

**HISTORY 2705E**  
**The Western Tradition in International Relations Theory and Practice**  
**Fall/Winter 2020-21**  
**Thursdays 9:30 to 12:30 via Zoom**

**Instructor: Professor Oleksa Drachewych**

Office Hours: Tuesday 1 to 2, Thursdays 2 to 3, or by appointment, via Zoom  
Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 2245  
Email: odrachew@uwo.ca

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**This course will be a blended course, featuring asynchronous and synchronous content. All students are expected to be available during the assigned block of time for this course.**

**Course Description:**

History 2705E is a 'great books' course. The purpose is to examine critical works of international relations theory in context. The focus is "the Western tradition". Thinkers to be considered include: Cicero, Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Erasmus, Grotius, Hobbes, Frederick of Prussia, von Clausewitz, Angell, and Morgenthau.

**Course Syllabus:**

What is the lineage of ideas that brings us to modern understandings of international relations today? Focusing on the "Western tradition," this course will examine the works of prominent influences on international relations theory from the ancient world to the present as philosophical texts, but also in context. In doing so, this course will explore the interplay of how certain events influence major works, but also consider how some thinkers influence others. The first half of the course will focus largely on thinkers prior to the "modern era." The second half will focus on international relations theories and their development in the nineteenth and twentieth century to shed light on modern debates in present international relations. Students will gain an understanding in several concepts such as just war theory, political realism, political idealism and ideological IR theory. The final weeks of the course will explore how globalization, anti-imperialism, gender and the environment have led to new considerations in modern IR theory.

***Learning Outcomes:***

By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- Understand the major concepts in the intellectual history of international relations as shown through major works by major thinkers in political and diplomatic thought
  - Effectively read, critique, summarize and understand primary sources as major philosophical texts and as historical artifacts
  - Gain an appreciation for the historiography of international relations scholarship along with an understanding of the context and lineage of certain philosophical concepts in international relations theory
  - Communicate clearly and effectively an argument through class discussions and written assignments
- As part of this course, there are a number of written assignments which will allow students to enhance their understanding of IR theories or help students write concisely, clearly, and purposefully.
- Through an interactive crisis simulation, students will work collaboratively with one another while understanding the challenges in the application of major IR theories.

## Course Materials:

Most materials will be linked via OWL, using ebooks or online sources.

The following textbook is recommended:

Torbjorn L. Knutsen, *A History of International Relations Theory*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Manchester: University of Manchester Press, 2016).

## Methods of Evaluation:

Short Response Assignment: 15%

Overview Assignment: 10%

Final Assignment – International Relations Crisis Simulation: 35%

- In-class Participation/Group Collaboration: 15%
- Two Written Reports: 20% (10% each)

Final Exam: 25%

Participation in Class/Online Discussion: 15%

*Short Response Assignment:* Students will be required to write a 750-1000 word response to one of four questions regarding early course content. Responses will be marked on clarity of writing, content, strength of arguments, and use of sources and research. Questions will be posted on OWL at the start of the course. **Deadline for submissions is October 9.**

*Overview Assignment:* Students will complete a **750 to 1000 word overview of a thinker or work discussed in History 2705E. This overview will cover the thinker, the context of the works/thinker relevant to the class, and offer some strengths and limitations of the work/thinker's ideas as relates to international relations.**

This assignment has two steps. The first step requires students to submit their assignment by **October 29**. Students can elect to submit a rough draft for initial feedback or a more polished draft to save time later. Feedback will be returned within two weeks. Students who submit the assignment at the first deadline, *on time*, will receive the opportunity to resubmit.

The resubmission deadline is **November 26**. No late resubmissions will be accepted.

The nature of this assignment will be to show mastery of the subject material, while mimicking the peer review process or similar processes one would see in professional writing or policy analysis in a deadline-oriented setting. Students who complete the entire process, including resubmission, will have the opportunity to publish their overviews on the History 2705E International Relations Thinker Database. The database can be found at <http://history2705.wordpress.com> and can provide examples of the content expected. Overviews will be expected to include complete citations, including a bibliography.

