

The City University of New York
The Graduate School
Dept. of Political Science

PSC 86001
Spring 2003
Prof. W. Ofuatey-Kodjoe

CONTENDING THEORIES IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

This seminar will examine the role of theory in the analysis of international political phenomena. We will discuss the relevance of theory to analysis, other functions of theory, the formulation, application and testing of theory. Further we shall examine some of the major theories in the field of international politics and attempt to evaluate their efficacy in the analysis of international politics.

Course Requirements: This course will be conducted by class discussion rather than lecture. Therefore, all students are required to attend class and participate fully and knowledgeably in class discussion. In addition, students will be required to write six short exercises and a term paper.

Readings: Since this seminar is being offered on an advanced level. It is assumed that you already have detailed familiarity with one or more of the following general textbooks: Aron, Peace and War Duchacek, Nations and Men Holsti, International Politics: A Framework for Analysis Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations. In addition, you are required to study Karl Deutsch, The Analysis of International Relations, Prentice-Hall, 1989, by the third meeting of the seminar.

Most of the reading assignments are drawn from the following texts:

Cohen, Benjamin. The Question of Imperialism. Basic Books, 1973.

Dougherty, James E. & Robert L. Pfaltzgraff, Jr. Contending Theories of International Relations. 3rd Ed. New York, Harper & Row, 1990.

Gilpin, Robert. War and change in World Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1981.

Haas, Ernst. The Obsolescence of Regional Integration Theory. Berkeley: Univ. of California, 1975.

Keohane, Robert. NeoRealism and Its Critics. Columbia Univ. Press, 1986

Keohane, Robert. International Institutions and State Power. Boulder: Westview Press, 1989.

Keohane, Robert. After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984.

Keohane, Robert and Joseph Nye, Power and Interdependence. Scott Foresman, 1989.

Krasner, Stephen ed. International Regimes. Cornell Univ. Press, 1983.

Linberg, Leon. & S. Scheingold. Eds. Regional Integration: Theory and Practice. Harvard Univ. Press, 1971.

Magdoff, Harry. Imperialism: From the Colonial Age to the Present. Monthly Review Press, 1978.

Morgenthau, Hans. Politics Among Nations. Alfred Knopf, 1989.

Nabudere, Dan. The Political Economy of Imperialism. Zed Press, 1977.

Oye, Kenneth. Cooperation Under Anarchy. Princeton University Press, 1986.

Rosenau, James. Ed. International Politics and Foreign Policy. Free Press, 1969

Schumpeter, J. A. Imperialism and Social Classes. A. M. Kelly, 1951.

Shannon, Thomas. An Introduction to the World System Perspective. Westview, 1988.

Smith, M. R. Little & M. Schackleton, Perspectives on World Politics. London: Croom-Helm Ltd, 1981.

Wallerstein, Immanuel. The Capitalist World Economy. Cambridge Univ. Press, 1979.

Waltz, Kenneth. Man, The State and War. Columbia University Press, 1959.

Waltz, Kenneth. Theory of International Politics. Addison-Wesley, 1977.

Course Outline and Assignments

I. *Theory and Analysis*

Waltz, Theory of International Politics, pp. 1-17. ✓

* Edwards, International Political Analysis pp. 35-47, 103-132, 257-283.

Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff, Contending Theories..., pp. 1-80. ↗ N.O.T Book

Masters, R. "World Politics as a Primitive Political System" in Rosenau, ed. International Politics and Foreign Policy, pp. 104-118. ✓ J.K. 1308. 26

Singer, J.D. "The Level of Analysis Problem in International Politics" in Rosenau, ed. International Politics and Foreign Policy pp. 20-29 ✓ SC

II. *General Theories*

a) *Systems Theories*

Dougherty & Phaltzgraff, Contending Theories, pp. 136-180, 387-430

* Kaplan, New Approaches to International Politics pp. 134-180

Waltz, Theory of International Politics, chs. 3-4, 159-238 ✓

b) *World Systems Theory*

Wallerstein, The Capitalist World Economy ✓

Chirot, D. & T. Hall, (1981) "World Systems Theory", Annual Review of Sociology Vol. 8, pp. 81 -108. ✗

Skocpol, Theda. "Wallerstein's World Capitalist System: A Theoretical and Historical Critique", American Journal of Sociology. Vol. 82, no. 5 (March 1977), pp. 1075-90.

Garst, D. (1985), "Wallerstein and His Critics" Theory and Society. Vol. 14, 469-495.

