
PHILO. FOUND. OF INTERNAT'L RELATIONS in Fall 2020 (PO5005)

Course Code	PO5005	Professor(s)	Philip Golub
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-L17
Class Schedule	M: 14:30-16:05 in Q-604 R: 09:00-10:35 in Q-604	Office Hours	By appointment
Credits	4	Email	pgolub@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2020	Office Tel. Ext.	cell: 33674575820

Course Description

COURSE DESCRIPTION: International Relations theory (henceforth IR), which emerged as an academic discipline in the context of the First World War and its aftermath, is a field with plural perspectives regarding the way the international/world system works. It is organized around constitutive social scientific concepts: power and conflict, anarchy and order, structures and actors, hierarchy and law and justice. This course explores the philosophical foundations, conceptual frameworks, epistemological assumptions, and evolutions of mainstream and critical currents in IR theory: classical and structural realism; classical liberalism and neoliberal institutionalism; Marxist historical sociological perspectives; cosmopolitanism and globalization theory. Systematic exposure to these plural perspectives through lectures, readings and dialogue will provide students with the intellectual tools required to think rigorously and critically about the international and the global. Students will prepare papers and present their work in class, in dialogue with the Professor and other graduate students. Please note that course contents can evolve, subject to instructor decision and the need to adapt to circumstances.

Course Learning Outcomes

Analytical rigor and precision
Ability to apply philosophical perspectives to problems of world politics
Development of critical thinking
Fluency in IR theoretical frameworks

General Education

These objectives are part of the graduate program's aim to provide rigorous intellectual preparation in the social sciences that, combined with professional training in other courses, will give graduates the tools to contribute to the global dialogue and effectuate change in the twenty first century.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GRADUATE PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND THE COURSE LEARNING

OBJECTIVES:

PO 5005 offers students systematic exposure to the foundational philosophical perspectives that have defined politics as a branch of social enquiry. It aims for fluency in IR theoretical frameworks, the development of critical thinking, and analytical rigor and precision in the definition and unfolding of concepts. Students should thus develop the ability to identify and apply philosophical perspectives in the analysis of problems of world politics.

Course Outline

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Please note that we will be as flexible as possible in the scheduling to make room for creative teaching solutions, when required.

September

Week I – 24th

Course Introduction S1 course materials, course requirements and grading, general conceptual outline

Week II – 28th – 1 October

28 September Introduction S2. The social sciences as interpretive philosophy. Political Philosophy and International

Relations Theory

1 October: Classical Realism: power, violence and the problem of human nature. Topics: Human nature, power and power politics, national interests, insecurity, instrumental rationality, lesser evil, political virtue of prudence.

Readings: Waltz Chapters 1 and 2 (textbook);

Blackboard: Thucydides (the Melian Dialogue), Hobbes (Chapter 13 of Leviathan), Machiavelli (Selections from the Prince);

September 30th – last day to drop/add courses online

October

Week III – 5th – 8th

Classical Realism (2) power, violence and the problem of human nature. Topics: Human nature,

power and power politics, national interests, insecurity, instrumental rationality, lesser evil, political virtue of prudence.

Readings. Hans Morgenthau: The Moral Blindness of Scientific Man (from Scientific Man versus Power Politics); Morgenthau

"Six Principles of political realism" in Politics Among Nations. Machiavelli, The Prince and extracts from the Discourses (BB)

Week IV – 12th – 15th

Structural Realism: structures and world orders. Topics: Positivism in the social sciences, structuralism, systemic constraints and agency (freedom), billiard ball models of unit interaction

Readings: Kenneth Waltz (textbook). Recommended: Robert Keohane,

Introduction in Keohane (ed) Neo-Realism and its Critics (NY, CUP, 1986), John Mearsheimer, The Tragedy of Power

Politics (Introduction and Chapter 1), E.H. Carr, The Twenty Years' Crisis (Introduction and Chapter 1).

Week V – 19th – 22nd

Classical Liberalism. Topics: The Enlightenment, individual freedom and the autonomy of the subject, lawful orders, state and civil society, trade and peace, harmony of interests, interdependence.

Readings (BB): Locke (Chaptrs 5-12 of Second Treatise of Government, Adam Smith (extract from the Wealth of Nations), Rousseau (Chapters 1 through 7 of The Social Contract), Kant (Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Aim (BB)

and What is the Enlightenment?

