

CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS: PROGRAMMATICS AND
METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

Conduct of the course:

The course will a) present and discuss a modern model for peaceful and benevolent international relations, and b) describe the work and some of the methods employed by academic international affairs specialists today.

The model offered is to be taken in a pragmatic spirit, not as a conversion: What are its prospects? What are better basic forms and necessary amendments? Do we know enough to prescribe policies for world elites?

The size of the class permits give-and-take procedures. And therefore it is expected that members of the class will be prepared at any moment to contribute their knowledge and perspectives. The instructor will be available for consultation at five o'clock of the evenings of class, and otherwise by appointment. To reach the instructor, leave a message with Mrs. Rissner (741-5747) for the Instructor to call you.

Requirements: Readings and Paper.

A list of readings is appended. Members of the class need not follow the readings in strict order nor by deadlines, although prompt immersion into the book, Kalos, is recommended. Certainly, over the whole of the course, each member should demonstrate that one is actively engaged in the problems of the course outside of as well as during the meetings.

The course requires a term paper of about 25 pages. The subject recommended is an analysis of how the structural components of the international order may or may not operate to obstruct world peace and progress. The paper might concentrate upon one of the following components (or a sub-set thereof):

- a. The super-powers
- b. The psychological set of the Third World
- c. Regional alliances
- d. The legal concept of sovereignty
- e. Nuclear weapons and nuclear energy
- f. Commodity oligarchies
- g. Petroleum oligarchy
- h. Multi-national corporations

- i. Non-governmental organizations
- j. The United Nations
- k. UNESCO
- l. Domestic Ideologies

Those who wish extensive critiques of their paper prior to completing it should hand a draft of it to the Instructor by March 10. It will be returned in a week's time for revision into form for final presentation. Final papers are due on May 5 and will be returned with critique and grades at the final meeting of the class.

Agenda of Topics

Topic I. Alternative Programmatics in International Affairs.

Topic II. Methods of Change: Agitation, Revolution, Negotiation, Laissez-faire.

Topic III. Structural Prescriptions for World Order.

Topic IV. Approaches of the Discipline of International Relations.

Topic V. Methods of Study: The sub-Discipline of International Political Psychology.

LIST OF READINGS

De Grazia, Alfred, Kalos: What is to be Done with Our World.
(Bombay & New York: NYU Press, 1973). (all)

Institute for World Order. State of the Globe Report
(New York: IWO, 1974). (all)

Bull, Hedley. "International Theory: The Case for the Classical Approach," World Politics (August 1966), pp. 361-77. (Also in Klaus Knorr and James Rosenau, eds. Contending Approaches to International Politics, pp. 20-38.)

Singer, J. David. "The Incomplete Theorist: Insight Without Evidence," in Knorr and Rosenau, pp. 62-86.

OR

_____. "The Behavioral Science Approach to International Relations," SAIS Review, X (Summer 1966), pp. 12-20. (Also in James N. Rosenau, ed. International Politics and Foreign Policy (1969), pp. 65-69.)

Easton, David. "The New Revolution in Political Science," American Political Science Review, LXIII, no. 4 (December 1969), pp. 1051-61.

John H. Herz. "Relevancies and Irrelevancies in the Study of International Relations," Polity 4, no. 1 (Autumn 1971), pp. 25-47.

Singer, J. David. "The Level of Analysis Problem in International Relations in Rosenau, International Politics and Foreign Policy, pp. 20-29. (Also in Klaus Knorr and Sidney Verba, eds., The International System: Theoretical Essays (Princeton U. Press, 1961), pp. 77-92.)

Paige, G.D. Proposition Building in the Study of Comparative Administration.

Mueller, John E. Approaches to Measurement in International Relations: A Non-Evangelical Survey. (paper)

Verba, Sidney, "Assumptions of Rationality and Non-Rationality in Models of the International System," in Knorr and Verba, The International System, pp. 93-117. (Also in Jacobsen, Harold K. and Zimmerman, William, The Shaping of Foreign Policy (1969), pp. 179-208.)

Janis, Irving L. Victims of Groupthink (Houghton Mifflin, 1972), pp. 2-13; 50-74; 138-66; 184-224.

Rutherford, Brent M. "Psychopathology, Decision-Making and Political Involvement," J. of Conflict Resolution, (Dec. 1966), pp. 387-407.

George, A.J.L. Woodrow Wilson and Colonel House: A Personality Study. (paper), 1964, first section of ch. 7. "Formula for Success".

Barber, James D. "Classifying and Predicting Presidential Styles: J. of Social Issues, vol. XXIV, no. 3 (1968).

Boulding, Kenneth. "National Images and International Systems," Jacobsen and Zimmerman, pp. 160-78 The Shaping of Foreign Policy.