*Final Assignment:* The final assignment in this course will be a crisis simulation taking place over the final weeks of the course. Students will be assigned to teams representing different schools of thought discussed in History 2705E. In these teams, students will discuss internally how their fictional nations, governed by these schools of thought, manage and navigate problems of diplomacy. The simulation will begin with an initial crisis and then as teams negotiate and work with, or against, one another, other crises will take place. The end goal will be to find common ground between the different schools of thought, resolving any crises and hopefully develop a balanced world system. The simulation will be similar to Model UN Crisis Committees.

One's mark will be determined equally by two items. The first will be based on the students' involvement in online discussions taking place during class time during the simulation. Students should be active in team discussions, while also encouraging group collaboration and teamwork.

The second part of the mark will be determined by two 1000 word written reports. The first report will be due **February 11** and will evaluate and examine how the student's assigned school of thought would respond to the initial crisis. The second report will be due on **March 25** and will reflect on some of the simulation's events and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the school of thought in application to the simulation's events. Though students will likely be influenced by their fellow teammates' positions and ideas throughout the simulation, students are responsible for their own written reports.

Groups are encouraged to meet and discuss their nation's position throughout the simulation outside of class time. Information regarding the simulation will be posted on OWL in January.

**Obtaining a passing grade on the final assignment is a requirement for passing History 2705E.**

*Exam:* There is a final take-home exam in this course. It will be cumulative and take place in the final exam period.

*Participation:* Participation will be determined by in-class discussion and the quality of student contributions in class and online discussions over the entire duration of the course. A detailed breakdown of discussions, their method of delivery, and topics, will be made available at the start of the course, posted on OWL.

### ***General Information about Submissions and Deadlines:***

**All assignments should be submitted online via OWL at 11:59:59 pm ET on its due date. Additionally, all assignments will be submitted to Turnitin. The timestamp on OWL will be considered final for any disputes regarding the punctuality of submissions.** All written assignments will require citations (endnotes/footnotes and bibliography) in the most recent version of Chicago Style. Hardcopies are not required nor will be accepted.

### ***Late Policy:***

For all late assignments, a late penalty of **3% per day**, including weekends, will be applied. Should you require accommodation due to medical reasons or otherwise, please see the following section, contact Academic Counselling or consult the "Medical Issues" section at the end of this syllabus.

### **Accommodation for missed midterms with a Self Reported Absence:**

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a makeup test on one of the two time slots available in each term:

#### **Fall Term**

- Tests scheduled before November 1 – the makeup will take place Monday, November 9 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between November 9 and December 3 – the makeup will take place Friday, December 4 at 12:30pm.

#### **Winter Term**

- Tests scheduled before February 13 – the makeup will take place Monday, February 22 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between February 22 and April 1 – the makeup will take place Friday, April 2 at 12:30pm

No other make-up opportunities will be provided. Students who fail to write a makeup test in the designated time slots will receive a grade of zero.

Students in online courses will write the make-up test through OWL over a 24-hour period beginning at the time noted above.

Students should be aware that course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup test slots.

### **Accommodation for missed assignment deadlines with a Self Reported Absence:**

If a student reports a SRA for an assignment (i.e. an essay) the new due date will be 48 hours after the SRA was submitted. For example, if you complete a SRA on March 19 at 3pm, your new due date will be March 21 at 3pm.

### **Course Schedule and Readings:**

#### ***FALL TERM:***

#### ***September 10: Course Introduction***

#### ***September 17: The Birth of Political Realism? Thucydides & Sun Tzu***

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, the Melian Dialogue (available online at <http://classics.mit.edu/Thucydides/pelopwar.5.fifth.html>. **Chapter XVII**)

Sun Tzu, *The Art of War* (Read what you can; Chapters 1-4 and 6 should be the focus) (available online at <https://suntzusaid.com/>)

David Welch, "Why International Relations theorists should stop reading Thucydides," *Review of International Studies* 29, no. 3 (July, 2003): 301-319.

