

## **Government 6067: Field Seminar in International Relations**

**Jessica Chen Weiss**

**Fall 2020 Wednesday 3:00pm-4:55pm**

This course offers a PhD-level introduction to the field of international relations. We will begin with a discussion of the history of the field. We will then survey major theoretical traditions in international relations before focusing on recent research on major IR topics. Students are expected to attend every class, to have done the readings before class, and to participate actively in discussions. Be advised that the reading load for this class is relatively heavy.

We are also living through a pandemic, an economic catastrophe, a racial reckoning, and the beginning of what some are calling a new “Cold War” between the United States and China. The world is in flux. It is a moment of devastation and loss. But it is also a moment of new possibilities and realizations. These changes will also affect how, what, and why scholars of international relations and political science research and teach. I invite you to approach the readings, discussions, and assignments for this class in that spirit—with rigor and reason, but also attuned to what is happening in the world around us. Please be extra kind to yourself and others in this process. Reach out to and support one another, even as we are physically distant.

### Requirements

1. Three 2-3 page reading response memos completed roughly every other week, and due by 5 PM on the Tuesday before class. (10% each)
2. A take home final examination loosely in the format of the department A-exam for the field of international relations. Students will be given the choice of answering two questions out of three covering the material from this syllabus. The exam should be no more than 20 double spaced pages total (30%).
3. A ten page paper taking the form of a hypothetical “research prospectus” that sets out a question and a research agenda building on unresolved issues, puzzles or debates suggested by some of the literature. You should discuss your proposed topic with me before the end of October; the paper is due the week of December 7 (30%).
4. Active and thoughtful class participation. (10%)

### Policies

- I will not dock assignments that are turned in late.
- If you must miss more than one session, please let me know so we can discuss how you can make up for the absence.
- All discussions will take place via Zoom. I do not anticipate recording the sessions by default. If you must miss a session and would like me to record it, please let me know in advance.
- To facilitate asynchronous and collaborative discussion of readings, I have added the Perusall function to Canvas. This is optional. Participation in this manner will not be graded.
- Office Hours are by appointment, Thursday and Friday 1:30-2:30pm, or at another time that is mutually convenient. Sign up here: <https://calendly.com/jessicachenweiss/oh>.
- Office Hours Zoom link:  
<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/98917817968?pwd=Qmh4NHhDc3ZuY2tocVNBd3g1cjlsZz09>

## Class Schedule

### **1) Sep. 2: Overview and introductions**

1. Jeff D. Colgan, "Where is International Relations Going? Evidence from Graduate Training" *International Studies Quarterly* 60:1 (2016), 486-498.

### **2) Sep. 9: Studying International Relations in Existential Times**

1. Buzas, Zoltan. "Racism and Anti-Racism in the Liberal International Order." Forthcoming. *International Organization*.
2. Farrell, Henry and Abraham Newman. Forthcoming. "The Janus Face of the Liberal Information Order: When Global Institutions are Self-Undermining." *International Organization*.
3. Weiss, Jessica Chen and Jeremy L. Wallace. Forthcoming. "Domestic Politics, China's Rise, and Challenges to the Liberal International Order." *International Organization*.
4. Colgan, Jeff D., Jessica F. Green, and Thomas N. Hale. Forthcoming. "Asset Revaluation and the Existential Politics of Climate Change." *International Organization*.
5. Tana Johnson, "Ordinary Patterns in an Extraordinary Crisis: How International Relations Makes Sense of the COVID-19 Pandemic." IO Covid-19 Online Supplement

### **3) Sept 16: History and Sociology of the Field of International Relations**

1. Robert Vitalis. 2015. *White World Order, Black Power Politics: The Birth of American International Relations* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2015), Introduction.
2. Anievas, Alexander, Nivi Manchanda, and Robbie Shilliam, eds. *Race and Racism in International Relations: Confronting the Global Colour Line*. (Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2015), Introduction.
3. Lake, David A. "White Man's IR: An Intellectual Confession." *Perspectives on Politics* 14, no. 4 (December 2016): 1112-22. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S153759271600308X>.
4. Drezner, Daniel W. "The Song Remains the Same: International Relations After COVID-19." *International Organization*, August 19, 2020, 1-18.

