



# **IR 6652: Theory and Ideology in International Relations**

**~Spring 2012~**

**Dr. Steven L. Taylor**

**670-3759**

**<http://spectrum.troy.edu/~sltaylor>**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

An examination of historical and contemporary theories in international relations; the role of political, economic, ethnic, religious and other belief systems or philosophical approaches of sufficient coherence, to be termed ideologies, within the global system.

## **BOOKS**

- Donnelly, Jack. 2000. *Realism and International Relations*. Cambridge University Press.
- Ingersoll, David E., Richard K. Matthews and Andrew Davidson. 2010. *The Philosophic Roots of Modern Ideology.*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY: Sloan Publishing.
- Sterling-Folker, Jennifer., ed. 2006. *Making Sense of International Relations Theory*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.
- Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Relations*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Additional readings noted below.
- Please review Dr. Taylor's Rules (at his home page).

## **GRADING**

Your grade will be determined as follows (specifics for each section detailed below):

Participation (see below)  
Research Project

20%

Initial Proposal (3/7)/Final Proposal (3/21)	10%
Presentation (4/23, 4/25, or 4/30)	10%
Final Paper (same day as presentation)	30%
Final Exam (5/3 @ 2pm)	30%

**Participation:** Reading (and thinking about what one has read) prior to class meetings is essential for successful graduate study. As such, I expect each student to have read the assigned materials for class and to be ready to discuss them. To help motivate this behavior, I require that each student bring 1-2 pps of typed notes concerning each class meeting's readings. These notes will be used during class for discussion and will be turned in at the end of each class. Individual students will be assigned the task of leading discussion on a given day. These notes will sum to account for 20% of your course grade. Failure to attend class will result in loss of credit. (A fringe benefit to this process will be that the sum total of these notes will make for excellent comp prep notes when the time comes--consider this the "method in the madness" clause).

**Research Project:** Each student will produce a ~25 pp. research paper (exclusive of title page, abstract, bibliography or other flotsam and jetsam) that takes a specific example of a state engaging in an act of international relations that is analyzed from three distinct IR theories (e.g., example: why did Earth join the United Federation of Planets in 2161 from the perspectives of basic balance of power theory, neoliberalism and constructivism).

Each student will present a 1-2 pp basic proposal that will include roughly one paragraph on the basic issue and a paragraph or two on the proposed theories that demonstrate some idea as to how the issue/case and the theories will work in the project. An initial (non-annotated) bibliography of 8 sources will also be included. This initial proposal will be presented in class. A revised version with an annotated bibliography with 12 sources (at least 9 being scholarly, 2 being book and *none* being class texts) will be likewise presented in class. Students will be expected to be able to discuss project progress between the two assignments.

Each student will also present a 12-15 minute presentation to accompany their research paper. Each presentation will require a PowerPoint presentation and will be conducted in a way that simulates a conference presentation.

**Final Exam.** The final exam will consist of two essay question drawn from a pool of questions presented to the students.

Note: all written assignments (except discussion/reading notes) must be submitted to turnitin (within the Blackboard class shell)

## Class/Reading Schedule

*Adjustments may be made as semester progresses*

1/11: Course Introduction and Overview

**1/16: MLK Day** (no class)

## **I. REVIEWING CONTEMPORARY IDEOLOGIES/POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY**

Ingersoll, et al, complete.

1/18, 1/23: C1, C2, C3

1/25, 1/30: C4, C5, C6

2/1, 2/6, 2/8: C7-C11

### **Additional on Readings on Classic Liberalism and Capitalism**

- French National Assembly (August 1789): [Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen](#).
- Locke. *The Second Treatise on Government*. [Excerpt](#). (updated from original posting)
- Smith, Adam. *The Wealth of Nations*: Book I, C2, “[Of the Principle Which Gives Occasion to the Division of Labor](#)”

### **Additional Readings on Conservatism**

- Burke, Edmund. *Reflections on the Revolution in France*: [excerpt](#).

### **Additional Readings on Fascism:**

- Hitler, excerpt from *Mein Kampf* (handout)
- Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Beyond Good and Evil*: [excerpt](#).
- Mussolini, Benito. “[What is Fascism](#)”
- [The 25 Points of Hitler's Nazi Party](#)

## **II. THE THREE MAJOR SCHOOLS**

### **A. Realism (2/13-2/22)**

Sterling-Folker, C1 & C2

Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan*. Chapters [17-20](#).

Rousseau: [Discourse on the Origin of Inequality](#).

Excerpt from Morgenthau (handout) + [Six Principles of Political Realism](#)

Excerpt from Waltz (handout)

Donnelly, complete.

Excerpt from Korab-Karpowicz

**B. Liberalism (2/27-3/7)**

Sterling-Folker, c3

Korab-Karpowicz Selection on Grotius (handout)

Kant, [\*Perpetual Peace\*](#).

Locke, John. *The Second Treatise on Government*. [Excerpt](#).

Keohane and Nye, excerpt (handout)

Excerpt from Korab-Karpowicz

**3/7: Initial Proposal Due**

**3/12-3/16: Spring Break**

**C. Constructivism (3/19-3/28)**

Sterling-Folker, c5

Wendt, complete

**3/21: Revised Proposal Due**

**III. ADDITIONAL THEORIES**

**A. Marxist/Neomarxist Theories (4/2-4/11)**

Sterling-Folker, c7

Selection from Sandle (excerpt)

excerpt from Lenin, [\*Imperialism\*](#)

Dos Santos, Theotonio. 1970. "The Structure of Dependence ." *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 60, 2: 231-236. (via JSTOR)

excerpt from Hardt and Negri (chapter 1—downloadable [here](#)).

**B. Other Theories (4/16-4/18)**

Sterling-Folker, c4, c6, c8, c9, c10 and c11

Additional handouts on misc additional theories

**Student Presentations: 4/23, 4/25 & 4/30**

**Final Exam: Monday, 5/2 @ 2pm**