

METU, DEPT. OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
IR.206 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
INSTRUCTOR: NURİ YURDUSEV

GENERAL INFORMATION

The basic purpose of this introductory course is to provide a general framework for the understanding of contemporary international relations (politics). The course will be organized in two parts: the first one being conceptual and the second one being historical. To this end, the discussion of international politics as a subject and activity will be our first endeavour, concentrating on the basic concepts, actors, elements and institutions. Then comes the contemporary international politics of the twentieth century under which we will be looking at the structure, major features and developments. The topic will be examined under three historical phases, namely pre WWII era, post-WWII era and post-Cold War era.

The course will be conducted on the mode of lecture, though student participation is most welcomed.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to attend the classes and read the assigned readings for each subject. They will be asked to sit for one mid-term examination with 50% weight on the final grade. The final examination will count for the remaining 50% of the final grade.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE

I. International Relations as a Subject and Activity

1. Definition and Scope of International Relations

- Growth of a discipline (International Relations)
- Emergence of the Modern International System
- Concept of a System
- Politics
- National Politics
- International Politics
- Contending approaches to international politics

Readings: Berridge (1997) introduction, Holsti (1995) Ch.I, Wight (1991) pp. 1-24, Hollis and Smith (1990) pp.16-44, Yurdusev (1996) pp.15-55, Yurdusev (1994) pp.143-174.

2. Actors of/in International Politics

- the State (Great Powers, Middle Powers, Minor Powers)

Readings: Berridge ch.1, Holsti ch. 3, Wight (1986) chs.1-5.

- International Organizations (intergovernmental/nongovernmental)
- Transnational Organizations (multinational corporations)

Readings: Berridge ch.3, Holsti ch.3, Wight (1986) chs. 19-20.

-Alliances

Readings: Berridge ch.10, Wight (1986) ch. 12.

-Public opinion

-Individuals

Reading: Holsti ch.11 (pp 260-266, 268-285).

3. Elements of/Factors in/ International Politics

-Power-force -authority

Readings: Berridge ch.6, Holsti ch. 5, Wight (1986)ch. 1.

-Nationalism

Readings: Holsti ch. 3, Wight ch. 1.

-National Interest

Readings: Holsti ch.4, Wight (1986) ch.8

-Economy

-Ideology

-Race

-Structure

Readings: Berridge ch.4, Wight ch 13.

-Sovereignty and Intervention

Readings: Berridge ch. 9, Holsti ch. 9, Wight ch. 18.

4. Institutions of/in International Politics

-Balance of Power

Readings: Berridge ch 10, Wight ch 16

-Diplomacy

Readings: Berridge ch. 11, Holsti ch 6, Wight ch 11

-International Law

Readings: Berridge ch.9, Holsti ch.12

-The UN Peacekeeping- Collective Security and the UN Welfare Network

Readings: Berridge chs.12-13, Wight chs.19-20.

II. Contemporary International Politics

1. International Politics in the First Half of the Twentieth Century

-Instability and the system of the League of Nations

*Readings:*Wight (1986) pp. 200-216, Hinsley (1963)pp. 275-334

3. The post-WWII Era

-Major Developments and Events (a narrative history)

-Distinctive features of International Politics

-The Structure of International Politics (bipolarity versus multipolarity)

-The East-West Confrontation and the Cold War

-Nuclear Weapons

-De-colonization and the Non-Alignment Movement

-The North-South Conflict and Global Division

Readings: Wight pp. 216-293, Berridge pp.24-43, Hinsley (1963) pp. 335-367.

4. The post-Cold War Era

-The Emerging Structure of International Politics

-New Forces in International Politics

Readings: Keohane (1993), pp1-19, 104-126, 381-404.

READING LIST

I. Essential Readings:

Berridge, G.R., *International Politics: States, Power and Conflict since 1945*, 3rd edition (London: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1997).

Wight, M., *Power Politics* (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1986).

Holsti, K.J., *International Politics: A Framework for Analysis* (New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1992).

Hollis, M. and Smith, S., *Explaining and Understanding International Relations* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1990), pp. 16-44.

Yurdusev, A.N., "Uluslararası Yılıpkiler Öncesi" in Atila Eralp (ed) *Devlet, Sistem, Kimlik: Uluslararası Yılıpkilerde Temel Yaklaşımlar* (İstanbul: Yletipim, 1996), 15-55.

