American University
School of International Service
International Peace and Conflict Resolution Program

IPCR Seminar I:
Analyzing War and Peace
SIS 733-001

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Office hours: Tuesdays 2pm to 5pm
Office: SIS 206
Class meetings: Tuesdays 530pm to 8pm
Classroom: SIS 120

Overview:
This course presents the main theoretical approaches to peace and mass violence. Students learn the history and underlying assumptions of explanations of peace and war including the interstate system, international organizations, fragile states, gendered societies, economic incentives, ideas, and psychological factors. This course can be taken after, prior to or in conjunction with IPCR Seminar II.

Students are expected to demonstrate competency in reading complex materials, in offering coherent written analysis, and in deploying different theories to critically and persuasively analyze given peace opportunities or armed conflicts.

Learning Outcomes:
Students will:
-     Understand the major ideas and concepts that explain peace and organized mass violence.
-     Apply the theories to violent conflicts and peace opportunities in ways that combine different explanations as appropriate.

Who Should Take the Course?
All learners from any discipline or MA program seeking a deeper understanding of how international conflicts arise and how they are resolved. Both IPCR Seminar I and IPCR Seminar II became the core requirements for the MA in International Peace and Conflict Resolution for all students entering SIS as of Fall Semester 2016.

Requirements and Evaluation:

You will have a variety of ways to demonstrate and participate in your own learning. These activities help us achieve the learning outcomes:

Participation in Class Discussion (20%) - The course is organized as a seminar. In order to learn, you need to participate. Complete the reading assignments before class if you wish to contribute to an informed, valuable, and enjoyable exchange of ideas. Observations that advance or enhance the discussion are more useful than casual comments. Insightful commentaries include applying concepts to our lived experiences challenging or clarifying readings, and offering analyses of your own. Class attendance is a prerequisite for class contribution.

Class participation will be graded according to the following subjective criteria, in descending order of value.

• Able to answer or ask questions with good examples from the readings and makes several excellent points that reveals thought about the issue(s), and understanding of the readings and cases. Raises the level of discourse. This is what you should aspire to.

• Raises one or two good points and shows a rudimentary grasp of course material and cases.

• Makes one or two points but does not attempt to apply what is learned in the readings or lectures (i.e., superficial common sense-type observations instead of deeper insight).

• Attends class but does not participate.

• Does not attend class or becomes distracted while attending.

Midterm Exam. (35%). Students will complete a midterm examination which will pose an essay question (or choice of questions) requiring reflective understanding and critique of the readings. It will be a take-home exam (downloaded from Blackboard), for which students will compose a response and submit it on Blackboard. Being a take home, naturally, it is an open book exam. The midterm will be available after class on October 16 and will be due by October 19 at midnight. Late exams will be down-graded by a letter grade each day they are late.

Final Exam. (45%). The exam will include several essay questions requiring you to synthesize course themes. The date is still to be determined. The exam will be taken in class.

Required Text:
Waller, James. (2007). *Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Killing*. Oxford University Press.

Emergency Preparedness for Disruption of Classes:

In the event of an emergency, American University will implement a plan for meeting the needs of all members of the university community. Should the university be required to close for a period of time, we are committed to ensuring that all aspects of our educational programs will be delivered to our

students. These may include altering and extending the duration of the traditional term schedule to complete essential instruction in the traditional format and/or use of distance instructional methods. Specific strategies will vary from class to class, depending on the format of the course and the timing of the emergency. Faculty will communicate class-specific information to students via AU e-mail and Blackboard, while students must inform their faculty immediately of any absence. Students are responsible for checking their AU e-mail regularly and keeping themselves informed of emergencies. In the event of an emergency, students should refer to the AU Student Portal, the AU Web site (www.prepared.american.edu) and the AU information line at (202) 885-1100 for general university-wide information, as well as contact their faculty and/or respective dean's office for course and school/college-specific information. http://www.american.edu/emergency/

Academic Integrity

All students must adhere to American University's Academic Integrity Code, which you can find at: http://www.american.edu/academics/integrity/code.cfm.

