
Political Science 583
International Conflict: Theory and History

Hein Goemans
Harkness 337
Office Hours: Wed. 1-2
hgoemans@mail.rochester.edu

Course Info: Fall 2020
Thursday 12:30-15:15
Harkness 329

Course Description

Plan A:

This course aims to provide graduate students with a basic introduction to the history of the main components of international relations. We will examine the historical development of organizations that employ the use of force, i.e., state formation, the historical

- **One short paper:** (20%)
 - { Plan B: Each student must summarize one country's position for or against war in the Munich crisis. The summary should be no more than 2-3 double-spaced pages.
- **Two book reports** (30% each):
 - { Pick one book for week 12 and another for week 13. Prepare a brief book report for the class. No more than 5 pages per book. As you should know by now, the report should summarize the book by clearly identifying: 1) **The Central Question**), 2) **The Central Answer**, 3) **The Competing Explanations**, 4) **Why are he Competing Explanations Wrong?**, and 5) **Why Do We Care?**.
- **A Joint Research paper** (20%). Totalling 25 pages or so
 - { Plan B: Collaborate with the other students to present, in depth, one joint paper on Munich 1938.

Texts

The following books are available from Amazon or some such online store:

- James West Davidson & Mark Hamilton Lytle. *After the Fact; The Art of Historical Detection*. 3rd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc. 2000.
- Marc Trachtenberg. *The Craft of International History; a guide to method*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2006.
- William H. McNeil. *The Pursuit of Power: Technology, Armed Force, and Society since A.D. 1000*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. 1982.
- Stephan Haggard. *East Asia in the World: Twelve Events that Shaped the Modern International Order*. Cambridge University Press, release date 25 September 2020.
- Diego Gambetta. *The Sicilian Mafia: The Business of Private Protection*. Harvard University Press, 1996.
- Hendrik Spruyt, *The Sovereign State and Its Competitors*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. 1996.
- Stephen Biddle, *Military Power: Explaining Victory and Defeat in Modern Battle*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2006.

Course Outline

Thursday, 27 August

1. Introduction: Making Sense of this Course

Thursday, 3 September

2. Introduction: Making Sense of History

- James West Davidson & Mark Hamilton Lytle. *After the Fact; The Art of Historical Detection*. 3rd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc. 2000. Prologue: xvii-xxxi; Chapter 2, The Visible and Invisible Worlds of Salem: 22-44;
- Fritz Stern (ed.). *The Varieties of History; From Voltaire to the Present*. New York: Vintage Books. 1973. Introduction: 11-34; Part I: Chapter 8: Positivist History and its Critics: 120-144. Part I: Chapter 11. The Ethos of a Scientific Historian: 178-190. Part I: Chapter 14: History as a Science: 209-226. Part II: Chapter 10: History and Political Culture: 371-386.
- Paul W. Schroeder, History and International Relations Theory: Not Use or Abuse, but Fit or Mismatch, in *International Security*, Symposium: History and Theory, Vol. 22, No. 1, Summer 1997, pp. 64-74
- John Lewis Gaddis, History, Theory, and Common Ground, in *International Security*, Symposium: History and Theory, Vol. 22, No. 1, Summer 1997, pp. 75-85
- Jack S. Levy, 1997. Too Important to Leave to the Other; History and Political Science in the Study of International Relations. *International Security*, Vol 22(1) (Summer): 22-33.

Thursday, 10 September

3. Counterfactuals

- Philip E. Tetlock and Aaron Belkin, eds. *Counterfactual Thought Experiments in World Politics*, Princeton University Press. Chapter 1. Some pages will be missing in this Google Book!
https://books.google.com/books?id=UyMXon0JmBsC&printsec=frontcover&dq=Counterfactual+thought++experiments+in+world+politics+:+logical,+methodological,+and+psychological+perspectives&hl=en&ei=Jgs-TKvxFLS8lQeq-7H5BQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CCoQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q&f=false
- James D. Fearon, 1991. Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science. *World Politics*, Vol. 43, No. 2 (January): 169-195.
- Eric Grynaviski, Contrasts, counterfactuals, and causes, *European Journal of International Relations*, Vol. 19(4): 823-846.

- { J. L. Richardson, 1988. "New Perspectives on Appeasement: Some Implications for International Relations." *World Politics*, Vol. 40, No. 2 (April): 289-316. https://www.jstor.org/stable/2010215?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents
- { Gerhard L. Weinberg with William R. Rock and Anna M. Cienciala. 1989. Essay and Reaction: The Munich Crisis Revisited. *The International History Review* Vol. 11, No. 4 (November): 668-688. https://www.jstor.org/stable/40106088?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents
- { Sidney Aster, 2008. "Appeasement: Before and After Revisionism." *Diplomacy & Statecraft* Vol. 19, No. 3: 443-480. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09592290802344962>
- { Robert J. Caputi, 2000. *Neville Chamberlain and Appeasement*. Second rate book. Susquehanna University Press. https://books.google.com/books?id=KWQcos95hHsC&pg=PA68&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false

- **Munich 1938: What were they thinking?**

- { Germany
- { France
- { United Kingdom
- {

- F. C. Lane. "Economic Consequences of Organized Violence." *The Journal*

Thursday, 12 November

12. **Motivations for the Use of Force: Nationalism { Roots?**

Each student picks a different book.

- Donald Horowitz, 2003. *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*, University of California Press.
- Anthony D. Smith, 1991. *The Ethnic Origins of Nations*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1991.
- Walker Connor, 1993. *Ethnonationalism: The Quest for Understanding*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Eric J. Hobsbawm & Terence Ranger (eds.), 2012, Reissue Edition. *The Invention of Tradition*. NY, Cambridge University Press.
- Eric J. Hobsbawm, *Nations and Nationalism since 1870: Programme, Myth and Reality*, Cambridge University Press, 2nd edition, March 2012.
- Ernest Gellner, *Nations and Nationalism*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1983.
- Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, Verso, 2nd edition, 1991.

Thursday, 19 November

13. **Motivations for the Use of Force: Nationalism { Branches**

Each student picks a different book.

- Margaret Levi, 1997. *Consent, Dissent, and Patriotism*, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Andreas Wimmer, 2012. *Waves of War: nationalism, State Formation and Ethnic Exclusion in the Modern World*, NY Cambridge University Press.
- Liah Greenfeld, 2nd edition, 1993. *Nationalism: Five Roads to Modernity*, Harvard University Press.
- Rogers Brubaker, 1996. *Nationalism Reframed*, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Eugen Weber, *Peasants into Frenchmen*. Stanford University Press, 1976.

Thursday, 26 November

Thanksgiving : No Class

Thursday, 3 December

Last Class

14. **Motivations for the Use of Force: Nationalism**

- Hein Goemans, "On Nationalism."