This seminar examines the main theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of international relations. All discussion of international politics rests on conceptual foundations and assumptions; these are sometimes made explicit and sometimes not. Disagreements about policy choices are often have their roots in disagreements about these conceptual foundations. This course examines the theoretical and conceptual underpinnings of international politics, both inside and outside the discipline of International Relations.

It is intended to support students who have research projects that involve international relations by providing examples of how the theoretical foundations of international politics can be studied and how they sustain the practices of world politics.

Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Class presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly response papers</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Required texts


SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

September 26th - The Anarchy Problematique and International Structure


October 3rd - Hierarchy


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October 10th - States, Interests, Agency


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October 17th - Power


Benno Teschke, “Demystifying Westphalia”, Ch. 7 of The Myth of 1648.


October 24th - no meeting

October 31st - Norms and Ideas


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November 7th -- Institutions


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### November 14th --Choices and Decisions


Nehal Bhuta, “State-Building, Democratization, and ‘Politics as Technology,’” working paper


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**November 21st -- International Rules**