Please take particular note of Section II.A, which lists violations adjudicated under the academic integrity code. They include:

·   **plagiarism** (i.e., "the representation of someone else's words, ideas, or work as one's own without attribution…")

·   inappropriate collaboration (i.e., "when work that the professor presumes is original to the student is in fact the product of collaboration so close that the originality is no longer individual to the student…")

·   dishonesty in examinations (i.e., "the use of inappropriate or unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in a test. Unless the instructor directs otherwise, an examination is assumed to be solely a student's own work. No communication is allowed among students either through voice, written, electronic, or any other form of transmission, nor are students permitted to consult books, papers, study aids, or notes without explicit permission…")

·   dishonesty in papers (i.e., "submitting material obtained from another person or company or purchased from either. All papers and materials submitted for a course must be the student's original work unless the sources are cited.")

·   **work done for one course and submitted to another** ("This category of violation covers the presentation of the same work in more than one course at any time during a student's academic career without prior consent from both instructor. When incorporating their own past research into current projects, students must cite previous work…")

·   "bribes, favors, and threats … with the purpose of affecting a grade or the evaluation of academic performance and other academic misconduct (which includes " any form of academic deceit has violated the intellectual enterprise of the university…")

Class Sessions by Week

August 28, 2018
1)   Introduction
Introduction to the course, the syllabus, the purpose of the two-sequence foundations course, beginning discussion of the field.

September 4, 2018
2)   Peace Studies: What is its current relevance? What is 'Peace and Conflict Resolution'?

Banks, Michael. 1987. "Four Conceptions of Peace", in Dennis Sandole, Ingrid Sandole-Staroste, *Conflict Management and Problem Solving: Interpersonal to International Applications*. NYU Press.

Wallensteen, P. (2011). "Understanding Contemporary Peace Research," in Kristine Hoglund and Magnus Oberg, *Understanding Peace Research*, Chapter 2, pp. 14-31. You can also access this at http://is.muni.cz/el/1423/jaro2013/MVZ453/um/Hoglund__Oberg_-_Understanding_Peace_Research.pdf

Galtung, J. (1985). "Twenty Five Years of Peace Research: Ten Challenges and Some Responses." *Journal of Peace Research*. 22(2). 141-158.

Rogers, Paul and Oliver Ramsbotham. (1999). Then and Now: Peace Research – Past and Future. *Political Studies*, XLVII, 740-754.

Recommended:

Brunk, Conrad G. 2008. 'Shaping a Vision: The Nature of Peace Studies.' In *Patterns of Conflict, Paths to Peace*, eds. Larry J. Fisk and John L. Schellenberg. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 11-33.

Ramsbotham, Oliver, Tom Woodhouse and Hugh Miall. 2011. *Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The Prevention, Management and Transformation of Deadly Conflicts*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge, UK ; Malden, MA: Polity. Chapters 1 and 2 (3-62).

Jutila, Matti; Samu Pehkonen and Tarja Väyrynen. (2008). "Resuscitating a Discipline: An Agenda for Critical Peace Research." *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*. 36(3): 623-640.

EXPLAINING WAR AND PEACE: SYSTEM-LEVEL THEORIES

September 11, 2018
3)   Realism: Power, Coercion and the Threat of Force

Readings marked "Betts text" are from Richard K. Betts, 2012. *Conflict after the Cold War*. Pearson, and can be obtained at: https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0BvvVlrLjmuVGJtVERzUUFrYjQ

Snyder, Jack. 2004. "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy* (Nov-Dec), 52-62.

Walt, Stephen M. 1998. "International Relations: One World, Many Theories," *Foreign Policy* Vol. 110, Spring 1998: 29-32, 34-46.

Betts, Intro to Part II, Betts Text, pp. 53-55.

Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue," Betts Text, pp. 56-60. [Classic Realism]

Hobbes, T. "The State of Nature and the State of War," Betts Text, pp. 66-69. [Classic]

Morgenthau, Hans 1954. *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace.* Knopf. Chs. 1, 3. [Classic]

Waltz, Kenneth "The Origins of War in Neo-Realist Thoughts" Betts text, 87-93.