#### ***September 24: Cicero and Classical Statehood***

Marcus Tullius Cicero, *Treatise on the Commonwealth*, Book III (available online at <https://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/cicero-treatise-on-the-commonwealth--5> )

#### ***October 1: Augustine & Aquinas: Christianity and the Just War Theory***

Knutsen, Chapter 1

Augustine, *Contra Faustum Manichaeum*, Book 22: 69-76. (available online at [https://earlychurchtexts.com/public/augustine\\_war\\_contra\\_faustum.htm](https://earlychurchtexts.com/public/augustine_war_contra_faustum.htm))

“Of War (Four Articles),” St. Thomas Aquinas, *The Summa Theologica* (available online at <http://www.ccel.org/a/aquinas/summa/SS/SS040.html> )

Eloise Davies, “Catherina of Siena: a Dominican Political Thinker in Fourteenth Century Italy,” *Renaissance Studies* (2019).

### ***October 8: The Italian Wars, Erasmus & Machiavelli***

Knutsen, Chapter 2 & 3

Desiderius Erasmus, *Education of a Christian Prince*, Chapters III & XI (available online via Western Libraries)

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince* (Read what you can; Chapters 1 through 10 should be the focus) (available online at <https://ia801600.us.archive.org/27/items/ThePrinceByNiccoloMachiavelli/The-Prince-By-Niccolo-Machiavell.pdf>)

### ***SHORT RESPONSE DEADLINE:***

### ***October 15: Religious Wars***

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book IV, Chapter 20, Point 11 & 12 (available online at <https://reformed.org/master/index.html?mainframe=/books/institutes/books/indxbk4.html>)

Schleitheim Confession (1527), Article 6 (available online at <https://courses.washington.edu/hist112/SCHLEITHEIM%20CONFESSION%20OF%20FAITH.htm>)

The Peace of Augsburg (September 25, 1555) (available online at [http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/pdf/eng/Doc.67-ENG-ReligPeace-1555\\_en.pdf](http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/pdf/eng/Doc.67-ENG-ReligPeace-1555_en.pdf))

### ***October 22: The Westphalian & Grotian Systems***

Knutsen, 97-113.

Treaty of Westphalia (available online at [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/17th\\_century/westphal.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/17th_century/westphal.asp) )

Grotius, *On the Laws of War and Peace*, Chapters Book I: 1-2; Book III: Conclusion (available online at <https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/econ/ugcm/3ll3/grotius/Law2.pdf> )

Peter Wilson, “Who Won the Thirty Years War”, *History Today*, Vol. LIX, No. 8 (August 2009), p. 12-19.

### ***October 29: Hobbes & Locke***

Knutsen, 113-134.

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chapters XVII-XX (available online at <https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/econ/ugcm/3ll3/hobbes/Leviathan.pdf> )

John Locke, *Two Treatises on Government*, Book Two, Chapters I-III & XVI. (available online at <http://johnlocke.net/john-locke-works/two-treatises-of-government-book-ii/>)

Errol A. Henderson, "Hidden in Plain Sight: Racism in International Relations Theory," *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 26, no. 1 (2013): 71-92.

### **OVERVIEW DEADLINE 1**

**November 5: READING WEEK – No Classes**

**November 12: Frederick & Clausewitz**

Knutsen, Chapter 5

Frederick of Prussia with Voltaire, *Anti-Machiavel*, Foreword, Chapters I, V, XVIII, XIX (available online at <https://archive.org/details/AntiMachiavelFriedericktheGreat>)

Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*, Book 1: Chapter 1, Book 6: Chapter 1 & Book 8: Chapter 26 (available online at <https://www.clausewitz.com/readings/OnWar1873/TOC.htm#TOC> )

Sara Figal, "When Brothers Are Enemies: Frederick the Great's Catechism for War," *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 43, no. 1 (Fall 2009): 21-36.

**November 19: Liberalism**

John Stuart Mill, "A Few Words on Non-Intervention." (available online at <http://tinyurl.com/y5jo68bx> )

Beate Jahn, "Barbarian thoughts: imperialism in the philosophy of John Stuart Mill," *Review of International Studies* 31, no. 3 (Jul., 2005): 599-618.

Read, again, Errol A. Henderson, "Hidden in Plain Sight: Racism in International Relations Theory," *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 26, no. 1 (2013): 71-92.

**November 26: Non-Interventionism and Pacifism**

Knutsen, Chapter 7.

