

Theories and Concepts in International Relations

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Course description

Rather than examining well-known IR theories, this BA course explores world politics through different key concepts like interdependence, power, order, ideas or gender to explore how they can better help us grasp international relations. We examine what each concept helps to explain, their limits and trade-offs, how concepts travel across regions, historical periods, and issue areas, and how to mobilise them to study international affairs in a (still) interconnected world.

Each core concept is presented through a series of related and sub-concepts - like soft power, structural power, infrastructural power and relational power - that are discussed in interactive student-led sessions. By focusing on these concepts, the course cultivates the ability to compare arguments, identify core conceptual claims, and connect theoretical debates to illustrative cases. By the end, students will read IR scholarship critically and will be able to analyze and use core concepts to investigate world politics.

Organisation of the Course

This course will be run as a seminar course. It is aimed to be inquiry-based, discussion-driven and student-led. Hence, attendance, engagement and reading are crucial in this course. The seminar method is intended to hone a number of skills—the ability to do close readings of texts, to identify core issues, to engage in critical analysis and discussion, to practice input presentations and academic writing. The course will be held in English (including assessment, i.e. presentation and papers).

The course runs over 11 sessions, starting on 27 April 2026. For each session, ‘core readings’ are provided. All students are expected to engage with these core texts as these are the basis for discussion in the seminar. If you want to gain a deeper understanding of a topic, I encourage you to have a look at ‘advanced readings’ – especially for preparing presentations as well as writing your papers.

Course overview: Theories and Concepts in International Relations

date	session	poster topics
27 April	1 - order	hegemony anarchy hierarchy liberal international order multipolarity bipolarity
4 May	2 - power	structural power discursive power relational power infrastructural power soft power monetary power realism
11 May	3 - CIPE Lecture	<i>The AI Matrix: Profits, Power, Politics (Daniel Mügge & Regine Pauls)</i>
28 May	4 - ideas	norms ideology epistemic communities discourse constructivism liberalism knowledge
25 May	(public holiday)	
1 June	5 - institutions	IOs regime theory historical institutionalism path dependence institutional change sociological institutionalism
8 June	6 - interdependence	complex interdependence weaponized interdependence dependency theory globalization derisking/decoupling
15 June	7 - governance	global governance private authority regulation multi-level governance multilateralism legitimacy transnationalism
22 June	8 - security	autonomy securitization theory security dilemma risk/uncertainty peace
29 June	9 - the market	capitalism neoliberalism state capitalism commodification financialization varieties of capitalism state-market dichotomy
6 July	10 - gender	feminist IR intersectionality social reproduction gendered division of labour depletion
13 July	11 - (post)colonialism	Marxism world-system theory racial capitalism imperialism Eurocentrism decolonization neo-colonialism uneven development

Examination

For a '**Teilnahmeschein**', every student is asked to:

- Regularly attend the seminar
- Do the required readings for each session
- Submit the take-home exercises
- Prepare a **poster presentation**

For a '**Leistungsschein**', every student is asked to:

- Regularly attend the seminar
- Do the required readings for each session
- Submit the take-home exercises
- Prepare a **poster presentation**
- Prepare a **paper outline** by 13 July 2026 (500 words)
- Write a **paper** by 30 September 2026 (3000 words)

Poster presentation

Given the large number of students in this course, we will do poster sessions instead of PowerPoint presentations. The idea is that posters provide inputs into different aspects of that week's concept – providing us with a more nuanced perspective.

Everyone creates a physical poster for a specific topic. Please sign up to **one** of the topics below.

You can either do your poster digitally and then print it in a copy-shop or buy some flipchart paper and do it by hand (it must be legible though). Several copy-shops close to university will be able to print your poster, you can also do this on Monday morning. In any case, you should bring your poster in physical form and in size DIN A1 or DIN A0 and also prepare a 3min summary of the poster.