Keohane, Robert. 1986. *Neorealism and Its Critics.* Columbia. Ch. 7 [He is neoliberal]

Recommended:

Waltz, Kenneth. 1979. *Theory of International Politics.* Columbia Univ. Press. [Neorealist Bible] available at https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B1n0gRKBE7EfWTZsMlFodUZwMms

Machiavelli, Niccolo. "Doing Evil in Order to Do Good," Betts Text, pp. 61-65.

Mearsheimer, John. 2001. *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics.* Norton, chapters 1-2.

Walt, Stephen M. 1985. "Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power," *International Security* (Spring), 3-43.

September 18, 2018

4.   Classic Liberalism and Neoliberalism: Cooperation and Institutions

Robert Keohane & Joseph S. Nye, "Power and Interdependence" in Betts Text, pp. 161-167 [Neo-liberal Institutionalism]

Robert Keohane & L. Martin. 1995. "The Promise of Institutionalist Theory." International Security 20(1): 39-51. [clear contrast of Neo-realism vs Neo-liberal Institutionalism]

Andrew Moravcsik, 1997, "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics," International Organization, Autumn, pp. 513-54. [Classic / State preferences Liberalism]

John Mearsheimer. 1994/95. "The False Promise of International Institutions," International Security (Winter), 5-49. [Realist critique of multilateralism]

John Ruggie. 1993. Multilateralism Matters: The Theory and Praxis of an International Forum. Columbia University Press. Chapter 1. [Liberal Pro-Multilateralism]

Recommended:

Wallensteen, P., M. Eriksson, et al. 2006. "Sanctions for Conflict Prevention and Peace Building." Uppsala University: Department of Peace and Conflict Research: 36.

Levy, J. S. 1998. "The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace," *Annual Review of Political Science* : 139-65.

Jervis, R. 1978. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma," *World Politics* 30: 167-214.

Nye, J. and D. Welch. 2012. *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation.* Pearson: 157-175.

Kant, I. 1795. *Perpetual Peace, A Philosophical Essay* (1795), Betts Text, 103-09.

Spiro, D. 1994. "The Insignificance of the Liberal Peace," *International Security* (Fall), 50-86.

Axelrod, R. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation.* Basic Books. chapters 1, 9.

Keohane, R. & L. Martin. 1995. "The Promise of Institutionalist Theory." *International Security* 20(1): 39-51.

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

September 25, 2018
5) Constructivism and Peace

Mueller. John "The Obsolescence of Major War," Betts Text, pp. 224-235.
Mead. Margaret. "War is Only an Invention – Not a Biological Necessity," Betts Text, pp. 219-223.
Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink. 2001. "Taking Stock: The Constructivist Research Program in
    International Relations and Comparative Politics," *Annual Review of Political Science* Vol. 4:. 391-416.
Ruggie, J. G. 1998. 'The Emergence of Social Constructivism,' section in *Constructing the World Polity*.
    Routledge, pp. 11-28.

October 2, 2018
6) Structural Violence & Social Justice

Galtung. J. 1969. "Violence, Peace, and Peace Research." *Journal of Peace Research* 6(3): 167-191.
Farmer. P.1996. "On Suffering and Structural Violence: A View from Below." *Daedalus* 125: 261-283.
Galtung. J.1990. "Cultural Violence." *Journal of Peace Research*. 27(3): 291-305.
Bourgois, P. 2001. "The Power of violence in war and peace: Post-Cold War lessons from El Salvador."
    Ethnography. 2(1). 5-34.
McGill, Dáire. "Different Violence, Different Justice?: Taking Structural Violence Seriously in Post-
    Conflict and Transitional Justice Processes," State Crime Journal 6, 1 (Spring 2017) pp. 79-101.