### **4) Sept. 23: Structure, Agency, and Levels of Analysis**

1. Kenneth N. Waltz. 1979. *Theory of International Politics*. (New York: McGraw Hill). Ch. 1, "Laws and Theories."
2. Alexander Wendt. 1987. "The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory." *International Organization* 41(3): 335-370.
3. Graham Allison. 1969. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review* 63(3): 689-718.
4. Laura Sjoberg. 2012. "Gender, Structure, and War: What Waltz Couldn't See," *International Theory* 4(1): 1-38.
5. Peter Gourevitch. 1978. The Second-Image Reversed: The International Sources of Domestic Politics. *International Organization* 32(4): 881-912.

### **5) Sept. 30: Anarchy & Cooperation**

1. Robert Jervis, "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma", *World Politics* 30:2 (January 1978), pp. 235-51.
2. Charles Glaser, "The Security Dilemma Revisited," *World Politics*, 50:1 (October 1997), pp. 171-201.
3. Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony* (Princeton University Press, 1984), pp. 5-46.
4. Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics," *International Organization*, 46:2 (1992), pp. 391-426.

#### 6) Oct. 7: Beyond the paradigms

2. Rudra Sil and Peter Katzenstein, "Analytic Eclecticism in the Study of World Politics," *Perspectives on Politics* 8:2 (2010), pp. 411-31.
3. David A. Lake, Why "isms" Are Evil: Theory, Epistemology, and Academic Sects as Impediments to Understanding and Progress, *International Studies Quarterly*, Volume 55, Issue 2, June 2011, Pages 465–480, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-2478.2011.00661.x>
4. Henderson, Errol A. "Hidden in Plain Sight: Racism in International Relations Theory." *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 26, no. 1 (March 2013): 71–92. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09557571.2012.710585>.

No class October 14 – Break day

#### 7) Oct 21: Sovereignty, Hierarchy, and Order

1. Krasner, Stephen D. "Compromising Westphalia." *International Security* 20.3 (1995): 115-151.
2. Osiander, Andreas. "Sovereignty, International Relations, and the Westphalian Myth." *International Organization* 55, no. 2 (ed 2001): 251–87. <https://doi.org/10.1162/00208180151140577>.
3. Tourinho, Marcos and Fundação Getulio Vargas. Forthcoming. "The Co-Constitution of Order." *International Organization*.
4. Deudney, Daniel, and G. John Ikenberry. "Liberal World: The Resilient Order Which World Are We Living In." *Foreign Affairs* 97, no. 4 (2018): 16–24.
5. Janice Bially Mattern and Ayse Zarakol, "Hierarchies in World Politics," *International Organization* 70:3 (2016), pp. 623-654.

#### 8) Oct. 28: Institutional and Normative Change

1. Lipsky, Phillip Y. 2015. Explaining Institutional Change: Policy Areas, Outside Options, and the Bretton Woods Institutions. *American Journal of Political Science* 59 (2):341-356.
2. Goddard, Stacie E. "Embedded Revisionism: Networks, Institutions, and Challenges to World Order." *International Organization* 72, no. 04 (2018): 763–97.
3. Aisha Ahmad, ["We Have Captured Your Women: Explaining Jihadist Norm Change,"](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-5907.2011.00508.x) *International Security*, Vol. 44, No. 1 (Summer 2019), pp. 80-116.
4. Hyde, Susan D. "Catch Us If You Can: Election Monitoring and International Norm Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science* 55, no. 2 (2011): 356–69. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-5907.2011.00508.x>.
5. Gunitsky, Seva. "From Shocks to Waves: Hegemonic Transitions and Democratization in the Twentieth Century." *International Organization* 68, no. 3 (2014): 561–97. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818314000113>.