Week VI – 26th – 29th

Liberalism and IR theory: Topics: Commercial Pacifism, Democratic Peace Theory, International Society. S2. Liberal

interventionism and Liberal internationalism. Key concepts: domestic analogy, cooperation, interdependence and peace, international civil society institutionalization of world politics.

Readings: Kant (Idea for a Universal History, and Perpetual Peace - Textbook). BB: UN Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Woodrow Wilson "Fourteen Points", Michael Doyle, "Liberalism in World Politics", American Political Science Review 80:4:1986; Joseph Schumpeter, Sociology of Imperialism (on line Internet Archive); John S Mill "On intervention".

October 28th, Mid-semester

November

Week VII – 2nd – 5th

2 November: Historical Sociological Perspectives. Marxism and Dependency Theories

Marx' vision of globalization and historical change. Historical patterning of world politics, evolutionary or revolutionary

change?, the global and the national. Imperialism and colonialism, North-South struggles. The structuring of the world since

the nineteenth century into cores and peripheries Readings: Marx: Manifesto (BB), Marx on colonialism (BB), Philip Golub,

Chapter 1 from East Asia's Reemergence; Theotonio Dos Santos, "The Structure of Dependency" (JSTOR).

5 November: Mid-Term Exam

Week VIII – 9th- 12th

Historical Sociological Perspectives. Karl Polanyi and the Great Transformation. Topics: The

breakdown of
the liberal world order in 1914-1918, depression, fascism, communism, and war. Polanyi's
"double movement" provides
essential conceptual tools to understand the early twentieth century trajectory of world politics.
Readings: Polanyi, The Great
Transformation (Introduction and Chapter 1)
November 11 to 13, fall break (no classes)
Week IX – 16th- 19th
Student Presentations of work/research paper
November 16th, Mid-semester grades due
Week X – 23rd – 26th
Contemporary Globalization Theories. Topics: Capitalism and globalization; globalization and
the historical nation states; the
post national hypothesis, transnationality and global governance. Readings: Susan Strange,
The Retreat of the State, CUP,
1996; Czempiel and James Rosenau, Introductory Chapter of Governance without Government:
Order and Change in World
Politics, CUP, 1992. Selected readings on BB.
November 27th, last day to withdraw from a course
last day to choose credit/no credit option
Week XI - 30th – 3 December
Cosmopolitanism and IR theory. Topics: Kantian and post-Kantian cosmopolitanism today.
Readings: Jurgen
Habermas, Kant's Idea of Perpetual Peace with the benefit of two hundreds years' insight; David
Held, "Principles of
Cosmopolitan Order", in The Political Philosophy of Cosmopolitanism, CUP, 2005. Additional
readings to be assigned.
Possible invited speaker
December
Week XI – 7th – 10
Review and synthesis
Work on papers
December 11th, last day of classes,
December 12th - 15th, reading days
December 16th – 22th, Final Exam
January 4nd, all grades due

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
Man, the State and War	Kenneth Waltz	Columbia University Press	9780231125376	Yes
The Marx-Engels	Robert Tucker (ed)	W.W. Norton	9780393090406	No

Reader				
Political Writings	Kant	Cambridge	9780521398374	Yes
		University Press		

Attendance Policy

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, in person or via video conference. In case of absence, they should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Covid-19 temporary amendments:

Students studying at The American University of Paris are STILL EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL scheduled classes. Due to special circumstances related to the Covid-19 pandemic, students will have the option of attending some classes online either in a synchronous or asynchronous format. In general, students are expected to attend at least one class a week in a synchronous format by either being physically present or logged in via the TEAMS online platform during class. It is still the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department.

Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the

Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STATEMENT: As an Anglophone university, The American University of

Paris is strongly committed to effective English language mastery at the graduate level. Most courses require

scholarly research and formal written and oral presentations in English, and AUP students are expected to strive

to achieve excellence in these domains as part of their course work. To that end, professors include English

proficiency among the criteria in student evaluation, often referring students to the university Writing Lab where

they may obtain help on specific academic assignments. Proficiency in English is monitored at various points

throughout the student's academic career, most notably during the admissions and advising processes, while the

student is completing general education requirements, and during the accomplishment of degree program

courses and senior theses.

Grading Policy

Grading

20% Mid-term exam

30% Presentations/debates

50% Term Paper

Other

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GRADUATE PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND THE COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

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