## Texts/Readings

The core text for the course is:

Tim Dunne and Milja Kurki, International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity 4th Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016.

## Assignments

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### The term paper should answer the following question:

‘Do you agree with the realist theory that war between states is inevitable?’

Term papers should meet the following requirements:

 - Between 2,000 and 2,500 words (including title page and endnotes).

 - Cite a minimum of five different academic sources (books or journal articles) listed in the syllabus.

 - Use the Chicago Style system of citation (endnotes only). Chicago Style web site: <http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html>

 - Include a coversheet showing author’s name, course number, title of the paper, word length, plagiarism statement and submission date.

 - Typed, double-spaced and produced using Arial 12-point font.

An ‘excellent’ paper will display the following characteristics:

 - Demonstrates understanding of the subject.

 - Considers different perspectives.

 - Evaluates competing points of view.

 - Has a well-developed thesis and argument.

 - Uses clear communication.

 - Cites academic material appropriately.

 - Includes the required number of sources.

 - Is the correct length, formatted correctly and submitted on time.

Please use this checklist to help you write the paper.

Submission Guidelines

Pay attention to the following guidelines on the submission of assessed work:

 1) Papers that are too long or too short will receive a minimum one grade-deduction.

2) Papers that do not include the required number of academic sources will receive a minimum one-grade deduction.

 3) You are required to use the following headings in your papers:

1) Introduction: Thesis and Argument

2) Discussion of Key Concepts and Theories

3) Academic Perspective One

4) Academic Perspective Two

5) Evaluation and Engagement

6) Conclusion and Review of Argument

### Plagiarism and Cheating

Plagiarism of any kind will be considered grounds for failing the class. Good scholarship is obligatory. You should not copy material from any source without attributing it properly. Do not try to pass off another person’s work as your own.

You are required to sign the following statement on the coversheet of your essay:

 *I declare that all material in this assignment is my own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others. I have read the university’s Plagiarism and Cheating Policy in the current CSUB Bulletin.*

*Signed................................................. Date...................*

**Introduction**

We discuss the course and deal with any questions you might have about the syllabus. This session will cover assessment and essay guidance. We will also spend time discussing clear written communication and how to make effective arguments.

The following websites provide useful advice on essay writing:

 American University in Cairo – Writing Center

 <http://www1.aucegypt.edu/academic/writers>

 University of Toronto – Writing Center

 <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/general/general-advice>

 University of Minnesota – Writing Center

 <http://writing.umn.edu/sws/assets/pdf/quicktips/academicessaystructures.pdf>

 Harvard – Writing Center

 <http://writingcenter.fas.harvard.edu/pages/overview-academic-essay>

 Purdue – Online Writing Lab

 <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/2/>

 University of Warwick – Writing Center

 <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/al/learning_english/leap/writing>

**Classical Realism**

Study Questions

1) What causes international conflict between states?

2) Do you agree that human nature is power hungry?

3) What is a ‘balance of power’?

4) Why is it hard to maintain a ‘balance of power’?

Required Reading

Richard Ned Lebow, ‘Classical Realism’ in Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity 4th Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, 52-70.

Recommended Reading

Bagby, Laurie M. Johnson. "The use and abuse of Thucydides in international relations." *International Organization* 48, no. 1 (1994): 131-153.

Cozette, Murielle. "Realistic realism? American political realism, Clausewitz and Raymond Aron on the problem of means and ends in international politics." *Journal of Strategic Studies* 27, no. 3 (2004): 428-453.

Cozette, Murielle. "What lies ahead: Classical realism on the future of international relations." *International Studies Review* 10, no. 4 (2008): 667-679.

Molloy, Sean. "Truth, Power, Theory: Hans Morgenthau's Formulation of Realism." *Diplomacy and Statecraft* 15, no. 1 (2004): 1-34.

Quinn, Adam. "Does the Flaw Lie within Us? Classical Realism and Unrealistic Policy." *Global Society* 28, no. 2 (2014): 241-265.

Williams, Michael C. "Why ideas matter in international relations: Hans Morgenthau, classical realism, and the moral construction of power politics." *International Organization* 58, no. 4 (2004): 633-665.

**Defensive Realism**

Study Questions

1) What is an ‘anarchic international system’?

2) Why makes states insecure in an anarchic international system?

3) What is the ‘security dilemma’?

4) Are bipolar systems more stable than multipolar systems?

Required Reading

John J. Mearsheimer, ‘Structural Realism’ in Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity 4th Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, 71-88.

Recommended Reading

Hamilton, Eric J., and Brian C. Rathbun. "Scarce differences: toward a material and systemic foundation for offensive and defensive realism." *Security Studies* 22, no. 3 (2013): 436-465.

Schweller, Randall L. "Neorealism's status‐quo bias: What security dilemma?." *Security Studies* 5, no. 3 (1996): 90-121.

Taliaferro, Jeffrey W. "Security seeking under anarchy: Defensive realism revisited." *International security* 25, no. 3 (2001): 128-161.

Tang, Shiping. "The security dilemma: A conceptual analysis." *Security studies* 18, no. 3 (2009): 587-623.

Waltz, Kenneth N. "The origins of war in neorealist theory." *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18, no. 4 (1988): 615-628.

Waltz, Kenneth N. "Structural realism after the Cold War." *International security* 25, no. 1 (2000): 5-41.

**Offensive Realism**

Study Questions

1) Why do states want to maximize their power?

2) What is the best way to deal with power maximizing states?

3) What is ‘hegemony’?

4) Why is it difficult for states to achieve hegemony in the international system?

Required Reading

John J. Mearsheimer, ‘Structural Realism’ in Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity 4th Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, 71-88.

Recommended Reading

Legro, Jeffrey W., and Andrew Moravcsik. "Is anybody still a realist?." *International security* 24, no. 2 (1999): 5-55.

Pashakhanlou, Arash Heydarian. "Waltz, Mearsheimer and the post-Cold War world: The rise of America and the fall of structural realism." *International Politics* 51, no. 3 (2014): 295-315.

Schmidt, Brian C. "Realism as tragedy." *Review of International Studies* 30, no. 3 (2004): 427-441.

Schmidt, Brian C. "Competing realist conceptions of power." *Millennium* 33, no. 3 (2005): 523-549.

Snyder, Glenn H. "Mearsheimer's World—Offensive Realism and the Struggle for Security: A Review Essay." *International Security* 27, no. 1 (2002): 149-173.

Toft, Peter. "John J. Mearsheimer: an offensive realist between geopolitics and power." *Journal of International Relations and Development* 8, no. 4 (2005): 381-408.