Yurdusev, A.N., "The concept of International System as a Unit of Analysis" *METU Studies in Development*, (Vol. 21. No. 1, 1994), pp. 143-174.

II. Supplementary Readings

1. International Politics as a Subject and Activity

Kegley, C.W. and Wittkopf, E.R., *World Politics: Trend and Transformation*, 5th edition (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995), pp.149-196, 371-379, 468-548.

Mayall, J., *Nationalism and International Society* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp.50-69, 111-125.

Morgenthau, H.J., *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*, 6th edition (New York: Alfred A.Knopf, 1985), pp.31-51, 101-114.

Viotti, P. and Kauppi, M.V., *International relations Theory: Realism, Pluralism, Globalism* (New York: Macmillan, 1987).

Waltz, K.N., *Man, the State and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959), pp.1-15, 224-238.

Wight, M., *International Theory: The Three Traditions* (Leicester: Leicester University Press, 1991), pp.1-24.

2. Contemporary International Politics

Beeley, B., "Islam as a Global Political Force", in A.G.McGrew and P.G.Lewis et al, *Global Politics: Globalization and the Nation-State* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 1992).

Berridge, *op.cit.*, pp.24-44.

Gaddis, J.L., "The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International system", *International Security* (vol.10, no.4, 1986), pp.99-142.

Halliday, F., *The Making of the Second Cold War*, 2nd edition (London: Verso, 1986), pp.1-45.

Hinsley, F.H., *Power and the Pursuit of Peace* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1963), pp.275-367.

Huntington, S.P., "The Clash of Civilizations?", *Foreign Affairs* (vol.72, no.3, 1993), pp.22-49. Responses to Huntington, *Foreign Affairs* (vol.72, no.4, 1993), pp.1-26.

Joffé, E.G.H., "'Bismarck' or 'Britain'? Toward an American Grand Strategy after Bipolarity", *International Security* (vol.19, no.4, 1995), pp.94-117.

Kaplan, R.D., "The Coming Anarchy", *The Atlantic Monthly* (February 1994), pp.44-76.

Kegley and Wittkopf, *op.cit.*, supra, pp.73-148, 379-427, 551-565.

Keohane, R.O. et al., *After the Cold War* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1993), pp.1-19, 104-126, 381-404.

Keohane, R.O. and Martin, L.L., "The Promise of Institutional Theory", *International Security* (vol.20, no.1, 1995), pp.39-51.

Koslowski, R., "Understanding Change in International Politics: The Soviet Empire's Demise and the International System", *International Organization* (vol.48, no.2, 1994), pp.215-247.

Kupchan, C.A. & Kupchan, C.A., "The Promise of Collective Security", *International Security* (vol.20, no.1, 1995), pp.52-61.

Lebow, R.N., "The Long Peace, the end of the cold war and the Failure of Realism", *International Organization* (vol.48, no.2, 1994), pp.249-277.

Lewis, B., "The Return of Islam", in his *Islam and the West* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1993).

Lewis, P.G., "Superpower Rivalry and the End of the Cold War", in A.G.McGrew and P.G.Lewis et al. *Global Politics: Globalization and the Nation-State* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 1992), pp.31-44.

Mearsheimer, J.J., "The False Promise of International Institutions", *International Security* (vol.19, no.3, 1994), pp.5-49.

Mearsheimer, J.J., "A Realist Reply", *International Security* (vol.20, no.1, 1995), pp. 82-95.

Risse-Kapen, T. "Ideas Do Not Float Freely: Transnational Coalitions, Domestic Structures, and the End of the Cold War", *International Organization* (vol.48, n.2, 1994), pp.185-214

Roberson, B.A., "Islam and Europe: An Enigma or Myth?", *Middle East Journal* (vol.48, no.2, 1994), pp.288-307.

Ruggie, J.G., "The False Premise of Realism", *International Security* (vol.20, no.1, 1995), pp.62-70.

Viotti, P. R. and Kauppi, M.V. *International Relations and World Politics: Security, Economy, Identity* (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1997).

Wagner, R.H., "What Was Bipolarity?", *International Organization* (vol.47, no.1, 1993), pp.77-106.

Waltz, K.N., *Theory of International Politics* (Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1979), pp.161-210.

Waltz, K.N., "The Emerging Structure of International Politics", *International Security* (vol.18, fall 1993), pp.44-79.