Thematic Introduction
This is an advanced theory course in International Relations designed for POIR Ph.D students. It is intended to compliment IR 500 and it assumes that students are already familiar with literatures and approaches covered in 500. The course will take a historical multi-paradigm approach, investigating some of the earlier literatures that have influenced the various theoretical traditions in the discipline of International Relations. Although each week is identified as presenting different approaches or paradigms, where possible, multiple approaches and debates between them will be integrated into each week’s assignments. In the interests of deparochializing an Anglo-American literature and emphasizing the global character of the field, the course will include the contributions of non-American and hybrid American scholars from different times and places. The course will also include some readings on how knowledge is constructed in a variety of epistemological traditions. Since the course is intended for students who are, or will in the near future, be writing Ph.D dissertation proposals, we will devote one week to reading and critiquing some recently completed Ph.D dissertations.

Seminar Requirements
It is imperative that students attend each weekly seminar and do the reading before the week for which it is assigned. Students will be assigned responsibility for leading the discussion of some portion of the reading each week and writing up brief summaries to be distributed to the class one day before the class meeting. Since many weeks contain a great number of readings, readings will be assigned to students one week ahead of time on an individual basis so not everyone will be required to read all the readings. In addition, students will write two 5 page critical summaries of a portion of the readings from two different weeks. Students are free to choose on which weeks they wish to write their papers. The papers will be due one week after the class in which the chosen readings are discussed. Students will also write a critical review of a recently completed Ph.D. dissertation. I have the dissertations in my office and students may choose from among them. Please make your selections before the spring break. This assignment is due on March 27. The final project will be a draft version of a dissertation and/or research proposal of the student’s choosing. Ideally, it will incorporate some of the material covered in the course. This paper is due on May 4. The two literature review papers will count for 10% each, the Ph.D critique for 20%, attendance, class discussion and short outlines for 30% and the final paper for 30%.

Students requesting academic accommodations based on disability are required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP when adequate documentation is filed. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible.
Readings:

We will be reading all or a substantial part of the following books. They are available for purchase in the Bookstore and are on reserve in the Leavey Library. Other required readings are available in electronic form (so indicated by an asterisk). They will be posted on Blackboard.


Stefano Guzzini and Anna Leander, eds., *Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and his Critics*, Routledge, 2006


Patrick Jackson, *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations: Philosophy of Science and its Implications for the Study of World Politics*, Routledge, 2011


J. Ann Tickner and Laura Sjoberg, eds., *Feminism and International Relations: Conversations about the Past, Present and Future*, Routledge, 2011


Please see page 8 of syllabus for additional background reading
Course Outline:

Weeks 1 and 2: January 10 and 17th

How Do We Construct Knowledge for International Relations?:
PATRICK JACKSON WILL ATTEND CLASS ON JANUARY 10

Patrick Jackson, *The Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations: Philosophy of Science and its Implications for the Study of World Politics*, Routledge, 2011


**Recommended:**


Weeks 3 and 4: January 24 and 31

Birth and Development of the Modern Era: Historical Precursors to Contemporary International Relations Theories


**Recommended:**


Week 5: February 7
Modernity, Colonialism and Postcolonialism:
NAEEM INAYATULLAH WILL ATTEND CLASS ON FEBRUARY 7


Naeem Inayatullah and David Blaney, *International Relations and the Problem of Difference*, Routledge, 2004

Week 6: February 14

Realism Revisited


Weeks 7 and 8: February 21 and 28

Constructivism


Stefano Guzzini and Anna Leander, eds., *Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and his Critics*, Routledge, 2006


Recommended:
Week 9: March 6

**Ethical Issues and Normative Theorizing in International Relations**

**RICHARD PRICE WILL ATTEND CLASS ON MARCH 6**


**Recommended:**


**MARCH 13 SPRING BREAK**

**Week 10: March 20**

**Ph.D. dissertations**

We will have student presentations and discussions of some recent Ph.D dissertations. They are available in my office and students may choose from among them.

**March 27: PAPER DUE**

**Week 11: March 27**

**Liberalism**

Michael Doyle, *Ways of War and Peace*, Part II


READINGS CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE

*Jeffrey Checkel, “International Norms and Domestic Politics: Bridging the Rationalist


**Week 12: April 3**

**Marxism and Critical Theory**

Michael Doyle, *Ways of War and Peace*, Part III

Andrew Linklater, *The Transformation of Community: Ethical Foundations of the Post-Westphalian Era*, University of South Carolina Press, 1998


**Recommended:**


**Week 13: April 10**

**Feminism**


J. Ann Tickner and Laura Sjoberg, eds., *Feminism and International Relations: Conversations about the Past, Present and Future*, Routledge, 2011

**Week 14: April 17**

**Poststructuralism and Postmodernism**


**Recommended:**


Janice Bially Mattern, *Ordering International Politics: Identity, Crisis, and Representational


**Week 15: April 24**

**Beyond the Anglo-American Tradition: IR Theory Around the World**

Arlene Tickner and Ole Waever, eds., *International Relations Scholarship Around the World*, Routledge, 2010


**Recommended:**

Background Reading:

Since this is not the first course covering IR theory that students should have taken, I have not assigned a specific week as an introduction to the history of the discipline although historical and foundational materials will be assigned throughout the course. Although they are not required reading, the following provide some general overview of the historical and theoretical development of International Relations as a discipline.


