POSC 6601: 701 Core Seminar in International Politics

Fall 2018
Tuesday 4:00 - 6:40 pm
Wehr Physics 418

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Wehr Physics 423 (tel: 8-5991)
OH: TuTh 11:00-1:00; W 2-4 or by appointment
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OBJECTIVES: This core seminar provides a graduate-level introductory overview of the field of International Politics. Students will explore and be able to demonstrate a working understanding of: substantive issues in the field; major theoretical questions, perspectives and debates; and issues of methodology and interpretation of empirical findings.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: The workload for this course is extensive. Regular attendance and participation are essential and expected. Students will complete the assigned readings before class and come prepared to discuss the readings. Preparation includes not only being able to identify and explain the main points of a given article but to have thought about the author’s arguments, the relationships between the week’s readings, and the relationships with earlier readings in the course. The course grade is based on a combination of critical reviews (30 percent), mid semester and final papers (50 percent), and class participation (20 percent).

Critical reviews: Students will prepare four critical review papers during the semester. Each paper will focus on a specific week's required readings. The class will be divided into two groups the first day of class with each group writing review papers on alternating weeks. Week 14 is an optional review week and can be used to replace the lowest grade on a prior review paper.

Review papers will be six to seven double-spaced pages in length and will focus on any five authors of the week’s assigned readings. Papers must be submitted to the class D2L dropbox by noon the day of class. No late papers will be accepted so plan ahead.

Reviews must be written in paragraph form and for each of the five selected authors briefly discuss: 1) the reading’s puzzle/paradox and main argument; and 2) what you see as the reading’s major strength and major weakness and why. Examples of possible strengths and weaknesses can include: the nature and importance of the puzzle/paradox and argument; the logical consistency of assumptions, hypotheses, and argument; the appropriateness of illustration/test of argument; the author’s interpretations of findings and the broader ramifications of the article for the field. Do not simply list the strength or weakness but justify your selection.

Midterm and Final Papers: Each student will write two 10-12 page papers, one due at mid-semester and one at the end of the semester. Topics will be handed out two weeks in advance. The papers will require no outside research and will require students to draw linkages across different weeks of the course. Papers must be submitted to the class D2L dropbox by 5:00 pm on the due date (Midterm paper due Thursday, October 18; Final paper due Friday, December 7). No late papers will be accepted.

Class Participation: Class participation will be based on contributions to class discussion. In addition to general participation, each week that the group is not writing a critical review its members will be responsible for presenting the basic issues and arguments in the readings to the class to start the discussion. All students will be expected to contribute to the subsequent class discussion. Given the length of each class period there will be plenty of opportunities for participation.
Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is an essential feature of university work. All students should familiarize themselves with Marquette’s Academic Integrity policies. 
http://bulletin.marquette.edu/grad/policiesofthegraduateschool/

Plagiarism, including self-plagiarism of prior work for other courses, is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Words and ideas taken from course materials in your written work must include citation using (Author’s last name, year, p. #) at the end of the sentence. The material also must be bracketed by quotation marks if used word for word.

READINGS: There are no books required for purchase for the course. The required readings consist of journal articles and book chapters, many are classic works in the field while others are examples of more recent scholarship. All journal articles except where noted are available electronically through the MU Raynor Library website. Search for the journal title and then the volume and issue number to find and download the file. All books will be placed hard copy on library reserve (Ares password 6601F18). Where the book or journal article is not available through the MU library, the materials will be available on the D2L course website. If there are any problems with access to course materials please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Those students without any undergraduate background in the substantive issues and theories of international relations (IR) are strongly encouraged to meet with the instructor and purchase an undergraduate IR text (such as that used for POSC 2601) and read the relevant sections during the course this.

The readings noted on the syllabus are only a small sample of the extensive literature available on the themes explored in the course. Students interested in pursuing further graduate work in IR are encouraged to explore works noted in the citations in the assigned readings, look at recent issues of the journals in this syllabus, as well as consult with the instructor and other IR faculty in the department.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS:

Week 1: August 28: Introduction
Course basics. This session will not go the full period

Week 2: September 4: Field Overview
[No review; All students come prepared to discuss readings]
Quincy Wright, The Study of International Relations (New York: Appleton –Century-Crofts, 1955), Chapters 1-5 (pp. 3-43). On reserve
PART I: INTERNATIONAL SECURITY:

Week 3: September 11: Realism, the Interstate System, and War
[No Review; come prepared to discuss readings]
Hans Morgenthau, Politics among Nations (New York: Alfred Knopf, 1948), Chapters 1-3, 9-12 (pp. 13-49, 125-166)
Kenneth Waltz, Theory of International Politics (New York: Random House, 1979), Chapters 5-6. (pp. 79-128). On reserve
Robert Gilpin, War and Change in World Politics (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1981), Chapter 1, (pp. 9-49), Chapter 5 (pp. 186-210). On reserve

Week 4: September 18: Cold War: Security Dilemmas, Deterrence, and Rationality
[Group 1 review; Group 2 present]
Thomas Schelling, Arms and Influence (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1966), Chapter 1 (pp.1-34).

Week 5: September 25: After the Cold War: Realism and Interstate Conflict
[Group 2 review; Group 1 present]

Week 6: October 2: After the Cold War: Ethnic Civil Wars and Terrorism
[Group 1 review; Group 2 present]


**Week 7: October 9: Liberalism and the Democratic Peace**

[Group 2 review; Group 1 present]


**Week 8: October 16: Rethinking Anarchy: International Society and Hierarchies**

[No Review; come prepared to discuss readings]


**October 18 (Thursday): Midterm paper due by 5:00 p.m. in class D2L Dropbox**

**PART II: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY**

**Week 9: October 23: Approaches to IPE: Overview**

[No Review; come prepared to discuss readings]


Week 10: October 30: (In)stability in International Trade and Financial Systems
[Group 1 review; Group 2 present]


Week 11: November 6: Domestic Sources of Foreign Economic Policies
[Group 2 review; Group 1 present]


Week 12: November 13: Development
[Group 1 review; Group 2 present]


Week 13: November 20: Globalization
[Group 2 review; Group 1 present]


Week 14: November 27: Backlash to Integration
[No Review [review optional]; come prepared to discuss readings]

Stanley Hoffmann, “Obstinate or Obsolete? The Fate of the Nation State and the Case of Western Europe,” Daedalus, Journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 95 (3) (1966): 862-915. On D2L


Week 15: December 4: Individuals, Behavior, and Change
[No Review; come prepared to discuss readings]


Stephen D. Krasner, “Are Bureaucracies Important? (Or Allison Wonderland),” Foreign Policy 7 (Summer 1972): 159-179


**December 7 (Friday):** Final Paper due by 5:00 p.m. in class D2L Dropbox.