

Fall 2005  
International Relations 402: Theories of War

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Office Hours: Tu, Th, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to theories, methods and debates related to war, perhaps the most basic subject of International Relations as a discipline. The primary focus is on scholarly research that pertains to international conflict, crisis and war, along with prospects for cooperation. Both historical and contemporary events play a role in the class because theories and concepts sometimes are conveyed most effectively through examples.

This course unfolds in six stages. The first is a general overview of the making of war and peace in the international system. Second, we focus on rivalry, war and peace. The third stage deals with efforts to theorize at the macro-level, with particular attention to power transition. Fourth, we shift to a more micro-level of theory with analysis of ethnopolitical conflict. The fifth stage pertains to unconventional war, namely, terrorism. Sixth, and finally, we look at some articles and book chapters that correspond to the state of the art in the field in very recent years in order to assess how much has been achieved versus what still remains to be learned about war.

Our process of reviewing theories of war will be aided by a few additional sources taken from current events. This will involve very few pages of additional reading and is intended to help make the ideas more clear for a given week through a connection, whenever possible, to unfolding world events.

The mid-term examination will take place on October 18 and have an essay format. The final examination, held on December 8, also will have an essay format and is cumulative (i.e., will cover all material from the start of the semester). (The time of the final examination cannot be altered, so please do not book a flight and then request an earlier exam.) Study guides will be provided so you can prepare effectively for each respective exam. All of the material from the assigned readings and class discussions will be tested on the exams.

The term essay, limited to 20 double-spaced pages, is due in class on December 1. The topic will be worked out with me. A two-page, double-spaced outline of your paper is

due on November 1 or there will be a 20% penalty on the paper grade. The outline should include an overview of what the paper will accomplish along with a tentative set of references that consist of scholarly articles and books. Other sources may be used with permission of the instructor.

This course will depend on effective participation in class from you. Class participation, worth 15% of your final grade, is very important and I expect everyone to read the assignments that appear for each date prior to class that day.

All assignments are subject to change as noted in class, although none is expected at this time.

Be sure to back up all of your computer files. Do not turn in your only copy of any requirement.

### Americans with Disabilities Act

Students requesting accommodations based on disability are required to register with Disability Services and Programs each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP when adequate documentation is filed. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is open Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00. The office is in Student Union 301 and their phone number is 213-740-0776. Students must make their request in the stipulated period prior to an exam.

### Make-up Requirements

There will be no make-up assignments or tests for unexcused absences. Acceptable excuses, meaning medical or family emergencies and official university-related business, must be provided either to me in person, in writing, or by phone before an absence and in writing afterwards in order to be considered. Students who are unable to complete a requirement for legitimate reasons that do not qualify as excused under university guidelines, and who notify me ahead of time may, at my discretion, complete a requirement belatedly. Any requirement turned in on the day that it is due but after class meets will face a 20% penalty. Each additional late day will mean an additional 20% deduction.

### Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to observe all rules of proper classroom conduct. In order to insure an appropriate environment conducive to learning by all: No cell phone calls, incoming or outgoing, are allowed in this class; please turn off your cell phone or set to vibrate.

### Policy on Academic Ethics and Honesty

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting or collaboration, consult the course instructor.

### Required Reading

Please buy the following books. Previous editions of the books are not acceptable as substitutes. These are available at the bookstore:

James F. Hoge, Jr. and Gideon Rose, eds., *Understanding the War on Terror* (New York, NY: Council on Foreign Relations, 2005).

Charles W. Kegley, Jr. and Gregory A. Raymond, *How Nations Make Peace* (New York: Worth, 1999).

Steven E. Lobell and Philip Mauceri, eds. *Ethnic Conflict and International Politics: Explaining Diffusion and Escalation* (New York, NY: Palgrave, 2004).

John D. Orme, *The Paradox of Peace* (New York, NY: Palgrave, 2004).

Ronald L. Tammen et al., *Power Transitions* (New York, NY: Chatham House, 2000).

A limited number of other items have been placed on reserve and are indicated later in this outline.

### Course Requirements

Mid-term Examination (October 18)	20%
Final Examination (December 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m.)	30%
Term Essay (due December 1, two-page outline due November 1)	35%
Attendance and Class Participation	15%

Schedule

August	23	An Overview of the Course
	30	Making War and Peace, I Kegley and Raymond, pp. 1-93
September	6	Making War and Peace, II Kegley and Raymond, pp. 95-199
	13	Making War and Peace, III Kegley and Raymond, pp. 200-254
	20	Rivalry, War and Peace, I Orme, pp. 1-93
	27	Rivalry, War and Peace, II Orme, pp. 95-187
October	4	Macro-Level Theory, I Tammen et al., pp. 3-106 <u>Note:</u> study guide provided for mid-term examination
	11	Macro-Level Theory, II Tammen et al., pp. 107-216
	18	<u>Mid-term Examination</u>
	25	Micro-Level Theory, I Lobell and Mauceri, pp. 1-94
November	1	Micro-Level Theory, II Lobell and Mauceri, pp. 95-179 <u>Note:</u> outline for term essay is due

- 8 Theorizing About Unconventional War, I: The Case of Terrorism  
Hoge and Rose, pp. xii-164
- 15 Theorizing About Unconventional War, II: The Case of Terrorism  
Hoge and Rose, pp. 166-316
- 22 Theorizing About Unconventional War, III: The Case of Terrorism  
Hoge and Rose, pp. 318-432

Note: study guide provided for final examination

- 29 State of the Art in Theory and Practice: Diverse Views

Jack S. Levy, Thomas C. Walker and Martin S. Edwards, "Continuity and Change in the Evolution of War." In Zeev Maoz and Azar Gat, eds., *War in a Changing World* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001), pp. 15-48.

Vasquez, John A., "The Probability of War, 1816-1992." *International Studies Quarterly* (2004) 48: 1-27. (available at [www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/isqu/48/1](http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/isqu/48/1))

Mary Caprioli and Mark Boyer, "Gender, Violence, and International Crisis." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2001) 45: 503-518. (available at JSTOR)

Todd Sandler, "Collective Action and Transnational Terrorism." *World Economy* (2003) 26, 6: 779-802.

Note: Term Essay Due in Class