

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

School of International Studies

Theory of International Relations (IS-402N)

Monsoon 2018

SYLLABUS

Course Teachers:	Professors Rajesh Rajagopalan & Jayati Srivastava	
Class Hours:	Monday, Thursday and Friday, 10:00 to 11:00 AM	
Classroom:	Room 229, SIS-II	
Office:	Prof. Rajesh Rajagopalan Room 218, SIS-I Email: rajesh.sis.jnu@gmail.com	Prof. Jayati Srivastava Room 316, SIS-II Email: jayatis@jnu.ac.in
Office Hours:	One hour after class & by appointment	

Course Description

This course is intended to introduce postgraduate students to theoretical approaches in the discipline of International Relations. The objective is to deal with the major theoretical orientations in the discipline and to give students an appreciation of the major intellectual tools available to them in analysing world affairs. Students are expected to go through the assigned reading before coming to class. Although this is an introductory course, it is at the postgraduate level. For this reason, almost all the assigned readings are original theoretical contributions, not textbooks.

Examinations and Grading

There will be one **mid-semester examination** and a **final examination**, of two hours and three hours duration respectively. The mid-semester examination will be held in late September (date will be announced in class). Since this is an introductory course, there will be no term papers or classroom assignments. The final grade will be computed with 40% weight to the mid-semester examination and 50% to the final examination. **Snap tests**, worth the remaining 10%, will be held without advance notice. There will be **NO** make up for any of these tests except for personal medical reasons, in which case a medical report stating that you are unable to attend the test is needed from the JNU Medical Centre.

Course Outline and Reading List

Most reading materials are available through JSTOR and other electronic sources through the JNU library website. It is your task to access these. Those materials that are not available through these electronic sources will be available at the photocopying store in SIS-II.

Thematic Readings

WEEK 1

What is IR Theory?

Kenneth N. Waltz, "Laws and Theories" in his *Theory of International Politics*; J. David Singer, "The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations" *World Politics*, 14 (1), October 1961, pp. 77-92; Kenneth N. Waltz, "Reductionist and Systemic Theories", in *Theory of International Politics*.

WEEK 2

Classics of Realism

Kautilya, *The Arthashastra*, pp. 541-579; Sun Tzu, *The Art of War*, pp. 72-99; Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue," *History of the Peloponnesian War*; Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, pp. 50-59.

WEEK 3

Realism to Neorealism

Hans J. Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations*, pp. 3-26; Kenneth N. Waltz, "Political Structures", from *Theory of International Politics*, pp. 79-101; Kenneth N. Waltz, "Realist Thought and Neorealist Theory," *Journal of International Affairs* 44 (1) (Spring-Summer 1990), pp. 21-37.

WEEK 4

Defensive, Offensive, Neoclassical and Hegemonic Realism

Fareed Zakaria, "Realism and Domestic Politics," *International Security*, 17 (1) Summer 1992, pp. 177-98; John J. Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, chapters 1 & 2; Gideon Rose, "Neoclassical Realism and Theories of Foreign Policy," *World Politics*, 51 (1), 1998, pp. 144-72; Robert Gilpin, "The Theory of Hegemonic War," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18:4 (Spring 1988), pp. 591-613; Mohammed Ayoob, "Subaltern Realism: International Relations Theory Meets the Third World," Stephanie Neuman, ed., *International Relations Theory and the Third World* (London: Macmillan, 1998), pp. 31-54

WEEK 5

Constructivism

Ian Hurd, "Constructivism," Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal, eds., *Oxford Handbook of International Relations*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008, pp. 298-316; Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics," *International Organization* 46 (2), Spring 1992, pp. 391-425; Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink, "Taking Stock: The Constructivist Research Program in International Relations and Comparative Politics," *Annual Review of Political Science*, 4, 2001, pp. 391-416.

WEEK 6

International Society/English School

Alex J. Bellamy, "Introduction: The English School and International Society," Alex J. Bellamy (ed.), *International Society and its Critics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), pp. 1-26; Hedley Bull, "The Emergence of a Universal International Society" & "The Revolt Against the West," Hedley Bull and Adam Watson, eds., *The Expansion of International Society*, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989, pp. 117-126 & 217-228.