#### 9) Nov. 4: Pandemic Politics

1. Kim Yi Dionne and Fulya Felicity Turkmen. "Othering and Blame During COVID-19: First Impressions and Lessons from Previous Pandemics" IO Covid-19 Online Supplement.
2. Tanisha M. Fazal, "Health Diplomacy in Pandemical Times." IO Covid-19 Online Supplement.
3. Jon C.W. Pevehouse. "The COVID-19 Pandemic, Domestic Politics, and Public Opinion." IO Covid-19 Online Supplement.
4. Phillip Y. Lipsky. "COVID-19 and the Politics of Crisis." IO Covid-19 Online Supplement.
5. Sheena Chestnut Greitens. "Surveillance, Security, and Democracy in a Post-COVID World" IO Covid-19 Online Supplement.

### **10) Nov. 11: Domestic Politics and Public Opinion**

1. Robert Putnam, "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games," *International Organization* 42:3 (Summer 1988), pp. 427-60.
2. Genovese, Federica. 2019. "Sectors, Pollution, and Trade: How Industrial Interests Shape Domestic Positions on Global Climate Agreements." *International Studies Quarterly* 63(4): 819-36.
3. de Vries, Catherine, Sara Hobolt, and Stefanie Walter, forthcoming. "Politicizing International Cooperation: The Mass Public, Political Entrepreneurs and Political Opportunity Structures." *International Organization*.
4. Hafner-Burton, Emilie M., Stephan Haggard, David A. Lake, and David G. Victor. "The Behavioral Revolution and International Relations." *International Organization* 71, no. S1 (April 2017): S1-31.

*No class Nov. 18 & 25: Study Days and Thanksgiving Break*

### **11) Dec. 2: War and Peace**

1. James D. Fearon. 1995. "Rationalist explanations for war." *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.
2. Schultz, Kenneth A. "Looking for Audience Costs." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 45, no. 1 (February 1, 2001): 32-60.
3. Weeks, Jessica L. "Strongmen and Straw Men: Authoritarian Regimes and the Initiation of International Conflict." *American Political Science Review* 106, no. 2 (May 2012): 326-47.
4. Weiss, Jessica Chen. "Authoritarian Signaling, Mass Audiences, and Nationalist Protest in China." *International Organization* 67, no. 1 (January 2013): 1-35.
5. Barnhart, Joslyn, Robert F. Trager, Elizabeth Saunders, and Allan Dafoe. Forthcoming. "The Suffragist peace." *International Organization*. Available at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/kn4wdltywxgbz7/SuffragistPeace.pdf?dl=0>.

### **12) Dec. 9: Civil Conflict and Terrorism**

1. Walter, Barbara F. "The New New Civil Wars." *Annual Review of Political Science* 20, no. 1 (2017): 469-86.
2. Karim, Sabrina. "Relational State Building in Areas of Limited Statehood: Experimental Evidence on the Attitudes of the Police." *American Political Science Review* 114, no. 2 (May 2020): 536-51.
3. Thomas, Jakana L. and Kanisha D. Bond. 2015. "Women's Participation in Violent Political Organizations" *American Political Science Review* 109(3):488-506.
4. Meier, Anna A. "The Idea of Terror: Institutional Reproduction in Government Responses to Political Violence." *International Studies Quarterly*. Accessed August 30, 2020.

### **13) Dec. 16: Transnational and Global Challenges**

1. Kathleen R. McNamara and Abraham L. Newman, "The Big Reveal: COVID-19 and Globalization's Great Transformations" IO Covid-19 Online Supplement.
2. Farrell, Henry, and Abraham L. Newman. "Weaponized Interdependence: How Global Economic Networks Shape State Coercion." *International Security* 44, no. 1 (July 1, 2019): 42-79.
3. Peters, Margaret E. "Open Trade, Closed Borders Immigration in the Era of Globalization." *World Politics* 67, no. 1 (January 2015): 114-54.
4. Kapstein, Ethan B., and Joshua William Busby. "Social Movements and Market Transformations: Lessons From HIV/AIDS and Climate Change." *International Studies Quarterly* 60, no. 2 (June 1, 2016): 317-29.
5. Horowitz, Michael C., Sarah E. Kreps, and Matthew Fuhrmann. "Separating Fact from Fiction in the Debate over Drone Proliferation." *International Security* 41, no. 2 (October 1, 2016): 7-42.