

Political Science 5315
The Development of International Relations Thought

Professor David Clinton

Goals and Objectives:

This course examines the underlying nature of international politics. That is, it asks what the basic reality is at which we look when we try to describe the forces that drive international relations. Is that reality fundamentally conflictual or not? Is it ultimately governed by any rules? Who or what are its most important participants? In trying to answer these questions, the course will also necessarily deal with specific aspects of international politics, such as the balance of power, the causes of war, nationalism, and globalization. We shall concentrate on three views of what constitutes international relations, illustrating these schools of thought by examining the writings of classic and modern analysts who may be said to exemplify each tradition. Therefore, although the implication of our attention to these authors is that their thoughts have relevance to contemporary issues, the course will not be limited to currents in today's international relations. History and theory will be equally important.

The principal aims of this course are these:

1. to understand the different ways in which international politics has been understood by those widely recognized to have thought about politics deeply
2. to be able to compare these traditions of international thought with one another
3. to evaluate whether these traditions of thought have relevance to contemporary international politics

TEXTS

The following books are required for purchase by all members of the class:

Charles R. Beitz, *Political Theory and International Relations* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999).

Chris Brown et al., eds., *International Relations in Political Thought: Texts from the Ancient Greeks to the First World War* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002).

K. J. Holsti, *Taming the Sovereign: Institutional Change in International Politics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).

Robert Kaplan, *Warrior Politics: When Leadership Demands a Pagan Ethos* (New York: Random House, 2003).

Gerry Simpson, *Great Powers and Outlaw States: Unequal Sovereigns in the International Legal Order* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).

William Strunk and E. B. White, *The Elements of Style* (Longman, 2000).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class attendance and participation:		20%
Short paper	:	35%
Long paper		45%

All members of the class are expected to attend all sessions of the course and to have completed the assigned readings before the date on which they are listed. This course is a seminar, and therefore full and informed participation in the daily discussions is expected from everyone. In accordance with Baylor's attendance policy, a student who misses more than 25% of the scheduled classes, will fail the course.

Grading Scale:

95-100%=A	91-94%=A-	87-90%=B+	84-86%=B	81-83%=B-
77-80%=C+	74-76%=C	71-73%=C-	60-69%=D	0-59%=F

COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Readings
Week one	Introduction: Three Traditions of International Thought	
<u>Part I: The Realist/Hobbesian Tradition</u>		
Week two	Hobbes, Machiavelli	Brown, 335-40, 257-69
Week three	Rousseau, Thucydides	Brown, 34-60, 394-98, 416-27
Week four	Treitschke/List	Brown, 494-505, 550-60
Week five	The Persistence of Conflict Short paper due	Kaplan
<u>Part II: The Rationalist/Grotian Tradition</u>		
Week six	Grotius, Vattel	Brown, 325-34, 37-70
Week seven	von Gentz, Vitoria, Mill	Brown, 231-41, 307-10, 486-93
Weeks eight & nine	The Maintenance of Society	Holsti
<u>Part III: The Revolutionist/Kantian Tradition</u>		
Week ten	Kant –Long paper proposal due	Brown, 428-55
Week eleven	Dante, Erasmus	Brown, 198-203, 221-30
Week twelve	Burke	Brown, 292-300
Week thirteen	The Attainment of Justice	Beitz
<u>Part IV: Conclusion</u>		
Weeks fourteen & fifteen	Contemporary International Politics	Simpson