# The University of Texas at Austin Gov 388L (39190) Bargaining and War in International Political History Spring 2011, W 12.30-3.30 Bat 1.104

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Office hours: M 11-12, 1.30-3.30

### **Course Description**

This advanced graduate course lies at the intersection of literatures on structural theories of international politics, bargaining and war, and diplomatic history. It will focus on two intellectual changes—reviewing an emerging return to structural theories of international politics; and the utilization of an alternative framework, derived from bargaining theory, to critique existing structural theories of international politics and reexamine prominent claims in the field of diplomatic history.

## **Course Requirements**

There will be three key assignments for this course. First, you will be expected to attend class, keep up with the assigned readings, and participate in our discussions. Second, you will write three short essays (approximately 750-1250 words each) critiquing our weekly readings. Third, you will write a research paper (25-35 pages) that applies the bargaining framework to some historical event of your choice, such as the outbreak of a war, the end of a war, or the stability of a peace settlement. The research paper is due at different stages, with a final draft to be turned in by midnight on Friday, May 13.

Attendance and Participation 25% Short papers (3 \* 8.33% each) 25% Research paper 50%

### **Reading Materials**

The reading material for this course will be made available through two primary formats. First, our course blackboard site will contain electronic copies of our assigned article readings. Second, the following required texts are available at the University Co-op bookstore.

P.M.H. Bell. 1997 [1986]. *The Origins of the Second World War in Europe*. 3d Edition. New York: Longman.

Daniel H. Deudney. 2007. *Bounding Power: Republican Security Theory from the Polis to the Global Village*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Charles L. Glaser. 2010. Rational Theory of International Politics: The Logic of Competition and Cooperation. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Robert Jervis. 1970. *The Logic of Images in International Relations*. New York: Columbia University Press.

David Lake. 2009. Hierarchy in International Relations. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Marc Trachtenberg. 1999. A Constructed Peace: The Making of the European Settlement, 1945-1963. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Marc Trachtenberg. 2006. *The Craft of International History: A Guide to Method*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

R. Harrison Wagner. 2007. War and the State: The Theory of International Politics. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Kenneth N. Waltz. 1979. Theory of International Politics. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.

#### **Course Assignments**

You will be expected to attend class, keep up with our readings, and participate in our discussions. On the class periods that you do not write short papers, you should be prepared to lead discussion for a portion of this class. This includes being ready to present a brief summary of our key readings and offer a few broad questions that could serve to start discussion. These discussion questions should be posted on our blackboard page by midnight on the night before we meet.

You will write three short weekly papers during the semester. The first two are typical critiques that you have written for other graduate seminars. They should focus on the something—questionable underlying assumptions, unrecognized theoretical and empirical implications, logical inconsistencies, empirical weaknesses, etc.—from that week's reading assignments. I want to give you wide latitude in your chosen topics for these papers. You can think about them

as opportunities to begin to work through a starter idea that could become a paper later. In other words, I do not want to see essays that simply summarize the readings for the week. We will divide out these assignments on the first day of class to ensure that there are a few papers written each week. The potential weeks for these essays are: January 26, February 2, February 9, February 16, February 23, and March 2. These essays are due at 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before our Wednesday class session in which we will discuss those readings.

The third short weekly essay will be to write a "bargaining critique" of the readings assigned for March 23, March 30, or April 13. Again, we will divide out these assignments on the first day of class.

Finally, you will write one long research paper. It should utilize the bargaining framework to critique existing historical research and generate an explanation of some key historical event in international relations. In other words, this is not just going to be a literature review or a research design. I expect that this paper will have a large empirical component. We will be examining the origins of World War I, the interwar period, and the Cold War in class. It is recommended that you draw on something from these historical periods to reduce the amount of new reading that you will have to do.

This research paper will be due in four stages. The first, a one-page proposal, will be due at 5 p.m. on Monday, February 21. Please post these proposals on blackboard as we will be discussing them in that Wednesday's class. Second, a two-page annotated outline/historical timeline identifying all events and decisions that need to be explained for your case will be due at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6. The proposal and this annotated timeline will constitute 10% of your *research paper* grade. Third, you will turn in an historical literature review (6-10 pages) on Monday, April 25. This will constitute 25% of your *research paper* grade. Fourth, the final paper is due at midnight on Friday, May 13.

## **UT Administrative policies**

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, <a href="http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/">http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/</a>

"Scholastic dishonesty...includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without prior permission of the instructor, providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or the attempt to commit such an act" (Section 11-802 (b), *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities*).

If you have any questions about what constitutes scholastic dishonesty, you should consult with me and the following website (<a href="http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html">http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/academicintegrity.html</a>). Any student that violates this policy will fail this course and have the details of the violation reported to Student Judicial Services.

*Religious holidays:* By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

*Emergency evacuation*: In the event of a fire or other emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate a building rapidly. Upon the activation of a fire alarm or the announcement of an emergency in a university building, all occupants of the building are required to evacuate and assemble outside. Once evacuated, no one may re-enter the building without instruction to do so from the Austin Fire Department, University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Students should familiarize themselves with all the exit doors of each room and building they occupy at the university, and should remember that the nearest exit routes may not be the same as the way they typically enter buildings.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructors in writing during the first week of class. Faculty members must then provide this information to the Fire Prevention Services office by fax (512-232-2759), with "Attn. Mr. Roosevelt Easley" written in the subject line.

Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at <a href="http://www.utexas.edu/emergency">http://www.utexas.edu/emergency</a>.

#### **Schedule**

### I. Recent theorizing on international structure

## January 19

The contemporary baseline: international structure, anarchy, balance of power, and the paradigm debate

Waltz, Theory of International Politics, all

Wagner, War and the State, pp. 1-52

#### January 26

Rethinking the "isms" and the challenges of international political order with Republican Security Theory

Deudney, Bounding Power, all

### February 2

Hierarchy; bargaining model of war

Lake, Hierarchy in International Politics, all

Last 45 minutes of class:

James D. Fearon. 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.

Paper writers for this week: please focus on the Lake book.

### February 9

Amending Waltz with interests, information, and the offense-defense balance

Glaser, Rational Theory of International Politics, all

## II. The Bargaining Framework

## February 16

A bargaining theory of international politics?

Wagner, War and the State, finish

## February 23

Bargaining and War—private information and signaling

First part of class

Robert Jervis. 1970. *The Logic of Images in International Relations*. New York: Columbia University Press.

James D. Fearon. 1997. Signaling Foreign Policy Interests. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41(1): 68-90.

Jessica L. Weeks. 2008. Autocratic Audience Costs: Regime Type and Signaling Resolve. *International Organization* 62(1): 35-64.

2<sup>nd</sup> part of class

Discuss paper proposals

Recommended readings

Geoffrey Blainey. 1988. The Causes of War. 3rd Edition. New York: Simon and Schuster.

James D. Fearon. 1994. Domestic Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review* 88(3): 577-592.

Erik Gartzke. 1999. War is in the Error Term. International Organization 53(3): 567-587.

Kenneth Schultz. 1999. Do Democratic Institutions Constrain or Inform? Contrasting Two Institutional Perspectives on Democracy and War. *International Organization* 53(2): 233-266.

Mark Fey and Kristopher W. Ramsey. 2007. Mutual Optimism and War. *American Journal of Political Science* 51(4): 738-754.

Michael Tomz. 2007. Domestic Audience Costs in International Relations: An Experimental Approach. *International Organization* 61(4): 821-840.

Branislav L. Slantchev and Ahmer Tarrar. 2011. Mutual Optimism as a Rationalist Cause of War. *American Journal of Political Science*: forthcoming

#### March 2

Bargaining and War—The commitment problem and arms races

Robert Powell. 2006. War as a Commitment Problem. *International Organization* 60(1): 169-203.

Bahar Leventoglu and Branislav Slantchev. 2007. The Armed Peace: A Punctuated Equilibrium Theory of War. *American Journal of Political Science* 51(4): 775-771.

Branislav Slantchev. 2005. Territory and Commitment: The Concert of Europe as a Self-Enforcing Equilibrium. *Security Studies* 14(4): 565-606.

Terrence L. Chapman and Patrick J. McDonald. 2010. The Sword and the Coffers. Working paper.

Andrew Kydd. 2000. Arms Races and Arms Control: Modeling the Hawk Perspective. *American Journal of Political Science* 44(2): 222-238.

NSC-68. Available at: http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/nsc68.htm

### Recommended:

Dan Reiter. 2009. How Wars End. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

# III. Historical applications

#### March 9

The historical method

Marc Trachtenberg. 2006. *The Craft of International History: A Guide to Method*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

#### March 16

No class-spring break

### March 23

The Origins of World War I

James Joll. 1984. The Origins of the First World War. Longman. Pp. 1-144.

David G. Herrmann. 1996. *The Arming of Europe and the Making of the First World War*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 3-36, 113-232.

#### Recommended:

David Stevenson. 1996. Armaments and the Coming of War: Europe 1904-1914. London: Oxford University Press.

David Stevenson. 1997. Militarization and Diplomacy in Europe Before 1914. *International Security* 22(1): 125-161.

Niall Ferguson. 1994. Public Finance and National Security: The Domestic Origins of the First World War Revisited. *Past and Present* 142: 141-168.

Patrick J. McDonald. 2011. Complicating Commitment: Free Resources, Power Shifts, and the Fiscal Politics of Preventive War. *International Studies Quarterly*. Forthcoming.

David M. Rowe. 2005. The Tragedy of Liberalism: How Globalization Caused the First World War. *Security Studies* 14(3): 407-447.

Leiber, Keir. 2007. The new history of World War I and what it means for international relations theory. *International Security* 32(2): 155-191.

Frank Zagare. 2009. Explaining the 1914 War in Europe: An Analytical Narrative. *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 21(1): 63-95.

#### March 30

Interwar period

P.M.H. Bell. 1997 [1986]. *The Origins of the Second World War in Europe*. 3d Edition. New York: Longman.

#### Recommended:

Patrick O. Cohrs. 2006. The Unfinished Peace after World War I: America, Britain and the Stabilisation of Europe. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Adam Tooze. 2006. Wages of Destruction: The Making and Breaking of the Nazi Economy. New York: Penguin.

### April 6

Reading break

## April 13

The Cold War in Europe

Trachtenberg, A Constructed Peace

#### Recommended:

Melvyn P. Leffler. 2007. For the Soul of Mankind: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Cold War. New York: Hill and Wang

Odd Arne Westad. 2006. The Global Cold War. New York: Cambridge University Press.

### April 20

Work on papers

### April 27

Paper meetings with me

## May 4

Work on papers