

# THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## 1. MODULE SUMMARY

### Aims and Summary

Theories of International Relations attempt to order and explain the complex reality in the relations between states, as well as between states and other actors. The main aim of the module is to introduce students with the basic theoretical concepts concerning international relations. During the module two main goals will be followed. Firstly from theoretical perspective, to make students acquainted with the basic theories. Secondly, to create the skills of recognizing behaviour patterns from comparative perspective. Gaining these skills should allow students to interpret, explain and predict events and tendencies in international relations. Both, the educational aspect and critical thinking will be developed during the module.

### Module Size and credits

<b>CATS points</b>	12.0
<b>ECTS credits</b>	6.0
<b>Total student study hours</b>	120
<b>Number of weeks</b>	12
<b>School responsible</b>	Łazarski University, Faculty of Economics and Management
<b>Academic Year</b>	2021-2022

### Entry Requirements (pre-requisites and co-requisites)

None

### Excluded Combinations

None

### Composition of module mark (including weighting of components)

Coursework 60%: composed of an essay;

Final exam 40%

### Pass requirements

To pass the course a student must score at least 40% of the overall weighted average and not less than 35% for each assessment component (i.e. final exam and coursework). Re-assessment: coursework component(s) and/or examination as appropriate.

### Special Features

None

### Course stages for which this module is mandatory

MA Year 1 International Relations (level 7)

### Course stages for which this module is a core option

None

## 2. TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

### Intended Module Learning Outcomes

The intended learning outcomes are that on completion of this module, the student should be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the main theoretical approaches to international relations;

2. Describe, assess, and trace the origins of the major processes taking place in international relations;
3. Critically evaluate major processes in international relations through explanative models;
4. Utilize theoretical dependencies in contemporary international relations and clearly formulate conclusions.

#### **Indicative Content**

- Introduction to the international relations theories
- The perception of International Relations – the need for explanation and comparison (liberalism, realism, neo-liberalism, neo-realism, Marxist theories, constructivism, feminist theory, post-modernism, normative theory)
- Realism, neo-realism
- Liberalism, neo-liberalism
- Historical sociology, Constructivism and feminism
- Green politics
- International Political Economy
- Explanative models of Globalization  
Practical comparison  
Comparing case studies from the discussed theoretical approaches perspective
- Perspectives on World History – to the end of the Cold War
- The post-Cold War world – explanations of major processes
- The contemporary world system
- International Law, International Relations and Compliance

#### **Teaching and Learning**

This module will be taught by means of lectures, workshops, and self-directed study.

Formative Assessment: Comments will be given on assessments, and tutorial guidance will be provided for coursework and exam.

Student activity and time spent on each activity comprises:

<b>Guided</b>	0 hours	(0%)
<b>Lecture</b>	45 hours	(38%)
<b>Self-guided</b>	75 hours	(72%)
<b>Seminar</b>	0 hours	(0%)
<b>Workshop</b>	0 hours	(0%)
<b>Total</b>	120 hours	

#### **Method of Assessment (normally assessed as follows)**

**The intended learning outcomes will be assessed as follows:**

- Essay (60% - 3,5 Credits): 3500 words; contribute to learning outcomes 1, 2, 3
- Final exam (40% - 2,5 Credits): 120 minutes; contributes to learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4

#### **Re-sit**

Students failing any component of assessment, at the first attempt, is entitled to one re-sit attempt. This will be by new examination and/or new coursework scheduled for the next assessment

opportunity. For coursework, if more than one element existed in the first attempt, this may be combined into one assessment for re-sit.

**Date of last amendment**

15-10-2016

**3. MODULE RESOURCES**

**Essential Reading**

Burchill, S., Devetak, R., Linklater, A., Paterson, M., Reuss-Smit, C., True, J., 2013. *Theories of International Relations*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Palgrave MacMillan.

Jackson, R., 2010. *Introduction to International Relations: Theories and Approaches*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Viotti, P., Kauppi, M., 2012. *International Relations Theory*. London: Pearson.

**Recommended Reading**

Booth, K., Smith, S., 2004. *International Relations Theory Today*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Bull, H., 1995. *The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics*. London: Macmillan.

Carlsnaes, W., Risse, T., Simmons, A.B., 2006. *Handbook of International Relations*. London: SAGE.

Doyle, M.W., 1983. Kant, Liberal Legacies and Foreign Affairs. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 12(3), pp. 205-235.

Eckes, A.E., Zieler, T., 2003. *Globalization and American Century*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Frost, M., 1996. *Ethics in International Relations, A Constitutive Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Giddens, A., 2000. *Runway World. How Globalization is Reshaping our Lives*. New York: Routledge.

Haas, E.B., 1964. *Beyond the Nation State: Functionalism and International Organization*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Hertz, J.H., 1959. Idealist Internationalism and Security Dilemma. *World Politics*, 2(2), pp.157-180.

Ikenberry, J., 2001. *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and Order Building after Major Wars*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Keohane, R.O., 1989. *International Institutions and State Power*. ABINGDON: ROUTLEDGE.

Keohane, R.O., Martin, L., 1995. The Promise of Institutional Theory. *International Security*, 20(1), pp.39-51

Kissinger, H., 1996. *Diplomacy*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Layne, C., 1994. Kant or Cant. The Myth of Democratic Peace. *International Security*, 19(2), pp.5-49.

Lawson, S., 2015. *Theories of International Relations, Contending Approaches to World Politics*. Hoboken: Wiley.

Mingst, K.A., 2004. *Essentials of International Relations*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: W.W.Norton & Company.

Morgenthau, H.J., 2005. *Politics among Nations*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Nau, H.R., 2007. *Perspectives on International Relations, Power, Institutions, and Ideas*. Washington D.C.: CQ Press.

Owen, J.M., 1994. How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace. *International Security*, 19(2), pp.87-125.

Roggeveen, S., 2001. *Towards a Liberal Theory of International Relations*.

Sabine, G.H., Thorson, T.L., 1989. *A History of Political Theory*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Thomson Learning.

Smith, S., Hadfield, A., Dunne, T., 2008. *Foreign Policy, Theories, Actors, Case*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Axelrod, R.S., Downie, D.L., Vig, N.J., 2005. *The Global Environment: Institutions, Law, and Policy*.  
Washington D.C: CQ Press.

**Required Equipment**

None

**4. MODULE ORGANISATION**

**Module leader**

**Name** Dr Michał Kuź

**E-mail** [michalmkuz@gmail.com](mailto:michalmkuz@gmail.com)

**Length and month of examination**

120 minutes in June

**Expected teaching timetable slots**

Note that some tutorials/seminars may be provided at times other than those shown below. Timetable information should be verified with the School responsible for the module

No timetable information available

**Subject Quality and Approval information**

**Board of Study** Faculty Collaborative Provision Committee

**Subject Assessment Board** Faculty Council, Faculty of Economics and Management

**Shortened title**

**Date of approval by FCPC** 15 February 2017