

POL 160 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS STUDY GUIDE 1

D'Anieri Chs. 1 – 4 plus class lectures

Terms to know:

Definition of international relations

Key problem of IR—Reconciling collective v. individual interests

International security and International political economy

Territory, government, sovereignty, population/citizenship

What is a nation? What is a state? Can you have one without the other? Examples?

Taiwan, Palestinian Authority

State actors---the concept of the nation-state

Non state actors---Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), Non governmental organizations (NGO's), Multinational corporations (MNCs), Substate actors, nations/tribes, unrecognized 'states.' Examples of each.

What is a theory? What is the role of theory? What's a paradigm? What are levels of analysis? System level, State level, Substate level, Individual level. What is the difference between empirical/explanatory theory and normative theory?

Pros and cons of "globalization": global free trade and labor markets. Is globalization real and inclusive or more exploitative than traditional economic schools of thought?

History of International Relations development and theory

Role of the Greeks---Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle

The Middle or "dark" ages—role of Christian theology---Augustine, Aquinas

What is feudalism?

The Renaissance---Machiavelli

Age of Absolutism—Hobbes; development of Modern Europe at the end of the 1400s/beginning of the 1500s.

Protestant Reformation---Luther, Calvin

Thirty Years War 1618-1648---Treaty of Westphalia 1648---origin of the sovereign state system in IR.

Why does Europe dominate the world from around 1500 or at least 1650?

The Enlightenment—Locke and the idea of liberalism; Rousseau.

Napoleonic Wars 1799-1814. Concert of Europe 1815 (Congress of Vienna)—balance of power system.

19th century rise of nationalism and imperialism---colonialization—rise of capitalist states (Adam Smith 1776, Mill, Marx). Kant—toward Perpetual Peace, foundation of modern liberal IR theory.

Creation of Italy and Germany as nation states; Prelude to WWI---Crimean War, US Civil War, Franco-Prussian War, Russo Japan War 1905

World War I---major European powers---assassination of Archduke Ferdinand—Austria-Hungary vs. Balkan states vs. Russia vs. Ottoman Empire. The alliances, the trench warfare, Russian Revolution, entry of the US. Treaty of Versailles---imposed harsh reparations on Germany. Called for League of Nations. Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points, later rejected.

Global depression 1930s, Rise of fascism—Spanish Civil War, Mussolini in Italy; Hitler in Germany-- the Anschluss, the Munich Accords (1938), the Pact of Steel (1939), Invasion of Poland (1939) Policy of "Appeasement" by British and French. WW II—1939-1945. Allies v. Axis powers. Atomic age begins. War in the Pacific. Stalingrad. The Holocaust. End of WWII. Yalta Declaration. Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech. Creation of Israel and redrawing of the modern Middle East. Indian independence, Gandhi and the partition of India/Pakistan and ultimately Bangladesh.

The Cold War—U.S. led rebuilding of Europe—Marshall Plan; Bretton Woods conference 1946---GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade), the IMF (International Monetary Fund,) and IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development—the "World Bank"). Formation of the Warsaw Pact and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), proxy wars---Korea, Berlin crisis, Cuban Missile Crisis, VietNam, Prague Spring, Afghanistan. Mutually assured destruction (MAD) Collapse of the USSR---the end of History?---21st century concerns over international security---terrorism, asymmetric warfare. Rise of China.

Theories of IR: Realism, Liberalism (liberal institutionalism), Structuralism (Marxism), Constructivism; Feminism/postmodernism.

What is realism?

What is idealism/liberal IR theory?

Realist theoretical history---Sun Tzu, Thucydides, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Hans Morgenthau Sr.

Power---defined, measured, elements of power---overall GDP, military strength, natural resources, geography, population, alliances and political characteristics, national "will"

The International System---anarchy and sovereignty

The "security dilemma"

Polarity---unipolar, bipolar, multipolar conceptions...causes of war, balance of power

Hegemony and hegemonic stability

Alliances, regional security treaties, collective security.

Rationality and the assumption of rational actors

Prisoner's dilemma and the zero-sum v. non zero sum game---game theory and IR.

Why reject realism? Can nation states avoid war and conflict?

Evidence of an evolving international system---less war, more cooperation, more interdependence since WW II and post Cold War.

Immanuel Kant---Peace Theory----it is in nation states own interest to favor cooperation over conflict. How to do so?

- Develop an international governance framework
- Internal societies must move toward democracy to restrain executives/monarchs from making war
- More trade and economic interdependence brings peace.

The “neoliberal” approach---putting Kant into action

Concedes: States are unitary actors, with self interested motives and anarchy prevails in the international system BUT it is still in the interests of nation states to cooperate. Modern applications of Kantian theory: Collective security arrangements; Democratization; Further development of the UN, regional and global trade agreements, global health, etc.

Economic Structuralism (Marxism)—based on class structure, not nation states. Economic exploitation of workers by capital owners (bourgeoisie). Dependencia theory. Leninism—colonialization exploited domestic labor throughout Europe in the 19th and early 20th century.

Constructivism---Huntington “Clash of Civilizations” Assumptions change.

Conclusions in IR often based on ad hoc views of the world at time X. --Focuses on how states define their national interest as a product of culture, history, population, immigration...national interest is a fluid concept

Feminism---focus on the exploitation of women in IR /global politics. Focus on the individual and family

Postmodernism—skeptical of all claims of objective theoretical reality. Context provides different answers for different observers.