WEEK 7

Liberal Theory in IR

G. John Ikenberry, "Liberal Internationalism 3.0," *Perspectives on Politics* 7:1 (March 2009), pp. 71-87; Kenneth Oye, "Explaining Cooperation Under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies," *World Politics* 38:1 (October 1985), pp. 1-24; Andrew Moravcsik, "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics," *International Organization* 51:4 (Autumn 1997), pp. 513-53.

WEEK 8

Liberal Theory: Democratic Peace

Michael W. Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics," *The American Political Science Review* 80:4 (December 1986), pp. 1151-69.

WEEK 9

Liberal Theory: Interdependence

Robert O. Keohane and Joseph S. Nye, *Power and Interdependence*, pp. 3-31; John R. Oneal and Bruce Russett, "The Kantian Peace: The Pacific Benefits of Democracy, Interdependence and International Organizations, 1885-1992," *World Politics*, 52:1 (October 1999), pp. 1-37.

WEEK 10

Marxist and Gramscian IR

Andrew Linklater, "Marxism," Scott Burchill, Andrew Linklater, et al, eds., *Theories of International Relations*, Hampshire: Palgrave, 2005, second edition, pp. 129-154; Alex Callinicos, "Does Capitalism Need the State System?," *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 20 (4), 2007, pp. 533-549.

WEEK 11

Feminist IR

Jacqui True, "Feminism," Scott Burchill and Andrew Linklater, eds., *Theories of International Relations* (London: Macmillan Press, 1996), pp. 210-251; J. Ann Tickner, "Hans Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism: A Feminist Reformulation," *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 17 (3), 1988, pp. 429-440.

WEEK 12

Non-Western IR: Chinese, Indian, Islamic

Sankaran Krishna, "Race, Amnesia, and the Education of International Relations," *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*, 26 (4) pp. 401-424; Pinar Bilgin, "Thinking Past 'Western' IR?," *Third World Quarterly*, 29 (1), 2008 pp. 5-23; Yan Xuetong, "A Comparative Study of Pre-Qin Interstate Political Philosophy," Yan Xuetong [Daniel A. Bell and Sun Zhe, eds., Edmund Ryden, trans.], *Ancient Chinese Thought, Modern Chinese Power* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011), pp. 21-69; Deepshikha Shahi and Gennaro Ascione, "Rethinking the Absence of Post-Western International Relations Theory in India: 'Advaitic Monism' as an Alternative Epistemological Resource," *European Journal of International Relations*, 2015, pp. 1-22; Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh, "International Relations Theory and the Islamic Worldview," Amitav Acharya and Barry Buzan, eds., *Non-Western International Relations Theory: Perspectives on and Beyond Asia* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2010), pp. 174-196.

WEEK 13

Theorizing Non-Alignment

K.P. Misra, "Towards Understanding Non-Alignment," *International Studies*, 20 (1-2), January-June 1981, pp. 23-37; A. Appadorai, "Non-Alignment: Some Important Issues," *International Studies*, 20 (1-2), 1981, pp. 3-11; Amitav Acharya, "Studying the Bandung Conference from a Global IR Perspective," *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 70 (4), pp. 342-357; Sunil Khilnani, Rajiv Kumar, Pratap Bhanu Mehta, et al, *NonAlignment 2.0: A Foreign and Strategic Policy for India in the 21st Century*, New Delhi: Penguin, 2014, pp. 7-11.

WEEK 14

New Directions in IR Theory

Marvyn Frost, "A Turn Not Taken: Ethics in IR at the Millennium," *Review of International Studies*, 24 (5), 1998, pp. 119-132; Molly Cochran, *Normative Theory in International Relations: A Pragmatic Approach*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-20; Bleiker, Roland (2001), "The Aesthetic Turn in International Political Theory," *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 30 (3), December, pp. 509-533; Amitav Acharya, "Global International Relations (IR) and Regional Worlds," *International Studies Quarterly*, 58, 2014, pp. 647-659; Geoffrey Roberts, "History, Theory and the Narrative Turn in IR," *Review of International Studies*, 32 (4), Oct., 2006, pp. 703-714.

WEEK 15

Great Debates in IR

Morton Kaplan, "The New Great Debate: Traditionalism vs. Science in International Relations," *World Politics*, 19 (1), October 1966, pp. 1-20; Ole Wæver, "The Rise and the Fall of Inter-Paradigm Debate," Steve Smith, Ken Booth and Marysia Zalewski, eds., *International Theory: Positivism and Beyond* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), pp. 149-185.