

U6800: Conceptual Foundations of International Politics Fall 2008

Professor: Stephen Sestanovich
Time: Monday 4:10-6:00
Place: 417 IAB Altschul Auditorium
Website: <http://courseworks.columbia.edu>

Through a review of major academic writings, lectures, and class discussion, Conceptual Foundations of International Politics examines many of the central concepts, theories, and analytical tools used in contemporary social science to understand and explain international affairs. The theoretical literature is drawn from different fields in the social sciences, including comparative politics, international relations, political sociology and economics; the lecturers include members of the Columbia faculty who are authorities in these fields (as well as, in many cases, experienced practitioners in their own right). The course is designed to enhance students' abilities to think critically and analytically about current problems and challenges in international politics.

Conceptual Foundations is a semester-long course. The lecture/plenary session meets on Monday, and the seminar-style sections also meet every week. Attending lectures and sections is obligatory, and students are required to do the assigned readings before their (6804) section because the readings and lectures form the basis of the discussion sections. Students are expected to know when and where their sections meet.

Assignments:

- Two 6-8 page papers
- One in-section group debate
- Active class participation

All course material will be placed on Reserve at Lehman Library.

September 8: "Do We Really Need Theories of International Relations?"

Lecturer: Stephen Sestanovich

Stephen Walt, "International Theories: One World, Many Theories," *Foreign Policy* Spring 1998 (available on-line)

Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy* November/December 2004 (available on-line)

Robert Kagan, "End of Dreams, Return of History" *Policy Review* August/September 2007 (available on-line)

Kishore Mahbubani, "The Case Against the West," *Foreign Affairs* May/June 2008 (available on-line)

Amartya Sen, "Why Democratization Is Not the Same as Westernization: Democracy and Its Global Roots," *The New Republic* October 2003 (available on-line)

September 15: "Power Politics: It Isn't Everything, but It's Way Ahead of Whatever Is in Second Place"

Lecturer: Richard Betts

Hobbes Leviathan, *Leviathan* p. 183-201, 223-239

Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (Addison-Wesley 1979) p.79-160

Edward Hallett Carr, "Realism and Idealism"; Robert Gilpin, "Hegemonic War and International Change;" Geoffrey Blainey, "Power, Culprits, and Arms," in Richard K. Betts, ed. *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace*, 3d Edition (New York: Pearson-Longman 2008)

Eliot A. Cohen, "Thucydides, Really!" *The American Interest* Volume II, no. 3 (January/February 2007), and Richard K. Betts, "Not With My Thucydides, You Don't," *The American Interest* Volume II, no. 4 (March/April 2007).

September 22: "All Regimes Are Not the Same – And Why It Matters"

Lecturer: Michael Doyle

Immanuel Kant, "Perpetual Peace," in Hans Reiss (ed.), H. B. Nisbet (trans.), *Political Writings* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991), p.93-109

Michael Doyle, *Ways of War and Peace* (New York: Norton 1997) p.205-212, 251-300, 474-84, 495-502.

Robert Keohane, "Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge After the Cold War," in Harold H. Koh and Oona A. Hathaway, ed., *Foundations of International Law and Politics* (New York: Foundation Press, 2005) p.51-58

Andrew Mack, "Global Political Violence: Explaining the Post-Cold War Decline," *Coping With Crisis Working Paper Series* International Peace Academy, March 2007

John J. Mearsheimer, "The False Promise of International Institutions," *International Security*, vol. 19, no. 3 (Winter 1994-5), p.5-49

Robert Jervis, "Theories of War in an Era of Great Power Peace: Presidential Address, American Political Science Association 2001" *American Political Science Review* 96, No.1 March 2002 p.1-14 (available on-line)

September 29: "Constructivism: Is the Balance of Power All In Our Minds?"

Lecturer: Jack Snyder

Martha Finnemore, "Constructing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention," in Peter J. Katzenstein, ed., *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1996), p.153-185

Alex Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization*, Vol. 46, No. 2, Spring 1992. p.391-425 (available on-line)

Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, *Activists beyond Borders*, (Ithaca: Cornell University Press 1998) p.39-79

Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics: An Introduction" in Jack Snyder, ed., *Essential Readings in World Politics* (New York: Norton 2005) p.279-290

Chaim Kaufmann and Robert Pape, "Explaining Costly International Moral Action: Britain's Sixty-Year Campaign against the Atlantic Slave Trade," *International Organization*, Fall 1999, p. 631-668

Marc Lynch, "Al-Qaeda's Constructivist Turn," *Praeger Security International* (May 2006) (available online)

Jerry Z. Muller, "Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism" *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2008 and response by James Habyarimana, "Is Ethnic Conflict Inevitable? Parting Ways Over Nationalism and Separatism" *Foreign Affairs* July/August 2008 (available on-line)

October 6: "From Comparative Advantage to Comparative Development"

Lecturer: Jeff Sachs

Jeffrey D Sachs, *Common Wealth: Economics for A Crowded Planet* (The Penguin Press 2008) p.17-53, 205-226, 227-253