Chase-Dunn, Christopher. "Inter-state System and Capitalist World Economy: One Logic or Two" ISQ Vol. 25, no. 1, March 1981.

c) Realism and Neo-Realism

Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff, Contending Theories. Pp. 81-135; 387-438.

Morgenthau, Hans. Politics Among Nations.

Waltz, Theory of International Politics. Chapters 5-8.

Keohane, ed. NeoRealism and Its Critics.

d) Liberalism and Liberal Institutionalism

Keohane and Nye, Power and Interdependence, pp. 6-37

Keohane, International Institutions and State Power.

Keohane and Matin, "The Promise of Institutional Theory"
International Security, 20:1 (summer 1995), pp. 39-61.

Nye, J. (1988), "Neo-Realism and Neo-Liberalism", World Politics
Vol.4.0 no. 2 (Jan.), pp. 235-251.

Grieco, J. (1988), "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation:
A realist Critique of the newest liberal institutionalism",
International Organization. Vol. 42, no. 3, (summer), pp. 45-50.

e) Constructivism

Wendt, Alexander. "The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory", International Organization, 41,3 (Summer 1987),pp. 335-370.

Wendt, Alexander. "Anarchy is What States Make of It", International Organization, 46,2 (Spring 1992), pp. 391-425.

Ruggie, John Gerard, "Constructing the World Polity", (New York: Routledge, 1998) pp. 1-39

Hopf, Ted. "The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory", International Security, 23,1 (Summer 1998) pp. 171-201

f) Theories of Systemic Stability and Change

Waltz, Theory of International Politics. Ch. 9.

Gilpin, War and Changes in World Politics

Keohane, After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World
Political Economy.

Snidal, D. (1985) "The Limits of Hegemonic Stability"

Cox, Robert W. "Gramsci, Hegemony and International Relations: An Essay in Method". Millenium. Vol. 12, no. 2, pp. ¹⁶²-¹⁷⁵.

III. Partial Theories

a) Theories of War

i) Theories based on Human Nature.

Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff, Contending Theories. pp. 272-310.

Waltz, Theory of International Politics. Ch. 2.

Waltz, Man, The State and War pp. 159-238.

ii) Theories based on the State, Imperialism and War:

Dougherty & Pfaltzgraff. Contending Theories, pp.223-270

Hobson, J. A. Imperialism A Study

Lenin, V. I. Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism

Waltz, Man. The State and War, pp. 80-158.

Galtung, J. 1971. "A Structural Theory of Imperialism" Journal of Peace Research. Vol. 8, pp. 81-117.

iii) Democracy and War

Schweller, Randall L. 1992 Domestic Structure and Preventive War: Are Democracies more Pacific?
World Politics 44 (January), pp. 235-269

Owen, John M. 1994 How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace. International Security 19(fall), pp. 87-125.

Maoz, Zeev and Bruce Russett, 1993. Normative and Structural Causes of Democratic Peace, 1946-1986, American Political Science Review 87 (September), pp. 624-638.

Layne, Christopher 1994, "Kant or Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace", International Security 19(Fall), 5-49.

Spiro, David E 1994 "The Insignificance of the Liberal Peace, International Security 19(Fall), pp.50-86.

IV. **Theories of Integration**

Dougherty & Pfaltzgraff, Contending Theories, pp. 431-468.

Puchala, Donald. "Of Blind Men, Elephants and International Integration in Smith, Little and Shackleton, Eds. Perspectives on World Politics pp. 233-245.

Linberg & Schienhold, Regional Integration, pp. 3-42, 45-127,

Haas, The Obsolescence of Regional Integration Theory, Berkeley, University of California Press, 1975.

V. **Future Directions in International Relations Theory.**

Vasquez, John A. "The Post-Positivist Debate: Reconstructing Scientific Enquiry and International Theory After Enlightenment's Fall" in Ken Booth and Steve Smith Eds. International Relations Theory Today, Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 1995.

Lapid, Vosef "The Third Debate: On the Prospects of International Theory in a Post-Positivist Era" International Studies Quarterly 33(1989). pp. 235-253.

Buzan, Barry. "The Level of Analysis Problem in International Relations Reconsidered." in Ken Booth and Steve Smith Eds. International Relations Theory Today. Univ. Pennsylvania Press. 1995.

Enloe, Cynthia. Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense out of International Relations. Univ. of California Press, 1995.

Brown, Chris. International Relations Theory: New normative Approaches Columbia Univ. Press, chs. 1,4,8.