **Essay #2 - CF Final Paper** : {Fil: Essay #2 - CF Final Paper|4351036}
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