

Political Science 120: Introduction to International Relations – Spring 2008 (Dr. Kille)

Review sheet for second midterm on Wednesday April 2 *The format is same as the first midterm

Possible short answer terms (information in brackets indicates suggestions for short answers)

Realism (explain core aspects of theoretical approach)

Liberalism (explain core aspects of theoretical approach)

Feminism (explain core aspects of theoretical approach)

Postmodernism (explain core aspects of theoretical approach)

Constructivism (explain core aspects of theoretical approach)

Realism vs. Liberalism perspective on gains (explain the two perspectives on gains)

System level factors (provide and describe 2 factors)

State level actors (list three actors and describe how these impact foreign policy making)

Democratic peace (definition, implication for international system, personal opinion on)

Cognitive factors in decision making (define and illustrate with two cognitive mental strategies)

Groupthink (definition – be sure to address how this occurs and the end result)

Leader's idiosyncratic individual traits (provide & discuss two categories provided by Rourke)

Levels of analysis and war (provide and explain a possible cause of war for each level of analysis)

Why study war? (provide and explain 3 reasons)

How a nuclear war might start (provide and explain 3 possibilities discussed by Rourke)

Motives and drawbacks for arms transfers (provide 1 motive & 1 drawback provided by Rourke; opinion on whether drawbacks outweighs advantages)

“Firebreak” (define, provide both sides of the debate over “firebreak,” and own opinion)

Odon versus Cheney on whether all foreign troops should soon leave Iraq (present both sides and then provide your own opinion)

Approaches to security: (will be given one – provide general definition, assumptions, and strategies)
- unlimited self-defense or limited self-defense or international security or abolition of war

Eberstadt versus Sigal on whether North Korea is a rogue state (present both sides and then provide your own opinion)

Terrorism (provide Rourke's definition, carefully identifying the 5 key aspects of his definition, and your personal opinion in reaction to this definition)

Causes of terrorism and levels of analysis (Explain one cause of terrorism for each level of analysis)

Bush versus Hoffman on whether the U.S. has a sound strategy for the war on terrorism (present both sides and then provide your own opinion)

Why study peace? (provide and explain three reasons)

Positive peace (definition, how goes beyond idea of negative peace, ex. of positive peace tool from Alger)

Just war theory (explain both categories & all related subpoints what makes war “just” in just war theory)

UN High Level Panel versus Kenny on whether preemptive was is an unacceptable doctrine (present both sides and then provide your own opinion)

IPE theoretical approach to economic cooperation and development (explain; will be given one from mercantilist, economic liberalism, or structuralist to explain)

Economic sanction drawbacks (define economic sanction and describe 3 drawbacks)

Non-tariff barriers (general definition - distinguish from tariff, describe 2)

Krueger vs. Chavez on whether economic globalization is a positive trend (identify the background of each author and explain how they support their position)

Case for free economic interchange (Explain 3 reasons for)

Case against free economic interchange (Explain 3 reasons against)

Baugh versus Frisbie on whether the U.S. should take a hard-line with China about its international economic policies (identify background of each author & explain how they support their position)

Capital sources for the South (present and explain 2 sources)

NIEO/Doha Program of Action (general definition of NIEO and what this is, provide 3 demands)

“T-Shirt Travels” (what country examined, what is core focus, and main argument of this film)

Negative by-products of development (list and briefly explain all 3 provided by Rourke)

Sustainable development (definition, 2 options to achieve listed by Rourke)

Possible Essay Questions: (note that information provided in brackets will not be on the exam)

1. Rourke (p.24) observes, “The disagreement between realists and liberals about the nature of politics is perhaps the most fundamental division in all of political discourse.” Explain the different views of the nature of politics held by realists and liberals. The two theoretical perspectives also disagree on issues of power versus principles, competition and cooperation, and how to treat gains. Detail the realist and liberal position for each debate, including explaining the distinction between realism/neo-realism and liberalism/neo-liberalism. Finally, which of these theoretical perspectives do you believe is the best for explaining international relations and why?

2. There are three levels of analysis that scholars may use in studying international relations. In a paragraph on each level, describe these three levels. Be sure to provide at least one example of an actor and at least one example of a factor that each level says is important to look at. Then pick the one level of analysis that you prefer for studying international relations, explain why you prefer this level, and describe this level *in depth*. Alternatively, if you believe that it is best to work across two or all three levels of analysis, explain why you prefer to use several levels of analysis to study international relations and give details on the factors from these levels which you believe are most important.

