EM7432 International Politics

Michaelmas Term/Semester 1 2016

10 ECTS

Duration: 12 weeks

Wednesday, 11am-1pm

Room G16

Coordinator: Prof. Gillian Wylie/Dr Damian Jackson

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Lecturers: Prof. Gillian Wylie, Dr Damian Jackson, Prof. Etain Tannam

Office Hours:

Wednesdays 15:00-17:00 (Room 2.03)

or email wylieg@tcd.ie or Damian.Jackson@tcd.ie for appointment
## Introduction

The end of the Cold War was a watershed in the theory and practice of international relations. The adequacy of dominant neorealist theories of International Relations was sharply challenged at this juncture, raising fundamental questions about traditional approaches to the subject. At the same time the conditions in which states interrelated changed dramatically from the bipolar system of nuclear confrontation to the emergence of a single hyperpower. The world changed again with the response of the US-led coalition to 9/11 and its radical commitment to rewriting the rules of the game. And now, with the rise of globalisation, the emergence of new powers and events like the Arab Spring and the Syrian war, our world is moving once more into uncharted territory. This course is an attempt to grasp these shifts of terrain and direction and to construct an account of where we are and where we want to be in the new international order.

## Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module students should be able to:

- Understand several contending approaches to theorising international politics (exemplified in the course through realism, constructivism and feminism) and to engage in critical debate about and analysis of these approaches.
- Comprehend key debates in the discipline concerning actors, agency, anarchy, power and security.
- Make analytical sense of events and processes in contemporary international politics, such as globalisation, ‘the war on terror’ and events in the Middle-East.
- Prepare and lead lively seminars which enable all students to engage in greater depth with the material and debates covered in the lectures.
- Acquire knowledge of a broad range of literature in the field and an ability to read this critically.

## Teaching Method

The teaching method on this course consists of a two-hour lecture/seminar format each week.
Assessment

Assessment is by a 4000 word essay (word count excludes footnotes and bibliography). Essay topics are provided at the end of this outline.

Essay deadline: January 16 2016 at 17:00. Submit hard copy to Mary Priestman by 5pm and also submit using turnitin

All assignments must be submitted via turnitin, a programme designed to detect plagiarism, used by Trinity. The “TurnItIn Student Quickstart guide” is available through the CAPSL (Centre for Academic Teaching and Learning) page on the TCD website (https://www.tcd.ie/CAPSL/students/integrity-plagiarism).

You will first need to register and create a user profile on TurnItIn (see CAPSL guide above). The password interpol16 and Class ID 13691378. Then you will be able to submit your essays electronically by following the Quickstart guide. You will also need to submit a hard copy of the essay to Mary Priestman, Executive Officer, International Peace Studies, by the essay deadline.

Note on Plagiarism

From the Dean of Graduate Studies:

To ensure that you have a clear understanding of what plagiarism is, how Trinity deals with cases of plagiarism, and how to avoid it, you will find a repository of information at http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism

We ask you to take the following steps:

(i) Visit the online resources to inform yourself about how Trinity deals with plagiarism and how you can avoid it at http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism. You should also familiarize yourself with the 2016-17 Calendar entry on plagiarism located on this website and the sanctions which are applied;

(ii) Complete the ‘Ready, Steady, Write’ online tutorial on plagiarism at http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/ready-steady-write. Completing the tutorial is compulsory for all students.

(iii) Familiarise yourself with the declaration that you will be asked to sign when submitting course work at http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/declaration;
(iv) Contact your College Tutor, your Course Director, or your Lecturer if you are unsure about any aspect of plagiarism.

Neville Cox
Dean of Graduate Studies
Trinity College Dublin

Dean's Secretary: Ms. Michelle Hogan ph. +353-1-896 2722; email: deanssec@tcd.ie

Reading

There is no one text book for the entire module. Texts that are particularly useful are highlighted in bold. However, this does not imply that you must read all of these texts necessarily. Students are recommended to read at least two readings per topic each week. If you are submitting an essay on a topic, then more extensive reading is required.

In addition, this module makes substantial use of on-line journals. These are accessed via the main TCD library web-page, under ‘Journal Titles’. Students are strongly advised to undertake a library tour to familiarise themselves with this system, if they are unfamiliar.

Text Books

NB: Most text books will have chapters of relevance to each topic. Consult as appropriate

IR Theory


———, *Rethinking International Relations Theory* (Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)


*European Journal of International Relations*, 19(3) (2013), (Special Edition: The End of International Relations Theory?)

**Useful Websites**

http://www.e-ir.info/

http://www.euobserver.com

http://www.ft.com

http://www.europa.eu
Lecture Schedule: Wednesday, 11-1pm

Week 1. Introduction: international relations theory and peace studies (GW)
Week 2. International Relations Theory (IRT): Realism and Neo-realism (DJ)
Week 3. IRT: Constructivism and Norms (GW)
Week 4. IRT: Feminist and Post-colonial Theories (GW)
Week 5. Globalisation, Environment and Trade (DJ)
Week 6. The Migration Crisis of 2016 - Security or Rights? (GW)
Week 7. Reading Week: no lectures/classes
Week 8. Borders, Sovereignty and Intervention (DJ)
Week 9. The EU, Brexit and the UK (ET)
Week 10: Guest Lecture
Week 11: Guest Lecture
Week 12: Thinking about International Politics (DJ and GW)
Lecture Topics and Reading

Week 1: International relations theory and Peace Studies (GW)


European Journal of International Relations, 19(3) (2013), (Special Edition: The End of International Relations Theory?)


Richmond, O.P. 2008 Peace in International Relations, London: Routledge


Week 2: Realism and Neo-Realism (DJ)


Cox, Michael, ‘Why Did We Get the End of the Cold War Wrong?’, The British Journal of Politics & International Relations, 11 (2009), 161–76


**Week 3. Constructivism and Norms (GW)**


**Wk. 4 Feminist and Post-colonial Theories (GW)**


Sylvester, C. 2013 Experiencing the end and afterlives of International Relations/theory, European Journal of International Relations, 19(3) 609–626.

**Week 5. Globalisation, Environment and Trade (DJ)**


**Week 6: The Migration Crisis of 2015-16 - Security or Rights**

FitzGerald, S. 2012. 'Vulnerable Bodies, Vulnerable Borders: Extraterritoriality and Human Trafficking', Feminist Legal Studies, 20, 227-244.


Week 7: Reading Week: no lectures

Week 6: Borders, Sovereignty and Intervention(DJ)


**Week 9: The EU, Brexit and the UK (ET)**


Keukeleire, Prof Stephan, and Dr Tom Delreux, *The Foreign Policy of the European Union*, 2nd edition (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), ch 10,12


**Week 10:** Guest lecture: TBC

**Week 11. Guest lecture**

**Week 12. Conclusion: Thinking about International Politics (DJ & GW)**