Vincent Ferraro, "Dependency Theory: An Introduction," in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge 2008) p. 58-71

Daron Acemoglu, "Root Causes: A Historical Approach to Assessing the Role of Institutions in Economic Development" in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge 2008) p. 73-78

Dani Rodrik and Arvind Subramanian, "The Primacy of Institutions (and What This Does and Does Not Mean ...)" in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge 2008) p.79-85

Jeff Sachs, "Institutions Matter, But Not For Everything" in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge 2008) p.86-91

Timur Kuran, "Why the Middle East is Economically Underdeveloped: Historical Mechanisms of Institutional Stagnation" in Giorgio Secondi ed., *The Development Economics Reader* (London: Routledge, 2008) p.107-125

William Easterly, *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* (New York: Penguin Press 2006) p.37-59

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *Communist Manifesto* p. 2-12 (available on-line)

October 13: "American Primacy: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

Lecturer: Robert Jervis

Paper Questions Distributed in Lecture

Robert Jervis, *American Foreign Policy in a New Era* (New York: Routledge 2005) p.79-139

Barry Posen and Andrew Ross, "Competing Visions for US Grand Strategy" *International Security* 21, No.3 1997 p.5-53 (available on-line)

G. John Ikenberry, "American Grand Strategy in the Age of Terror," *Survival*, vol. 43, Winter 2001-02, p. 19-29,

G. John Ikenberry, "The End of the Neo-Conservative Moment," *Survival*, vol 46, Spring 2004, p. 13-20

Robert Kaufman, *In Defense of the Bush Doctrine* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky 2007) p.87-101

Michael Mandelbaum, "Foreign Policy as Social Work," *Foreign Affairs* 75, No. 1 (January/February 1996) (available on-line)

Walter Russell Mead, "The Jacksonian Tradition and American Foreign Policy," *The National Interest* Winter 1999/2000 Issue 58 (available on-line)

Rashid Khalidi, *Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East* (Boston: Beacon 2005) p.2-34, 152-175

October 20: "Political Development: Can the Past Teach Us About Democratization and Consolidation Today."

Lecturer: Sheri Berman

Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy," *Foreign Affairs* November/December 1997 (available on-line) and Robert Kagan, "The Great Unwashed" *The New Republic* July 7 2003 (available on-line)

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Prone to Violence: The Paradox of the Democratic Peace," *The National Interest*, Winter 2005/2006 (available on-line)

Sheri Berman, "How Democracies Emerge: Lessons from Europe," *Journal of Democracy*, 18, 1, January 2007 (available on-line)

Thomas Carothers, "How Democracies Emerge: The Sequencing Fallacy," *Journal of Democracy*, Volume 18, Number 1, January 2007 (available on-line)

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "The Sequencing "Fallacy" in Democratization;" Sheri Berman, "The Vain Hope for "Correct" Timing;" Francis Fukuyama, "Liberalism versus State-Building;" Debate in *Journal of Democracy*, Volume 18, Number 3 July 2007 (available on-line)

Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?" *The National Interest* Vol 16 (Summer 1989) (available on-line)

Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition* (New Haven: Yale University Press 1971) p. 1-16

October 27: "Inequality, Institutions, and Economic Backwardness in Latin America"

Lecturer: John Coatsworth

Paper Due in Lecture

Stanley L. Engerman, and Kenneth L. Sokoloff, "Factor Endowments, Institutions, and Differential Paths of Growth Among New World Economies: A View from Economic Historians of the United States," in Stephen Haber ed., *How Latin America Fell Behind: Essays on the Economic History of Brazil and Mexico, 1800-1914* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997), p.260-304

Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson, "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation," *American Economic Review*, 91 2001 (available online)

John H. Coatsworth, "Institutions, Inequality, and Economic Growth in Latin America," *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 40 (August 2008) p.545-69 (available online)

Sebastian Edwards, "Globalization, Growth and Crisis: Sebastian Edwards" *NBER Working Paper 14034* (May 2008) (available on-line)

Jorge G. Castañeda, "Latin America's Left Turn" *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2006 (available on-line)

Kenneth M. Roberts, "Latin America's Populist Revival" *SAIS Review* 27:1 2007 p.3-15 (available on-line)

November 3: Academic Holiday

No Lecture

(No Section on Monday or Tuesday; Section Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

November 10: "Is Colonialism to Blame for Ethnic Conflict and Failed States?"

Lecturer: Mahmood Mamdani

Mahmood Mamdani, *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism* (Princeton: Princeton University Press 1996) p.3-34

Mahmood Mamdani, "Beyond Settler and Native as Political Identities: Overcoming the Political Legacy of Colonialism" *Comparative Studies in Society and History* Vol. 43 No. 4 (October 2001)

Mahmood Mamdani, "The Politics of Naming: Genocide, Civil War, Insurgency" *The London Review of Books* March 2007 (available on-line)

Robert H. Jackson, Carl G. Rosberg, "Why Africa's Weak States Persist: The Empirical and the Juridical in Statehood" *World Politics*, Vol. 35, No. 1 (October 1982) p. 1-24 (available on-line)

Ian Lustick, "The Absence of Middle Eastern Great Powers: Political "Backwardness" in Historical Perspective" *International Organization*, Vol. 51 No. 4 1997 p. 653-683 (available on-line)

Lisa Anderson, "'Antiquated Before They Can Ossify:' States That Fail Before They Form," *Journal of International Affairs* Fall 2004 (available on-line)

November 17: "Will China's Rise Really Be Peaceful?"

Lecturer: Andrew Nathan

Debate Questions Distributed in Section

Richard K. Betts and Thomas J. Christensen, "China: Getting the Questions Right," *The National Interest* (Winter 2000-2001) (available online)

Aaron L. Friedberg, "The Future of U.S.-China Relations," *International Security* Vol. 30 No. 2 (Fall 2005) (available online)

Alistair Iain Johnston, "Is China a Status Quo Power?" *International Security* Vol. 27 No. 4 (Spring 2003) (available online)

Andrew J. Nathan and Andrew Scobell, *The Great Wall and the Empty Fortress: China's Search for Security*, (New York: Columbia University Press, forthcoming 2009) (available on-line)

Zheng Bijian, "China's 'Peaceful Rise' to Great-Power Status," *Foreign Affairs* (September-October 2005) (available online)

Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations" *Foreign Affairs* Summer 1993 (available on-line)

November 24: Lecture – "Crystal Balls and Crises: Is the United States Losing Its Financial Dominance?"

Lecturer: Richard Clarida

Richard Clarida, "Our Post-Bubble World" *The Wall Street Journal* April 11 2005 and "The Dollar's Got Further To Slide," *The Wall Street Journal* October 23 2007 (available on-line)

Richard Clarida, "Reflections on Currency Regimes" *The International Economy* Spring 2008 (available on-line)

Greg IP and Jon E. Hilsenrath, "How Credit Got So Easy And Why It's Tightening" *The Wall Street Journal*, August 8 2007 (available on-line)

"The Global Saving Glut and the U.S. Current Account Deficit," Remarks by Governor Ben S. Bernanke March 11 2005 (available on-line)

Michael P. Dooley et al., "Direct Investment, Rising Real Wages and the Absorption of Excess Labor in the Periphery" *NBER Working Paper 10626* National Bureau of Economic Research (available on-line)

"A Cruel Sea of Capital," *The Economist* May 1 2003 (available on-line)

"Global Prospects and Policies," *IMF World Economic Outlook 2008:1* (International Monetary Fund: Washington DC 2008) p.1-63

Kenneth Waltz, "Globalization and American Power," *The National Interest* Spring 2000 (available on-line)

Amy Chua, "A World on the Edge" *The Wilson Quarterly* (Autumn 2002)

December 1: “Free Trade: Are the Critics Right?”

Lecturer: Jagdish Bhagwati

Debates Held in Section

Paper Questions Distributed

Jagdish Bhagwati, “Don’t Cry for Free Trade” Columbia University (available on-line)

Jagdish Bhagwati, Lecture Delivered at the World Bank on June 25 2008 (available on-line)

Jagdish Bhagwati, *In Defense of Globalization* (New York: Oxford University Press 2004) p.51-92

Jagdish Bhagwati, *Free Trade Today* (Princeton University Press 2002) p.1-45

Arvind Panagariya "Miracles & Debacles: In Defense of Trade Openness," Columbia University (available on-line)

Joseph Stiglitz "Social Justice and Global Trade" Columbia University and Joseph Stiglitz, "Globalism's Discontents," *The American Prospect* Volume 13 Issue 1 January 2002 (available on-line)

Dani Rodrik "Cheerleaders threat to world trade" *The Financial Times* March 27 2007 and Dani Rodrik, "Feasible Globalizations," Harvard University, July 2002 (available on-line)

Ha-Joon Chang, *Kicking Away the Ladder* (London: Anthem Press 2002) p.13-68

December 8: “From Theory to Practice: The Re-Making of American Foreign Policy”

Dialogue: Dennis Ross & Stephen Sestanovich

Dennis Ross, “Statecraft in the Middle East” *The Washington Quarterly* Volume 31, Number 3 Summer 2008 (available on-line)

Stephen Sestanovich, “American Maximalism,” *The National Interest* Spring 2005 (available on-line)

Robert Jervis, "The Remaking of a Unipolar World," *Washington Quarterly*, vol. 29, Summer 2006 (available on-line)

Richard Haass, “The Age of Nonpolarity: What Will Follow U.S. Dominance” *Foreign Affairs* May/June 2008 (available online)

Barry R. Posen, “The Case for Restraint” *The American Interest* Volume 3, Number 6, November - December 2007 (available on-line)

Peter Beinart, “Balancing Act: The Other Wilsonianism” *World Affairs* Summer 2008 (available on-line)

John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, “The Israel Lobby,” *The London Review of Books* Vol. 28 No. 6 March 2006 (available online)

December 12: Paper Due