Jane Addams, *Newer Ideals of Peace* (1907), Chapter 1 (available online at <https://archive.org/details/neweridealspeac03addagoog> )

**OVERVIEW RESUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

### ***December 3: The Beginnings of Liberal Internationalism***

Knutsen, Chapter 8.

Norman Angell, *The Great Illusion: A Study of the Relation of Military Power to National Advantage* (London: William Heinemann, 1912), Part 1: Chapter III & Part 3: Chapter IV (available online at <https://ia802605.us.archive.org/6/items/greatillusionstu00angeiala/greatillusionstu00angeiala.pdf> )

Lloyd E. Ambrosius, “Woodrow Wilson and *The Birth of a Nation*: American Democracy and International Relations,” *Diplomacy & Statecraft* 18, no. 4 (2007): 689-718.

### ***WINTER TERM:***

#### ***January 14: Marxist approaches***

V.I. Lenin, *Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism*, Preface to the French and German Editions, Chapters V, VI & VII (available online at <https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1916/imp-hsc/index.htm> )

Oleksa Drachewych, *The Communist International, Anti-Imperialism & Racial Equality in British Dominions* (London: Routledge, 2018), Chapter 1

#### ***January 21: Fascism***

Knutsen, 278-290

Benito Mussolini, “The Political and Social Doctrine of Fascism.” (available via Western Libraries: <http://tinyurl.com/y4hopf3h>)

Adolf Hitler, “On National Socialism and World Relations,” Speech Delivered in the German Reichstag on January 30, 1937 (available online at <https://research.calvin.edu/german-propaganda-archive/hitler1.htm> )

#### ***January 28: Modern Political Realism***

E.H. Carr, *The Twenty Years War: An Introduction to the Study of International Relations* (London: Macmillan, 1941), Chapter 1 & 2, Conclusion (available online at <https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.189956>) (40 pages)

Hans J. Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1949), Part One, Part Two: Section I & Part Ten: Section XXIX (available online at <https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.74487>)

#### **February 4: Multinational Diplomacy**

Knutsen, 290-305.

Charter of the United Nations (1945) (available online at <https://treaties.un.org/doc/publication/ctc/uncharter.pdf>)

Eleanor Roosevelt, "The Struggle for Human Rights," speech in Sorbonne, Paris, September 28, 1948 (available online at <https://erpapers.columbian.gwu.edu/struggle-human-rights-1948>)

#### **February 11: Neorealism & Neoliberalism**

Knutsen, 305-335. 395-423.

Robert O. Keohane, *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005), Chapters 1 and 11.

John M. Hobson, "Re-Embedding the Global Colour Line within Post-1945 International Theory," in Alexander Anievas, Nivi Manchanda, and Robbie Shilliam, *Race and Racism in International Relations: Confronting the Global Colour Line* (Routledge, 2014), 81-97.

#### **FIRST REPORT DUE**

#### **February 18: READING WEEK – No Classes**

#### **February 25: Anti and Postcolonialism**

Knutsen, 336-371.

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, Chapter 1.

Edward Said, *Orientalism*, Introduction.

Adom Getachew, "Securing Postcolonial Independence," *Ab Imperio* 2018, no. 3, (2018): 89-113.

#### **March 4: Feminist & Environmental IR Theories**

Knutsen, 371-394.

Donella H. Meadows, Dennis L. Meadows, Jorgen Randers, & William W. Behrens III, *The Limits to Growth*, (New York: Universe Books, 1972), Introduction & Commentary by the Club of Rome Executive Committee

(available online at <http://www.donellameadows.org/wp-content/userfiles/Limits-to-Growth-digital-scan-version.pdf>)

Cynthia Enloe, *Bananas, Beaches, and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990), Chapter 1 and Conclusion (available via Western Libraries)

***March 11: Crisis Simulation – Week 1***

***March 18: Crisis Simulation – Week 2***

***March 25: Crisis Simulation – Week 3***

***SECOND REPORT DUE***

***April 1: Crisis Simulation – Week 4***

***April 8: Crisis Simulation – Week 5 + REVIEW***

**Additional Statements:**

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, <https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>, for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness