

**Ilia State University**  
**Faculty of Arts and Sciences**  
**Level – Master’s**

**Course Syllabus**

1.	<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	Theories of International Relations
2.	<b>COURSE DURATION</b>	Fall Semester
3.	<b>ECTS</b>	6.0
4.	<b>COURSE STATUS</b>	Obligatory
5.	<b>DISTRIBUTION OF HOURS</b>	<p><b>Contact hours: 32 Hours</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Lectures – 14 hrs.</li> <li>– Seminars – 12 hrs.</li> <li>– Two Essay Papers in Class – 2 hrs.</li> <li>– Presentations – 4 hrs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Independent Work: 118 hrs.</b>  <b>Total: 150 hrs.</b></p>
6.	<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	<p>Giorgi Gvalia  Professor, PhD  Ilia State University  Mob: 593 94 99 91  E-mail: <a href="mailto:giorgi_gvalia@iliauni.edu.ge">giorgi_gvalia@iliauni.edu.ge</a></p>
7.	<b>PREREQUISITES</b>	N/A
8.	<b>INSTRUCTION METHODS</b>	Lectures with power-point presentations, seminars, group discussions, brain-storming, debates, presentations.
9.	<b>AIMS OF THE COURSE</b>	<p>The course aims to give students deep and comprehensive knowledge of major debates and theories in the field of International Relations. All major classic and contemporary theories of international relations will be discussed and analyzed. By the end of the course, students should be conversant in basic IR theory and have the</p>

		intellectual equipment to understand, criticize, and apply these (and other) theories of international relations. The course is also designed to provide students with an understanding of the potential and limitations of theory in the study of international politics.
10.	<b>MAJOR TOPICS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Intellectual History of IR</li> <li>– Great Debates in IR</li> <li>– Political Realism</li> <li>– Liberalism</li> <li>– Constructivism</li> <li>– Levels of Analysis</li> <li>– Problem of Peace and War</li> </ul>
11.	<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCES (GENERAL AND SUBJECT-SPECIFIC)</b>	<p>General and subject-specific skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student will gain deep and comprehensive knowledge about the major debates in the field of International Relations;</li> <li>• Students will gain comprehensive knowledge around the major classic and contemporary theories of the field;</li> <li>• Students will be able to use various methodological and theoretical instruments for the analysis of contemporary international relations;</li> <li>• Student will develop communication and presentation skills;</li> <li>• Student will gain the skills of conducting an independent work and project.</li> </ul>
12.	<b>EVALUATION AND GRADING</b>	<p><b>Grading Scale (100points):</b></p> <p>(A) 91 - 100 Excellent  (B) 81 – 90 Very Good  (C) 71 – 80 Good  (D) 61 – 70 Satisfactory  (E) 51 – 60 Sufficient  (FX) 41 – 50 Fail, A student has the right to take the exam only once again.  (F) 0 – 40 Low Fail. A student must take the course again to get a credit</p> <p><b>Evaluation Components</b></p> <p>Participation in seminar discussions - 10%</p>

		<p>2 Essays – 15 % each (In class)</p> <p>Research Project Presentations - 20 %</p> <p>Final exam- Research Paper - 30%</p> <p><b>Participation in seminars/discussions</b> - Students should read required materials and engage in class discussions</p> <p><b>Essay</b> - 500-600 word critical analysis of the assigned essay topic. Essay is done in class.</p> <p><b>Research Project Presentation</b> – Students should present their research projects in class. Research project is the plan of Research paper that students should prepare by the end of the class. Project should describe following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research Problem</li> <li>2. Research Questions/Questions</li> <li>3. Theory and Methodology</li> <li>4. Literature Review</li> <li>5. Discussion of prospective outcomes and limitations of research</li> </ol> <p><b>Research Paper</b> – Students should prepare a research paper that will be submitted electronically during the examination period. Specific date will be defined.</p> <p>The research paper should represent empirical study with sound theoretical basis</p>
13.	<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<p><b>Week 1 - Syllabus Presentation, International Relations as an academic Discipline</b></p> <p><b>Week 2 - Research in International Relations: Approaches and Methods</b></p> <p><b>Week 3 - Political Realism 1 – Classic and Neorealism</b></p> <p><b>Week 4 - Political Realism 2 – Offensive/Defensive and Neoclassical Realism</b></p>

		<p><b>Week 5 - Essay 1</b></p> <p><b>Week 6 - Liberalism 1 – Complex Interdependence and Neoliberal Institutionalism</b></p> <p><b>Week 7 - Liberalism 2 – Democratic Peace Theory</b></p> <p><b>Week 8 - Constructivism 1 – Constructing Anarchy and International Order</b></p> <p><b>Week 9 - Constructivism 2 – Norms, Ideas and Identities</b></p> <p><b>Week 10 - Essay 2</b></p> <p><b>Week 11 - Problem of Peace and War from the perspective of IR Theories</b></p> <p><b>Week 12 – International conflicts and Levels of Analysis</b></p> <p><b>Week 13 - Foreign Policy – Models of Decision-making</b></p> <p><b>Week 14 - Presentations</b></p> <p><b>Week 15 – Presentations</b></p> <p><b>Week 16 – Summing up the course</b></p>
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<b>READINGS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robert J. Art, Robert Jervis, International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues (Pearson, 2007)</li> <li>• Alexander Wendt, Social Theory of International Politics (Cambridge Uni. Press, 1999)</li> <li>• Hans J. Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations: Struggle for Power and Peace (McGrawHill, 1993)</li> <li>• Kenneth. N. Waltz, Theory of International Politics (McGrawHill, 1979)</li> <li>• Neoclassical Realism, the State and Foreign Policy (Cambridge Uni. Press, 2009)</li> <li>• Graham Allison, Philip Zelikow, Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis (Longman, 1999, Second Ed)</li> <li>• John. J. Mearshmaer, The Tragedy of Great Power Politics (Chicago University, 2001)</li> </ul>
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- Ole Waever, The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline: American and European Developments in International Relations (*International Organization*, Vol. 52, No. 4, Autumn, 1998, pp. 687-727)
- Jack Snyder, One World, Rival Theories, (*Foreign Policy*, No. 145. Nov. - Dec., 2004 pp. 52-62)
- Harry Howe Ransom, International Relations (*The Journal of Politics*, Vol 30, No 2 May 1968. pp 345-371)
- Piotr S. Wandycz, The Theory of International Relations (*The Review of Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 2. (Apr., 1955), pp. 189-205)
- Kenneth W. Thompson, The Study of International Politics: A Survey of Trends and Developments (*The Review of Politics*, Vol. 14, No. 4. (Oct., 1952), pp. 433-467)
- Brian C. Schmidt, Lessons from the Past: Reassessing the Interwar Disciplinary History of International Relations (*International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 42, No. 3, Sep., 1998, pp. 433-459)
- Steve Smith, The United States and the Discipline of International Relations: "Hegemonic Country, Hegemonic Discipline" (*International Studies Review*, Vol. 4, No. 2, (Summer, 2002), pp. 67-85.)
- Stephen M. Walt, International Relations: One World, Many Theories (*Foreign Policy*, No. 110, Special Edition: Frontiers of Knowledge. Spring, 1998, pp. 29-46)
- J. David Singer, International Conflict: Three Levels of Analysis. (*World Politics*, Vol. 12, No. 3. Apr., 1960. pp. 453-461)
- Barry Buzan, The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations Reconsidered (In: International Relations Theory Today. Ken Booth and Steve Smith (eds). Pennsylvania University Press. 1995. pp. 198-216)
- Stephen Van Evera, Offense, Defense and the Causes of War (*International Security*, Vol. 22. No. 4 Spring 1998. pp. 5-43)
- Steven R. David, Explaining Third World Alignment (*World Politics*, Vol. 43, No. 2. (Jan., 1991), pp. 233-256)
- Carneiro, Robert L. A Theory of the Origin of the State (*Science*, 1970. 169:733-8)
- Hans J. Morgenthau, The Problem of Sovereignty Reconsidered (*Columbia Law Review*, Vol. 48, No. 3 (Apr., 1948), pp. 341-365)
- Krasner, Stephen D. Compromising Westphalia. (*International Security* 1995/96. 20(3): 115-151)
- Thomas Hobbes, The State of Nature and the State of War (In: Conflict after the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace. Richard K. Betts (Ed), Pearson Edu. 2008. pp. 66-69)
- Edward Hallett Carr, Realism and Idealism (In: Conflict after the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace. Richard K. Betts (Ed), Pearson Edu. 2008. pp. 70-86)

- Waltz Kenneth N. The Anarchic Structure of World Politics (In: International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues, Robert Art, Robert Jervis (Eds). Eighth Edition. 2008. pp.29-49)
- Mearsheimer, John J. "Back to the Future: Instability in Europe after the Cold War". (*International Security* 1990. 15:5-56.)
- Robert Gilpin, Hegemonic War and International Change (In: Conflict after the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace. Richard K. Betts (Ed), Pearson Edu. 2008. pp. 94-105)
- Burley, Anne-Marie. International Law and International Relations Theory. (*American Journal of International Law* 1993. 87 (2):205-39)
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(<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/4943/> and <http://www.historyplace.com/speeches/wilson-points.htm>)
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- Ray, James Lee and Bruce Russett. The Future as Arbiter of Theoretical Controversies: Predictions, Explanations and the End of the Cold War (*British Journal of Political Science* 1996. 26:441-70)
- Axelrod, Robert. Effective Choice in the Prisoner's Dilemma (*Journal of Conflict Resolution* 1980. 24:3-25)
- Grieco, Joseph M., Robert Powell, and Duncan Snidal. The Relative Gains Problem for International Cooperation (*American Political Science Review* 1993. 87 (3):729-743)
- Jervis, Robert. Cooperation under the Security Dilemma (*World Politics* 1978. 30:167-214)
- Daniel L. Byman and Kenneth M. Pollack, Let Us Now Praise Great Men: Bringing the Statesman Back In (*International Security*, Vol. 25, No. 4 (Spring, 2001), pp. 107-146)
- Margaret G. Hermann, Joe D.Hagan, "International Decision-Making: Leadership Matters." *Foreign Policy*, No.110, Special Edition: Frontiers of Knowledge. (Spring, 1998)
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. An Expected Utility Theory of International Conflict. (*American Political Science Review* 1980. 74 (4):917-31)
- Fearon, James D. Rationalist Explanations for War. (*International Organization* 1995.49(3):379-414)
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- Jervis, Robert. Hypotheses on Misperception (*World Politics* 1968.20(3):454-79)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kowert, Paul A., and Margaret G. Hermann. Who Takes Risks? Daring and Caution in Foreign Policy Making (<i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> 1997. 41 (5):611-637)</li> <li>• Levy, Jack S. Prospect Theory, Rational Choice, and International Relations, (<i>International Studies Quarterly</i> 1997. 41(1): 87-112)</li> <li>• Buzan, Barry. From International System to International Society: Structural Realism and Regime Theory Meet the English School (<i>International Organization</i> 1993.47 (3):327-352.)</li> <li>• John S. Duffield, Political Culture and State Behavior: Why Germany Confounds Neorealism (<i>International Organization</i>, Vol. 53, No. 4. (Autumn, 1999), pp. 765-803)</li> <li>• Wendt, Alex. Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics (<i>International Organization</i> 1992. 46:391-4250)</li> <li>• Marysia Zalewski and Cynthia Enloe, Questions about Identity in IR (In: International Relations Theory Today, Ken Booth and Steve Smith (Eds) Pennsylvania State University Press. 1995. pp279-306)</li> <li>• Cederman, Lars-Erik. Emergent Polarity: Analyzing State Formation and Power-Politics (<i>International Studies Quarterly</i> 1994 38 (4):501-33)</li> <li>• Ashley, Richard K. &amp; R. B. J. Walker. Introduction: Speaking the Language of Exile: Dissident Thought in International Studies (<i>International Studies Quarterly</i> 1990 34(3): 259-268)</li> <li>• J. Ann Tickner, A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism (In: International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues. Robert Art and</li> <li>• R Gaddis, John Lewis. International Relations Theory and the End of the Cold War, (<i>International Security</i> 1992/93. 17:5-58)</li> </ul>
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