How the poster sessions work:

- Setup: we will have a poster session of 25-30min where 5-6 people put up their posters (I'll bring tape) and the rest of the class does a gallery walk.
- For presenters: If people stop at your poster, you give your 3min input and – this is the most important part – answer follow up questions.
- For non-presenters: Your task is to learn about other's work. Read posters, listen to summaries, and ask lots of questions!

Here are also two short videos by an academic youtuber on how to make a conference poster with some good examples:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwiTqrVfDFU> (until 7:45min, afterwards is very conference-specific)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6jJPT_dr3k

Paper and paper proposal

Students doing a 'Leistungsschein' are expected to develop and write a paper which critically analyses a specific issue. This issue can be an extension of your presentation but does not have to be. You are free to choose your topic, but please consult with the lecturer about your paper idea during office hours. To ensure that papers are manageable and critically engage with the chosen topic (instead of mere description), students have to write a paper outline and discuss this with the lecturer.

The **paper outline** (500 words; excluding references) should address the following questions:

- (1) What is the topic? (e.g. Wall Street in China)
- (2) What is the argument/puzzle? (e.g. global finance accommodates China's non-liberal financial system despite growing US pressures to decouple, because X,Y, Z)
- (3) How to analyse the topic/support your argument? (e.g. by looking at China's market opening policies, global investment flows and business operations of Wall Street in China, using indicators A, B and C)
- (4) Which literature/data/sources do you engage with? (e.g. financial news articles from Financial Times, Bloomberg; research by key authors D, E and F on the politics of global finance and/or China's political economy, data from annual reports/website of US investment banks, financial data from Chinese central bank)

Of course, your argument is tentative at this point and might change/develop once you further conduct your analysis. But you need to have an idea of what you want to argue and how you aim to provide evidence for your argument before you start writing. This is what the paper outline aims to do. We will discuss in more detail how to write such a paper outline during the course.

The **final paper** is supposed to be between **2,500-3,000 words** (excluding references). Please note that papers should not be shorter than 2,500 words or longer than 3,000 words. The aim of this paper is to present the argument that you have developed in a clear and concise fashion. Usually this requires you to revise your paper after the initial writing process, (re)evaluating which aspects of your text are crucial for your argument and which can be omitted as they are only tangential or superfluous. You might decide to delete (or add) words/ paragraphs to streamline your argument or make your writing more concise by deleting filler words. While shorter than your average 'Hausarbeit', this does not mean that this paper is less work.

A note on style – the aim is for your paper to look more or less like an academic article, including:

- (1) a title page with name, title, abstract, keywords

- (2) structuring your paper through sections (usually, an introduction, discussion of existing literature, concepts/theory and/or methods, followed by your empirical analysis¹ (not description), a conclusion and references) and
- (3) following the general style of journal articles with respect to how to properly cite your sources, formatting etc.

Some textbooks on IR

There is no textbook for this course. However, the following books provide good overviews of International Relations:

Baylis, J., P. Owens & S. Smith (2023) *The Globalization of World Politics* (9th Edition). Oxford University Press.

Berenskötter, F. (2025) *Concepts in International Relations: A New Introduction*. Sage.

Frieden, J. A., D. A. Lake, K. A. Schultz, S. D. Hyde & S. J. Rickard (2018) *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions* (6th Edition) W.W. Norton.

Nau, H. R. (2019) *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*. CQ Press.

Pevehouse, J. C., S. E. Kreps, E. D. Mansfield & J. S. Goldstein (2025) *International Relations* (13th Edition). Pearson.

Roach, S. C. & A. D. Barder (2024) *International Relations: The Key Concepts* (4th Edition). Routledge.

The different types of readings in this course

The ‘**core readings**’ are provided via OLAT. All students are expected to read these texts as they are the basis for seminar discussion.

Each session also has a series of ‘**advanced readings**’. Since you will select and implement a specific method in your research projects, you are expected to consult the appropriate ‘advanced readings’ independently while writing your research designs/papers. This material is uploaded on OLAT.

Office hour

Office hours are every Monday before the seminar, 2pm-3pm in my office (PEG 3.G 008). Alternatively, we can arrange something via Zoom.

¹ Analysis not description; your empirical work needs to be guided by your theoretical/conceptual approach.

Reading list

Session 1 – order

Poster presentations:

hegemony | anarchy | hierarchy | liberal international order | multipolarity | bipolarity

Core readings:

Berenskötter, F. (2025) 'Studying (with) Concepts', in: F. Berenskötter (ed.) *Concepts in International Relations*. SAGE (Chapter 2, pp. 13-27).

Lascurettes, K. M., & M. Poznansky (2021) 'International Order in Theory and Practice', in: N. Roy (ed.) *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. Oxford University Press.

Roach, S. C. & A. D. Barder (2024) *International Relations: The Key Concepts* (4th Edition). Routledge ('order', pp. 299-289).

Advanced readings:

Acharya, A. (2018). *The end of American world order* (2nd edition). Polity Press.

Bull, H. (2012). *The anarchical society: A study of order in world politics*. Columbia University Press.

Colgan, J. D., & Keohane, R. O. (2017). The liberal order is rigged: Fix it now or watch it wither. *Foreign Affairs*, 96(3), 36–44.

Cooley, A., & Nexon, D. (2020). *Exit from hegemony: The unraveling of the American global order*. Oxford University Press.

Cox, R. W. (1981). Social forces, states and world orders: Beyond international relations theory. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 10(2), 126–155.

Glaser, C. L. (2019). A flawed framework: Why the liberal international order concept is misguided. *International Security*, 43(4), 51–87

Goddard, S. E. (2018). Embedded revisionism: Networks, institutions, and challenges to world order. *International Organization*, 72(4), 763–797

Ikenberry, G. J. (2001). *After victory: Institutions, strategic restraint, and the rebuilding of order after major wars*. Princeton University Press

Ikenberry, G. J. (2011). *Liberal Leviathan: The origins, crisis, and transformation of the American world order*. Princeton University Press.

Lake, D. A. (2009). *Hierarchy in international relations*. Cornell University Press

McKeil, A. (2020). On the concept of international disorder. *International Relations*. 1–19

- Norrlof, C. (2010). *America's global advantage: US hegemony and international cooperation*. Cambridge University Press
- Ruggie, J. G. (1992). Multilateralism: The anatomy of an institution. *International Organization*, 46(3), 561–598
- Rupert, M. (1995). *Producing hegemony: The politics of mass production and American global power*. Cambridge University Press
- Schweller, R. L., & Pu, X. (2011). After unipolarity: China's visions of international order in an era of US decline. *International Security*, 36(1), 41–72.
- Strange, S. (1987). The Persistent Myth of Lost Hegemony. *International Organization*, 41(4), 551-574.
- Zarakol, A. (2010). *After defeat: How the east learned to live with the west*. Cambridge University Press
- Zarakol, A. (Ed.). (2017). *Hierarchies in world politics*. Cambridge University Press.

Session 2 – power

Poster presentations:

structural power | discursive power | relational power | infrastructural power | soft power
| monetary power | realism

Core readings:

Guzzini, S. (2022). 'Power in World Politics', in: E. Hannah (ed.), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press.

Roach, S. C. & A. D. Barder (2024) *International Relations: The Key Concepts* (4th Edition). Routledge ('power', pp. 322-325).

Advanced readings:

Allen, A. (2002). Power, subjectivity, and agency: Between Arendt and Foucault. *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 10(2), 131–149

Baldwin, D. A. (1985). *Economic statecraft*. Princeton University Press.

Baldwin, D. A. (2016). *Power and international relations: A conceptual approach*. Princeton University Press

Barnett, M., & Duvall, R. (2005). Power in international politics. *International Organization*, 59(1), 39–75.

Berenskoetter, F. & M. Williams (eds.), *Power in world politics*. Routledge.

Bially Mattern, J. (2008). The concept of power and the (un)discipline of international relations. In C. Reus-Smit & D. Snidal (Eds.), *The Oxford handbook of International Relations* (pp. 691–698). Oxford University Press

Bourdieu, P. (1989). Social space and symbolic power. *Sociological Theory*, 6(1), 14–25.

Cohen, B. J. (2008). The international monetary system: diffusion and ambiguity. *International Affairs*, 84(3), 455-470.

Culpepper, P. D. (2015). Structural power and political science in the post-crisis era. *Business and Politics*, 17(3), 391-409.

Dahl, R. A. (1957). The concept of power. *Behavioural Science*, 2(3), 201–215

DuBois, M. (1991). The governance of the third world: A Foucauldian perspective on power relations in development. *Alternatives*, 16(1), 1–30.

Goddard, S. E., MacDonald, P. K., & Nexon, D. H. (2019). Repertoires of statecraft: Instruments and logics of power politics. *International Relations*, 33(2), 304–321.

Hurrell, A. (2007). *On global order: Power, values, and the constitution of international society*. Oxford University Press.

- Lukes, S. (1974). *Power: A radical view*. Macmillan.
- Mann, M. (1984). The autonomous power of the state: its origins, mechanisms and results. *European Journal of Sociology*, 25(2), 185-213.
- May, C. (1996). Strange fruit: Susan Strange's theory of structural power in the international political economy. *Global Society*, 10(2), 167-189.
- Mearsheimer, J. J. (2001). *The tragedy of great power politics*. W.W. Norton
- Nye, J. S., Jr. (1990). Soft power. *Foreign Policy*, 80, 153–171
- Reed, I. A. (2013). Power: Relational, discursive, and performative dimensions. *Sociological Theory*, 31(3), 193-218.
- Strange, S. (1996). *The retreat of the state: The diffusion of power in the world economy*. Cambridge University Press.
- Waltz, K. N. (1990). Realist thought and neorealist theory. *Journal of International Affairs*, 44(1), 21–38.

Session 3 – CIPE Lecture Series

The AI Matrix: Profits, Power, Politics – book launch with Daniel Mügge & Regine Pauls

Core readings:

Mügge, D., R. Pauls & V. Stan (2025) *The AI matrix: Profits, power, politics*. Agenda Publishing (Chapter 1 – but feel free to read parts or the rest of the book if you want!).

Advanced readings:

Brass, I., & Hornsby, D. J. (2018). Digital technological innovation and the international political economy. In: *The Palgrave handbook of contemporary international political economy*. Palgrave Macmillan (pp. 615-631).

Crawford, K. (2021) *Atlas of AI: Power, Politics, and the Planetary Costs of Artificial Intelligence*. Yale University Press.

Langley, P., & Leyshon, A. (2017). Platform capitalism: The intermediation and capitalisation of digital economic circulation. *Finance and Society*, 3(1), 11–31.

Zuboff, S. (2018) *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*. Harvard University Press.

Session 4 – ideas

Poster presentations:

ideology | epistemic communities | discourse | constructivism | liberalism | knowledge | identity | contestation

Core readings:

Diez, T., Bode, I., & Da Costa, A. F. (2011). 'Ideas and norms', in: T. Diez, I. Bode, & A.F. Da Costa (eds.) *Key Concepts in International Relations*. SAGE (pp. 100-104).

Gholiagha, S., P. Orchard & A. Wiener (2025). 'Introduction', in: S. Gholiagha, P. Orchard, & A. Wiener (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Norms Research in International Relations*. Oxford University Press (Introduction).

Advanced readings:

Acharya, A. (2004) How Ideas Spread: Whose Norms Matter? Norm Localization and Institutional Change in Asian Regionalism. *International Organization* 58 (Spring): 239–275.

Börzel, T. A., Gerschewski, J., & Zürn, M. (2024). *The Liberal Script at the Beginning of the 21st Century: Conceptions, Components, and Tensions*. Oxford University Press.

Finnemore, M. and K. Sikkink (1998) 'International Norm Dynamics and Political Change', *International Organization* 52 (4), 887–917

Gholiagha, S., Orchard, P., & Wiener, A. (Eds.). (2025). *The Oxford Handbook of Norms Research in International Relations*. Oxford University Press.

Goddard, S. E., Krebs, R. R., Kreuder-Sonnen, C., & Rittberger, B. (2024). Contestation in a World of Liberal Orders. *Global Studies Quarterly*, 4(2), ksae026.

Haas, P. M. (1992). Introduction: epistemic communities and international policy coordination. *International Organization*, 46(1), 1-35.

Hall, R. B. (1999). *National collective identity: Social constructs and international systems*. Columbia University Press.

Laffey, M. and J. Weldes (1997) 'Beyond Belief: Ideas and Symbolic Technologies in the Study of International Relations', *European Journal of International Relations*, 3 (2), 193–237.

Owen, J. M. (2010). *The clash of ideas in world politics: Transnational networks, states, and regime change, 1510–2010*. Princeton University Press

Slobodian, Q. (2018). *Globalists: The end of empire and the birth of neoliberalism*. Harvard University Press

- Wendt, A. (1992). 'Anarchy is what states make of it: The social construction of power politics', *International Organization*, 46, 391–426.
- Wiener, A. (2008) *The Invisible Constitution of Politics: Contested Norms and International Encounters* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Session 5 – institutions

Poster presentations:

IOs | regime theory | historical institutionalism | path dependence | institutional change
| sociological institutionalism | the state | civil society

Core readings:

Duffield, J. (2007). What Are International Institutions? *International Studies Review*, 9(1), 1-22.

Elsässer, J. P., Hickmann, T., & Kang, Y. H. (2025) 'Institutional Complexity in World Politics', in N. Roy (ed.) *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. Oxford University Press.

Advanced readings:

Barkin, J. S., & Cronin, B. (1994). The state and the nation: changing norms and the rules of sovereignty in international relations. *International Organization*, 48(1), 107-130.

DiMaggio, P. J., & Powell, W. W. (1983). The Iron Cage Revisited: Institutional Isomorphism and Collective Rationality in Organizational Fields. *American Sociological Review*, 48 (2), 147-160.

Fioretos, O., Falleti, T. G., & Sheingate, A. (2016). *The Oxford Handbook of Historical Institutionalism*. Oxford University Press.

Katzenstein, P. J. (1989). International relations theory and the analysis of change. In E.-O.Czempiel & J. N. Rosenau (Eds.), *Global changes and theoretical challenges* (pp. 291–304).

Krasner, S. D. (1983). *International regimes*. Cornell University Press.

Mahoney, J., & Thelen, K. (2009). *Explaining Institutional Change: Ambiguity, Agency, and Power* (J. Mahoney & K. Thelen, Eds.). Cambridge University Press.

March, J. G., & Olsen, J. P. (1998). The institutional dynamics of international political orders. *International Organization*, 52(4), 943–969

Morgan, G., Crouch, C., Pedersen, O. K., & Whitley, R. (Eds.). (2010). *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Institutional Analysis*. Oxford University Press.

Pierson, P. (2000). Increasing Returns, Path Dependence, and the Study of Politics. *American political science review*, 94(2), 251-267.

Powell, W. W., & DiMaggio, P. J. (Eds.). (1991). *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis*. University of Chicago Press.

- Schmidt, V. A. (2010). Taking ideas and discourse seriously: explaining change through discursive institutionalism as the fourth 'new institutionalism'. *European Political Science Review*, 2(1), 1-25.
- Steinmo, S., K. Thelen, & F. Longstreth (eds.) (1992). *Structuring Politics: Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Analysis* (pp. 1-32). Cambridge University Press.
- The Oxford Handbook of Historical Institutionalism*. Oxford University Press.

Session 6 – interdependence

Poster presentations:

complex interdependence | weaponized interdependence | dependency theory | globalization | derisking/decoupling

Core readings:

Roach, S. C. & A. D. Barder (2024) *International Relations: The Key Concepts* (4th Edition). Routledge ('interdependence', pp. 199-201).

Spindler, M. (2014) 'Interdependence', in: S. Schiedler & M. Spindler (eds.) *Theories of International Relations*. Routledge (pp. 56-75).

Advanced readings:

Beck, U. (2018). *What Is Globalization?* Polity Press.

Cardoso, F. H., & Faletto, E. (1979). *Dependency and development in Latin America*. University of California Press.

Clemens, W. (1998). *Dynamics of International Relations: Conflict and Mutual Gain in an Era of Global Interdependence*. Rowman & Littlefield.

Drezner, D. W., Farrell, H., & Newman, A. L. (eds.). (2021). *The Uses and Abuses of Weaponized Interdependence*. Brookings Institution Press

Farrell, H., & Newman, A. L. (2019). Weaponized Interdependence: How Global Economic Networks Shape State Coercion. *International Security*, 44(1), 42-79.

Ghosh, B. N. (2019). *Dependency Theory Revisited*. Routledge.

Holtz, D., Zhao, M., Benzell, S. G., Cao, C. Y., Rahimian, M. A., Yang, J., . . . & Aral, S. (2020). 'Interdependence and the cost of uncoordinated responses to COVID-19', *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(33), 19837–43.

Hurrell, A., & Woods, N. (eds.) (1999). *Inequality, Globalization, and World Politics*. Oxford University Press.

Johnson, K., & Gramer, R. (2020). The Great Decoupling. *Foreign Affairs*, 14 May.

Kahler, M. (2016). Complex governance and the new interdependence approach (NIA). *Review of International Political Economy*, 23(5), 825-839.

Kenen, P. (1995). *Understanding Interdependence*. Princeton University Press.

Keohane, R. O. (1984). *After hegemony: Cooperation and discord in the world political economy*. Princeton University Press.

Keohane, R. O., & Nye, J. S. (1987). Power and Interdependence revisited. *International Organization*, 41(4), 725-753.

- Keohane, R. O., & Nye, J. S., Jr. (1977). *Power and interdependence: World politics in transition*. Little Brown
- Liang, Y. (2010). Interdependency, Decoupling, and Dependency. *International Journal of Political Economy*, 39(1), 28-53.
- O'Meara, P., Mehlinger, H., & Krain, M. (eds.) (2000). *Globalization and the Challenges of a New Century*. Indiana University Press.
- Oatley, T. (2019). Toward a political economy of complex interdependence. *European Journal of International Relations*, 25(4), 957-978.
- Steger, M. B. (2017) *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction* (Vol. 86), Oxford, Oxford University Press

Session 7 – governance

Poster presentations:

global governance | private authority | regulation | multi-level governance |
multilateralism | legitimacy | transnationalism

Core readings:

Rosenau, J. N. (1995). Governance in the Twenty-First Century. *Global Governance*, 1, 13-39.

Neumann, I. B. (2019). *Concepts of International Relations, for Students and Other Smarties*. University of Michigan Press (Chapter 9).

Advanced readings:

Avant, D. D., Finnemore, M., & Sell, S. K. (eds.) (2010). *Who governs the globe?* Cambridge University Press

Cutler, A. C., Haufler, V., & Porter, T. (1999). *Private Authority and International Affairs*. SUNY Press.

Diehl, P. (1997). *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organisations in an Interdependent World*. Lynne Rienner.

Green, J. F. (2014). *Rethinking private authority: Agents and entrepreneurs in global environmental governance*. Princeton University Press.

Hale, T., & Held, D. (2011). *Handbook of transnational governance*. Polity.

Hurd, I. (1999). Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics. *International Organization*, 53(2), 379-408.

Keck, M. E., & Sikkink, K. (1998). *Activists beyond borders: Advocacy networks in international politics*. Cornell University Press

Keohane, R. O. (2006). The contingent legitimacy of multilateralism. In E. Newman, R. Thakur, & J. Tirman (Eds.), *Multilateralism under challenge: power, international order, and structural change* (pp. 56-76). United Nations University Press.

Kratochwil, F. (2006). On Legitimacy. *International Relations*, 20(3), 302-308.

Lake, D. A. (2010). Rightful Rules: Authority, Order, and the Foundations of Global Governance. *International Studies Quarterly*, 54(3), 587-613.

Neumann, I. B., & Sending, O. J. (2010). *Governing the global polity: Practice, mentality, rationality*. University of Michigan Press

Roger, C., & Dauvergne, P. (2016). The rise of transnational governance as a field of study. *International Studies Review*, 18(3), 415-437.

- Rosenau, J. N., & E.-O. Czempiel (eds.) (1992). *Governance without Government: Order and Change in World Politics*. Cambridge University Press.
- Sending, O. J. (2015). *The politics of expertise: Competing for authority in global governance*. University of Michigan Press
- Urpelainen, J. (2010). Regulation under Economic Globalization. *International Studies Quarterly*, 54 (4): 1099.1121.
- Wilkinson, R. (ed.) (2005). *The global governance reader*. Routledge.
- Zürn, M. (2018). *A theory of global governance: Authority, legitimacy, and contestation*. Oxford University Press

Session 8 – security

Poster presentations:

autonomy | securitization theory | security dilemma | risk/uncertainty | peace | violence

Core readings:

Buzan, B. & L. Hansen (2009) *The Evolution of International Security Studies*. Cambridge University Press (Chapter 1).

Advanced readings:

Abrahamsen, R., & M. C. Williams. 2010. *Security beyond the State: Private Security in International Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Baldwin, D. A. (1995). Security studies and the end of the cold war. *World Politics*, 48, 117–41.

Bilgin, P. (2024). Thinking globally about (the study of) security. In P. Bilgin & K. Smith (Eds.), *Thinking globally about world politics: Beyond Global IR*. Palgrave.

Booth, K. (2007). *Theory of world security*. Cambridge University Press.

Buzan, B. (1991). *People, States and Fear: The National Security Problem in International Relations*. Lynne Rienner Press.

Buzan, B. & L. Hansen (2009) *The Evolution of International Security Studies*. Cambridge University Press.

Buzan, B., O. Wæver & J. Wilde (1998) *Security: A New Framework for Analysis*. Lynne Rienner.

Finnemore, M. (2003). *The purpose of intervention: Changing beliefs about the use of force*. Cornell University Press.

Kolodziej, E. A. (2005) *Security and International Relations*. Cambridge University Press.

Leander, A. (2005). The power to construct international security: On the significance of private military companies. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 33(3), 803–82

Nyman, J. (2023). Towards a global security studies: What can looking at China tell us about the concept of security? *European Journal of International Relations*, 29(3), 673–697.

Williams, Paul D. (ed.) (2008) *Security Studies: An Introduction*. Routledge.

Session 9 – the market

Poster presentations:

capitalism | neoliberalism | state capitalism | commodification | financialization | varieties of capitalism | state-market dichotomy

Core readings:

O'Brien, R. & M. Williams (2025) *Global Political Economy: Evolution & Dynamics*. Bloomsbury (Chapter 2).

Strange, S. (1988). *States and markets: An introduction to International Political Economy*. Basil Blackwell (Prologue).

Advanced readings:

Blyth, M. (eds) (2009) *Routledge Handbook of International Political Economy: IPE as a Global Conversation*, Routledge.

Brassett, James, Juanita Elias, Lena Rethel, & Ben Richardson (2022). *I-PEEL: The International Political Economy of Everyday Life*. Oxford University Press.

Chen, M., & Petry, J. (2023). What about the dragon in the room? Incorporating China into international political economy (IPE) teaching. *Review of International Political Economy*, 30(3), 801-822.

Clift, B. (2021) *Comparative Political Economy: States, Markets and Global Capitalism*. Bloomsbury.

Hall, P. A., & Soskice, D. (Eds.). (2001). *Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage*. Oxford University Press.

Hannah, E. & J. Ravenhill (eds) (2024) *Global Political Economy* (7th edition). Oxford University Press.

Mader, P., Mertens, D., & Van der Zwan, N. (2020). *The Routledge International Handbook of Financialization*. Routledge.

May, C., D. Mertens, A. Nölke & M. Schedelik (2024) *Political Economy: Comparative, International, and Historical Perspectives*. Springer.

O'Brien, R. and Williams, M. (2020) *Global Political Economy* (6th edition). Red Globe Press.

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- Stubbs, R. and Underhill, G. (2006) *Political Economy and the Changing Global Order* (3rd edition) Oxford University Press.
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- Watson, M. (2005) *Foundations of International Political Economy*, Palgrave Macmillan.

Session 10 – gender

Poster presentations:

feminist IR | intersectionality | social reproduction | gendered division of labour | depletion

Core readings:

Shepherd, L. J. (2023) (Why) Gender Matters in Global Politics, in: L. J. Shepherd and C. Hamilton (eds.) *Gender Matters in Global Politics: A Feminist Introduction to International Relations* (3rd edition). Routledge (pp. 60-74)

True, J. (2017) 'Feminism and Gender Studies in International Relations Theory', in: *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. Oxford University Press.

Advanced readings:

Ackerly, B.A, and True, J. (2008) An Intersectional Analysis of International Relations: Recasting the Discipline. *Politics and Gender* 4 (1), 1–18.

Bakker, I., and Gill, S. (eds.) (2003) *Power, Production and Social Reproduction*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Enloe, C. (1989) *Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*. Pandora.

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Jones, A. (1996). Does 'gender' make the world go round? Feminist critiques of international relations. *Review of International Studies*, 22(4), 405–429.

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Peterson, V. S. (2003) *A Critical Rewriting of Global Political Economy: Integrating Reproductive, Productive and Virtual Economies*. Routledge

Peterson, V.S. (ed.) (1992) *Gendered States: Revisions of International Relations Theory*. Lynne Rienner Press.

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Rai, S. M. (2024) *Depletion: The Human Costs of Caring*. Oxford University Press.

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Session 11 – (post)colonialism

Poster presentations:

Marxism | world-system theory | racial capitalism | imperialism | Eurocentrism | decolonization | neo-colonialism | uneven development | orientalism

Core readings:

Gurminder K. Bhambra, G. K. (2026) Colonialism. In: D. Stockemer et al. (eds.) *IPSA Companion to Political Science*.

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Advanced readings:

Bhambra, G. K. (2014). Postcolonial and decolonial dialogues. *Postcolonial Studies*, 17(2), 115–121.

Bhambra, G. K. (2020). Colonial global economy: towards a theoretical reorientation of political economy. *Review of International Political Economy*, 28(2), 307–322.

Chowdhry, G. & S. Nair (eds.) (2002) *Power, Postcolonialism and International Relations: Reading race, gender and class*. London and New York: Routledge.

Dos Santos, T. (1970). The structure of dependence. *American Economic Review*, LX(2), 231–236

Fanon, F. (2004). *The Wretched of the Earth*. Translated by Richard Philcox. Grove Press.

Getachew, A. (2019). *Worldmaking after empire: The rise and fall of self-determination*. Princeton University Press.

Grovogui, S. (2016). *Beyond Eurocentrism and anarchy: Memories of international order and institutions*. Springer.

Jones, B. G. (2006). *Decolonizing International Relations*. Rowman and Littlefield.

Krishna, S. (2009). *Globalization and postcolonialism: Hegemony and resistance in the 21st century*. Rowman & Littlefield.

Kvangraven, I. H. (2021). Beyond the Stereotype: Restating the Relevance of the Dependency Research Programme. *Development and Change*, 52(1), 76–112.

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