UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR:
INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SYLLABUS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

OBJECTIVE
This seminar provides an introduction to the academic discipline of International Relations. Its principal focus is not to teach facts about international politics but to introduce the basic concepts of and theoretical approaches to the study of international politics. Through a systematic analysis of two international issues, using models and hypotheses derived from various theories, we will practice the process of scientific inquiry.

STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION:
The seminar is composed of four sections. First, we will develop a language that allows us to address our object of study – international politics – in a scientific fashion, thus laying the groundwork for the generation of both descriptive and explanatory knowledge (sessions 1 - 4). Second, student working groups will generate and present descriptive knowledge on two international issues (“cases”) (session 5). Third, through a combination of student presentations and class discussion, we will reflect on five prominent theoretical approaches to the study of international politics (sessions 6 - 10). During the final phase of the seminar (sessions 11 - 14), we will attempt to generate explanatory knowledge by synthesizing theory and empirical observation. Specifically, we will ask which theoretical approach can contribute what to explaining each of the international issues. Every student will join two working groups: a case study group and a theory group.
The case study groups will focus on one of the following international issues:

- the Iraq crisis and the 2003 Iraqi War,
- the (temporary) suspension of the 8th round of trade negotiations (Doha Round).

Analyzing the Iraq crisis we seek to examine the explanatory power of different theoretical approaches, with special emphasis on the escalation of this conflict into a war between the United States / Great Britain and Iraq.

When analyzing the suspension of the Doha round, we seek to explain non-cooperation among WTO member states, i.e. the lack of support for continued “deepening” of the international trade regime.

Each theory group will focus on one theoretical approach. A theory is an intellectual tool that provides us with a way to organize the complexity of the world and helps us to see how phenomena are causally interrelated. Theories, which are sometimes also called models, therefore simplify reality, thus helping us to separate the important from the trivial by pointing out what we really wish to look at and what is unimportant enough to ignore. Due to the fact that there is not enough time to study every single theoretical approach in the seminar, we will basically concentrate on four “schools of thought”, i.e. realism, institutionalism, liberalism, and constructivism.

By the end of the 10th session every participant of the seminar will have a general knowledge of the two cases and five different theoretical approaches while he or she is an "expert" for one case and one theoretical approach.

The lecture course (Tuesday, 4-6 p.m.) complements the seminar. It provides an in-depth presentation of the theories discussed in the seminar. In addition, the lecture introduces students to research methodology. Therefore, the lecture course is an integral part of the seminar and you are expected to attend it. The final written exam also covers the contents of the lecture course.

Working-Group Tasks:
During the first session every student will be assigned to two working-groups: a case-study group and a theory-group.

NB: For respective deadlines, please refer to the separate handout.

a) Presentation of an issue

Several groups are formed for each of the issues depending on the number of participants. One group has to present the issue during the fifth seminar session. The group has 30 minutes for its oral presentation followed by comments and discussion. The other groups have to deposit an approximately 10-page written summary of their case in the seminar file. The summary has to include the description of the case as well as selected materials and dates. The bibliography included in this syllabus provides a selection of articles and books which will make achieving this task easier.

The presentation and handout should contain information about:
- the issue and its origins,
- the evolution of the issue and the course its management has taken,
- how the issue was dealt with (outcome).

b) Theoretical approaches

The seminar focuses on five theoretical approaches. There will be at least one working-group for each theory.

The groups’ tasks are to: (1) carefully study the texts mentioned in this syllabus with a view to summarizing and presenting the basics of each theory (for the detailed questions to be asked see below); (2) formulate questions that were raised during the reading of the texts and the reconstruction of the theories (also taking into account the lecture course); (3) formulate general and case-specific hypotheses (see below), which can be used for the analysis of the cases; (4) carefully reflect on the contributions (or lack thereof) that a feminist perspective brings to bear on the issues raised by the respective theory.

The following questions should be addressed when presenting a theory:
• What are the basic assumptions concerning international politics and the international system?
• Does the theory identify causally relevant structures in international or domestic politics and, if so, what are they?
• Which actors are at the center of attention and what motivation do these actors have for their actions according to the theory?
• On what phenomena of international politics does the theory focus?
• Which hypotheses are suggested by, or could be derived from, the theory?
• How well does the theory seem to live up to its task of explaining contemporary international relations?
• What does a feminist perspective add to the propositions advanced by the theory? Which answers to the above questions result from taking a feminist perspective?