3. In setting up the section on war, we discussed three key reasons for studying war. What are these reasons and which, if any, reason(s) is/are most important when thinking about war in your opinion? Building out of this discussion, what is the best way to frame the study of war? Since there are many different ways to consider war, first present at least two reasons for the cause of war for the system level, state level, and the individual level of analysis (i.e. two causes for each level). Second, present a brief explanation of the perspective on war provided by the competing theoretical traditions of realism, liberalism, postmodernism, constructivism, and feminism. Finally, explain which level(s) of analysis and/or theoretical tradition(s) provide the greatest analytical leverage for studying war and justify your arguments.

4. Rourke (p. 315) states, “One of the challenges of examining terrorism is that there is no widely accepted definition.” How does Rourke define terrorism? How would you personally define terrorism – how is this definition similar or different from Rourke’s understanding of the term? President Bush and Hoffman’s debate over terrorism focuses on whether the U.S. has a sound strategy for fighting the war on terrorism. Explain each author’s position and then explain your own position on the issue. Vice-President Cheney also supports the Bush administration position on handling international security, this time in relation to the war in Iraq. Present the debate between Vice-President Cheney and Odon on whether all foreign troops should soon leave Iraq. Be sure to provide the arguments presented by both authors that connect with terrorism, your own views on the issue, and how this fits with your position regarding the war against terrorism more broadly. The approach to warfare taken by the Bush administration is also debated by Kenny and the UN High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change. Why do these two differ on their view of preemptive war and which side do you agree with and why? Finally, if discussing whether a war is justified, we could turn to “just war” theory. What are the criteria for just war theory, how could these be applied to the study of the Iraq war and preemptive war more generally, and do these criteria lead you to conclude that the war in Iraq is just or unjust?

5. In Chapter 11, Rourke discusses four approaches to security. Name each approach and discuss what assumptions each approach holds about the sources of insecurity and what armaments strategies and peacekeeping mechanisms are called for given these assumptions. Which of the four approaches to security do you think offers the best hope for a state’s security? Be sure to provide a detailed description of the approach to security that you favor to illustrate your position. Finally, we discussed an alternative way, peace studies, to consider security issues. Why is it argued that we need to study peace instead of war? What is the distinction between “positive” and “negative” peace? Be sure to support your answer with specific examples of “peace tools” from the Alger reading. Do you believe that the peace studies approach provides an important alternative to more traditional ways of studying security in international relations?

6. International political economy (IPE) scholars operate under three major theoretical traditions. Explain each theoretical tradition in detail. As part of your discussion, be sure to contrast what the three theoretical approaches say about free economic interchange and North-South cooperation and development. Which theoretical perspective do you believe is best for designing international economic policy?

Building out of the theoretical discussion of free economic interchange, provide the competing perspectives of Krueger and Chavez in Issue 1 on economic globalization. To further develop this argument, discuss the categories of barriers to free economic interchange (i.e. tariffs, types of non-tariff barriers, trade & investment support, and monetary & investment barriers), and then present the case for and against free economic interchange - be sure to discuss three of the reasons for and three of the reasons against provided by Rourke. Overall, are you for or against freer economic interchange between countries? Which aspect(s) raised in the essay up to this point is/are the most important to back this position?

7. Rourke (p. 412) observes, “Unless significant changes are made to increase the flow of development capital to the LDCs and to distribute it more broadly among all LDCs, the majority of them are destined to remain relatively poor for the foreseeable future.” In your essay, explain the capital needs of the South and the difficulties these countries face in getting capital. What are the other four main sources of capital for LDCs provided by Rourke? Briefly explain how all four are a source for capital, the problems with these sources for getting capital, and whether you think these problems can be overcome. Finally, what are the arguments presented by Baugh and Frisbie in their debate over whether the U.S. should take a hard-line with China about its economic policies? What does this debate reveal about the possible future economic relations between established economic powers and rising economic powers? Contrast this debate with the story told in *T-Shirt Travels*. Do these contrasting situations affect how you view strategizing about addressing the development needs of the LDCs?

Countries for Map Portion of Exam

Russia	Nepal	Oman
Kazakhstan	Bangladesh	United Arab Emirates
Mongolia	Thailand	Qatar
China	Laos	Kuwait
Japan	Cambodia	Iraq
North Korea	Sri Lanka	Iran
South Korea	Indonesia	Azerbaijan
Taiwan	Egypt	Armenia
Philippines	Israel	Georgia
Malaysia	Lebanon	Bahrain
Vietnam	Turkey	
India	Cyprus	
Pakistan	Syria	
Afghanistan	Jordan	
Turkmenistan	Saudi Arabia	
Uzbekistan	Yemen	
Bhutan	Kyrgyzstan	
Papua New Guinea	Tajikistan	
Myanmar (Burma)		
Australia		