



**TROY UNIVERSITY PACIFIC REGION
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**IR 6652 Theory and Ideology in
International Relations**

**Term 1, 2009
Independent Study**

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MEETING LOCATION, DATES & TIMES:

This course will meet by arrangement between the instructor and student.

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An examination of historical and contemporary theories in international relations; the role of political, economic, ethnic, religious and other belief systems or philosophical approaches within the global system.

TEXTBOOKS:

Weber, Cynthia. International Relations Theory: A Critical Introduction. London, Routledge, 2005. ISBN-10: 0415342082. ISBN-13: 978-0415342087

Additional readings will be made available.

OVERALL OBJECTIVES/ PURPOSE:

The student will work to describe, analyze and evaluate the major theories of international relations: realism, idealism, Marxism, social constructivism, rational choice, critical theory and evolutionary theory are all under examination.

STUDENT OUTCOMES/ COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to: (1) Compare and contrast the assumptions and conclusions of leading theories; (2) Demonstrate

knowledge of how these theories developed over time; and (3) Discuss and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each theory.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Each content unit below (1 – 4 and 6 – 9) requires a 2-page essay and the completion of a multiple choice quiz. Unit 5 is the midterm project (annotated bibliography) and Unit 10 is the final project (5 - 7 page paper).

Unit 1: Realism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Sun Tzu: The Art of War, 500 BC

Niccolo Machiavelli: The Prince, 1512

Thomas Hobbes: Leviathan, 1651

Critique the Article: "The Realist Persuasion," Bacevich

Unit 2: Idealism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Immanuel Kant, "Perpetual Peace," 1795

Jean Jacques Rousseau: The Social Contract, 1762

Thomas Paine: Common Sense, 1776

Unit 3: Marxism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Marx and Engels: "The Communist Manifesto," 1848

V. Lenin: "On Soviet Government," 1919

Leon Trotsky: "The Proletariat and the Revolution"

Unit 4: Scientific Theories

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Rational Choice Theory

Game Theory

Unit 5: Midterm Project

Learning Objective: To provide an annotated bibliography of primary sources.

Primary Sources

Unit 6: Post-Modernism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Michel Foucault: Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison

Unit 7: Social Constructivism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.
Alexander Wendt: States and Anarchy

Unit 8: Critical theory and Feminism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Articles by Carol Cohn, Camille Paglia

Unit 9: Neo-Medievalism

Learning Objective: To describe, analyze and evaluate the listed items.

Fred Riggs: Will it be Neo-Feudal?

Unit 10: Evolutionary Theory and Final Exam:

Learning Objective: To understand evolutionary theory and its critiques, integrating an analysis of the competing paradigms considered in the entire course.

George Modelski: Long Cycles and Evolutionary Politics

ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES:

Evaluation: Grades for the semester will be based on the following criteria:

--Individual Essays and Papers	80%
--Midterm and Final Project	20%

Final letter grades are then calculated on the following basis:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory, although independent study courses measure participation by the regular and frequent interaction with the instructor. No automatic cuts are authorized. Arrangements for excused absences must be made PRIOR to the absence. By university policy, the TROY's coordinator must be notified of students who miss more than 25% of classes, if applicable.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY:

A grade of "INC" can be assigned only when the student has a medical condition; a job or military duty schedule conflict; or some significant personal event. If a student requests an "INC", he or she must submit to the instructor a signed *Petition for and Work to Remove an Incomplete Grade* form indicating the compelling reason for the "INC". The instructor approving the request will document the required work and the deadline for completion. When the student completes the required work, the instructor will submit a *Change of Grade* form. In cases where a student fails to make up "INC" course work by the end of the next term in which they enroll, the "INC" will automatically be recorded as an "F" grade on the student's record.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

All classes missed must be made up, regardless of whether the absences were excused or unexcused. Make-up assignments will be given by the instructor on an individual basis.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA):

Troy University supports Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which insure that post-secondary students with disabilities have equal access to all academic programs, physical access to all buildings, facilities and events, and are not discriminated against on the basis of disability. Eligible students, with appropriate documentation, will be provided equal opportunity to demonstrate their academic skills and potential through the provision of academic adaptations and reasonable accommodations. Further information, including appropriate contact information, can be found at the following link: <http://www.troy.edu/humanresources/ADAPolicy2003.htm>

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT: By their enrollment, students are responsible for following the "Standards of Conduct" as they apply in the Troy University Pacific Region. Students may be disciplined up to and including suspension and expulsion for the commission of offenses in described in the Graduate Bulletin. As a reminder to graduate students, the "Standards of Conduct" regards dishonesty as an offense, which includes cheating and plagiarism. Students should carefully study the definitions of cheating and plagiarism:

1. Cheating includes:

a) Copying, or relying upon, another student's answers or submitting another student's work as one's own or submitting as new work assignments previously completed for another class, while completing any class assignment, study group assignment, or during in-class or take-home examinations.

b) Providing one's own answers to another student while completing any class assignment, study group assignment (except where approved by the instructor due to the nature of the assignment itself), or during in-class or take-home examinations.

c) Using notes, books, or any other unauthorized aids during an examination; or holding an unauthorized discussion of answers during in-class examinations.

2. Plagiarism is submitting a paper, other required student course requirement in which the language, ideas, or thoughts are identical to published or unpublished material from another source, including material found on the Internet, without correctly giving credit to that source. A good rule of thumb for correctly crediting a source is found in the citation below:

"Quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Summarizing a passage or rearranging the order of a sentence and changing some of the words is paraphrasing. Each time a source is paraphrased a credit for the source needs to be included in the text. ... The key element of this principle is that an author does not present the work of another as if it were his or her own work. This can extend to ideas as well as written words."
(*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 2001, p.349)

While computers and the Internet allow students to cut and paste work from other material, new software is making it easier for universities detect plagiarism. Instructors may screen electronic versions of student assignments using the detection software. To avoid the pitfalls of plagiarism, students are strongly encouraged to review information on it available through Troy University Writing Center resources at <http://www.troy.edu/ecampus/onlinegraduateprograms/writingresources.htm> and at the link to the Purdue University Online Writing Lab.

LIBRARY SUPPORT:

For online journals go to <http://www.troy.edu/>; select "Library"; then "Services"; and finally "[Remote Services/Databases](#)". At this point, you are required to put in your social security number to login to the databases.