One of the groups working on the same theory will present their theory of international politics to the seminar. The other group(s) will prepare a 10-page handout. Please deposit your handouts in the seminar-file by noon on Friday before the respective oral presentation to the seminar.

c) Case studies

During the final phase of the seminar, every issue will be analyzed through the application of the five theories (case study). Therefore, the case study working-groups meet again, now asking to what extent each theoretical approach can explain their issue. Since there is no need to present the issue itself again (this having been done during the fifth session), the presentation should focus on the application of the theories. One of the groups responsible for preparing a handout for the fifth session will now be in charge of the oral presentation. The other group(s) will again prepare a 10-page handout each.

d) Overview of the seminar

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**SUMMARY OF SEMINAR REQUIREMENTS:**

Your final grade will be composed of the following elements:

I. 20% - Active participation in, and intensive preparation for, all seminar sessions
   - all absences must be excused in advance
   - maximum of 2 absences (“Fußball-EM” included)

II. 10% - Presentation of an international issue (oral presentation or 10-page handout) in working groups (due session 5).

III. 10% - Presentation of a theory of international relations (oral presentation or 10-page handout), also in working groups (due sessions 6-10).

IV. 10% - Systematic analysis of one issue through application of these theories (presentation or 10-page handout) in working groups (due sessions 12 and 13).

V. 50% - Individual research-paper (max. 15 pages, due August 15, 2004) OR final written exam (July 26).
Note on **Plagiarism**: It is highly unethical and will be punished severely (no Schein whatsoever plus a one-semester ban from all courses offered through the IR Center).

- Please make sure to deposit your handouts in the seminar-file. Please turn in one extra copy of your handout to the library supervisor.

**REQUIRED READING:**
The seminar-reader contains all required readings. In addition, there are two seminar-files: one for all "Introduction to International Relations"-Seminars containing literature that is hard to find in Tübingen, another one specifically for this seminar.

**SESSIONS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS:**

1\textsuperscript{st} Session (April 22)

- **Introduction**
- **Organization of the Seminar**
- **Basic Concepts I: What is international politics?**

*Required reading:*


*Further reading:*

9-31. [International Politics] (K I 393)

Hollis, Martin/Smith, Steve 1990: Explaining and Understanding International Relations, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 16-44. [Development of the Discipline] (K I 650/a,b)


2nd Session (April 29)

• Basic Concepts II: Analytical Concepts in Social Science Research: Actors, Environments, Patterns of Interaction and Issue Areas in International Relations

Required reading:


Recommended reading:


3rd Session (May 6)

• Basic Concepts III: Explanation, Theory and the Process of Inquiry

Required reading:


Recommended reading:


Hollis, Martin/Smith, Steve 1990: Explaining and Understanding International Relations, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1-16, 45-91. [Explaining and Understanding] (K I 650/a,b)


4th Session (May 13)

• Basic Concepts IV: Theoretic Challenges in Social Science Research: Levels of Analysis, Agent-Structure Problem, and the Rationalist-Constructivist Debate

Required Reading:


Recommended reading:


5th Session (May 27)

- Presentation of an international issue

Required reading for everyone:

Iraq War 2003

To be announced
WTO – Doha

Bhagwati, Jagdish 2004: Don't Cry for Cancun, in: Foreign Affairs 83: 1, 52-63. (Z 160)


6th Session (June 3)

• Theories I: Realism

Required reading for everyone:


Required reading for the working group and recommended reading for everyone:


Hasenclever, Andreas/Mayer, Peter/Rittberger, Volker 1997: Theories of International Regimes, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 83-135. (K I 933/a,b)
Hedinger, Sandra 2000: Frauen über Krieg und Frieden, Frankfurt/M./New York: Campus, ch. 9. (K VII ea 37)


Further Reading:


7th Session (June 17)

Theories II: Rationalist Institutionalism

Required reading for everyone:


Required reading for the working group and recommended reading for everyone:

Hasenclever, Andreas/Mayer, Peter/Rittberger, Volker 1997: Theories of International Regimes, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 8-82. (K I 933/a,b)

Levy, Marc A./Young, Oran R./Zürn, Michael 1995: The Study of International Regimes, in:
Keohane, Robert O. 1991: International relations theory: contributions of a feminist standpoint, in: Grant, Rebecca/ Newland, Kathleen (Hg.): Gender and international relations, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 41-50. (C VII 36)


Further reading:


Mayer, Peter/Rittberger, Volker/Zürn, Michael 1993: Regime Theory. State of the Art and
Perspectives, in: Rittberger, Volker (Ed.): Regime Theory and International Relations, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 391-430. (K I 733/b,c)


8th Session (June 24)

• Theories III: Sociological Institutionalism

Required reading for everyone:


Required reading for the working group and recommended reading for everyone:


Hasenclever, Andreas/Mayer, Peter/Rittberger, Volker 1997: Theories of International Regimes, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 136-210. (K I 933/a,b)


Further Reading:


Locher, Birgit/Prügl, Elisabeth 2001: Feminism and Constructivism: Worlds Apart or Sharing the Middle Ground?, in: International Studies Quarterly 45:1, 111-129. (Z 345)


9th Session (July 1)

• Theories IV: Utilitarian Liberalism

Required reading for everyone:


Moravcsik, Andrew 2000: The Origins of Human Rights Regimes: Democratic Delegation in
Required reading for the working group and recommended reading for everyone:

Caprioli, Mary 2000: Gendered Conflict, in: Journal of Peace Research 37:1, 51-68. (Z 244)

Doyle, Michael W. 1997: Ways of War and Peace: Realism, Liberalism, and Socialism, New York: W.W. Norton, ch. 8, esp. 251-288. (K I  922)


Further reading:

außenpolitischer Theorien von Machiavelli bis Madariaga, 2nd ed., Opladen: Westdeutscher Verlag, 147-161. (K VII ca 38/i)

Gaubatz, Kurt Taylor 1996: Democratic States and Commitment in International Relations, in: International Organization 50:1, 109-139. (Z 244)


Skocpol, Theda 1987: Bringing the State Back In: Strategies of Analysis in Current Research, in: Evans, Peter B./Rueschemeyer, Dietrich/Skocpol, Theda (Eds.): Bringing the State Back In, 4th ed., Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 3-37. (D II 994)

10th Session (July 8)

- *Theories V: Ideational Liberalism*

*Required reading for everyone:*


Schimmelfennig, Frank 2003: The EU, NATO and the Integration of Europe. Rules and Rhetoric, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, ch. 5. *(READER; K III ma 75)*

*Required reading for the working group and recommended reading for everyone:*


Finke, Barbara 2003: Feministische Ansätze, in: Schieder, Siegfried/ Spindler, Manuela (Hg.): Theorien der Internationalen Beziehungen, Opladen: Leske+Budrich, 477-493. *(K I 1174/a u,b)*

Hasenclever, Andreas/Mayer, Peter/Rittberger, Volker 1997: Theories of International Regimes, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 136-210. *(K I 933/a,b)*


Further reading:


Risse, Thomas 1999: Identitäten und Kommunikationsprozesse in der internationalen Politik - Sozialkonstruktivistische Perspektiven zum Wandel in der Außenpolitik, in: Medick-Krakau,
Monika (Ed.): Außenpolitischer Wandel in theoretischer und vergleichender Perspektive: Die USA und die Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Baden Baden: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, 33-57. (G II x 204)


11th Session (July 15)

• Preparation of Case Studies

12th – 14th Sessions (SATURDAY, July 24, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.)

• Case Study I
• Case Study II
• Synopsis of the Theory-driven Explanations of Conflicts in International Politics
• Evaluation of the Seminar

TO GET YOU STARTED: LITERATURE FOR THE CASE STUDIES

Case 1: The Iraqi Crisis and the 2003 War

Beestermöller, Gerhard 2002: Krieg gegen den Irak - Rückkehr in die Anarchie der Staatenwelt?. Ein Kritischer Kommentar aus der Perspektive einer Kriegsächtungsethik, Stuttgart: Kohlhammer. (Library Desk)


Frume, David/ Perle, Richard 2003: An End to Evil : How to Win the War on Terror, New York: Random House. (Library Desk)

Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians: War and Globalisation: Inter-religious & Gender Issues, 2003. (Library Desk)


Mailer, Norman 2003: Why are we at war?, New York: Random House. (Library Desk)


Münkler, Herfried 2003: Der neue Golfkrieg, Reinbek bei Hamburg: Rowohlt. (Library Desk)


Woodward, Bob 2003: Bush at War, New York: Simon & Schuster. (Staisch, Rm. 109)

Links:
Neue Zürcher Zeitung: Dossier

journalismus.com
http://www.journalismus.com/irak/dossier/index.html

Council on Foreign Relations: Iraq Resource Center
http://www.cfr.org/reg_index.php?id=6351

Center for Strategic and International Studies: Iraq Briefing Book
http://www.csis.org/features/iraq.cfm

Case 2: Suspension of the Doha Round

Bhagwati, Jagdish 2004: Don't Cry for Cancun, in: Foreign Affairs 83: 1, 52-63. (Z 160)


online unter: http://www.bundestag.de/gremien/welt/glob_end/die_enquete_kommission.html

Gilpin, Robert 2001: Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic
Order, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, Kap. 8. (Rieth, Rm. 023)

Rode, Reinhard 2001: Weltregieren durch Internationale Wirtschaftsorganisationen, Halle: RR Verlag, Kap. 5. (K II 630)


Senti, Richard 2000: WTO: System und Funktionsweise der Welthandelsordnung, Zürich: Schulthess. (K IX 745)


WEED 2003b: Nach der 5. WTO Konferenz: Cancún als Wendepunkt, Informationsbrief Weltwirtschaft & Entwicklung Nr. 6. (Seminar File)

Economy and the Changing Global Order, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 163-173. (K IX 592/d)

**Links:**

World Trade Organization/ Doha Development Agenda  
[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/dda_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/dda_e.htm)

EU  

USA  

International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development  