October 9, 2018
7) Critical Theory

Randy Persaud and Alina Sajed, "Introduction," in their Race Culture, Gender in IR (Routledge 2018).
Ann J. Tickner, 1997. "You just don't understand: Troubled engagements between feminists and IR
    theorists." International Studies Quarterly 41(4): 611–632.
Mark Duffield, 2005, "Getting savages to fight barbarians: development, security and the colonial
    present," Conflict, Security & Development, 5:2, 141-159, DOI: 10.1080/14678800500170068
Randolph Persaud, "Security Studies, Postcolonialism, and the Third World," Chapter 9 in Persaud and
    Sajed, Race Culture, Gender in IR (Routledge 2018).

Recommended Critical theory:
Oliver Richmond. "Understanding the Liberal Peace" Essay, 2005.
Joanne Sharp, 2013, "Africa's Colonial Present: Development, Violence and Postcolonial Security,"
    Chapter 10 in Graham Huggan (ed) Oxford Handbook on Postcolonial Studies pp. 235-252.

EXPLAINING WAR, VIOLENCE AND PEACE: THEORIES 'BELOW' THE INTERSTATE SYSTEM

October 16, 2018

8)   Economics and Peace: How do resources shape war and peace?

Collier, Paul & Anke Hoeffler. 2004. "Greed and Grievance in Civil War." Oxford Econ Papers 56: 563-595.

Ballentine, Karen. "Reconsidering the Economic Dynamics of Armed Conflict", K. Ballentine and J. Sherman eds., The Political Economy of Armed Conflict: Beyond Greed and Grievance. Boulder: Lynne Rienner and IPA, pp. 259-283.

Ross, L. Michael. 2004. "What Do We Know about Natural Resources and Civil War?" Journal of Peace Research, 41, No. 3 (May, 2004), pp. 337-356.

PRIO, "Inequality and Armed Conflict: Evidence and Data," Background paper for the UN/WB Flagship report on Development and Conflict Prevention, April 2017. [Read: ALL Chap 1 Executive Summary; Intro & Conclusions of Sections 2, 3 & 4; SKIP Case Studies; ALL Section 6 and ALL Conclusion]

Recommended to scan: Elizabeth Drew, "Assessing the links between extractive industries and the Prevention of Violent Conflict: A literature review," Background paper for the UN-WB Flagship Study, 2017.

October 23, 2018

9)   Fragile States, Instability and Civil War: Do weak institutions influence war & peace?

Holsti, Kalevi.1996. The State, War and the State of War. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press. Preface and Chapters 1, & 2, pp. xi-xiv, 1-40.

Political Instability Task Force (Goldstone et al), "A Global Model for Forecasting Political Instability," Amer Journal of Political Science 54, 1 (Jan 2010).

Duffield, Mark. 2001. "The Merging of Development and Security" in Global Governance and the New Wars: The Merging of Development and Security. Zed Books.

Call, Charles T. 2009. "Beyond State Failure: Weak States, Insecure States and Illegitimate States." European Journal of International Relations.

October 30, 2018

10)   Gender: How do gender identity and relations shape war and peace?

Cockburn, C. 2004. "The Continuum of Violence: A Gender Perspective on War and Peace," in W. Giles and J. Hyndman, eds. *Sites of Violence: Gender and Conflict Zones.*Univ. of California Press, pp. 24-44.

Wood, E. 2006. "Variation in Sexual Violence during War." *Politics & Society*. 34; 307.

Kirby, Paul. 2015. "Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict: The Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative", *International Affairs* 91 (3): 457-472.

Burguieres, M. 1990. "Feminist Approaches to Peace: Another Step for Peace Studies," *Millennium* 19(1): 1-18

Olujic, M. 1998. "Embodiment of Terror: Gendered Violence in Peacetime and Wartime in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 12 (1): 31–50.

November 6, 2018
11)   Terrorism and Peace

Start reading the Waller book.

Stohl, Michael. 1983. "Demystifying Terrorism: The Myths and Realities of Contemporary Political Terrorism," in M. Stohl (ed.) *The Politics of Terrorism*, Second Edition: Revised and Expanded. Marcel Dekker, pp. 1-19

Crenshaw, M. 2002. "The Causes of Terrorism" in *Violence: A Reader*, Chapter 7

Goody, J. 2002. "What is a Terrorist?" *History and Anthropology*. 13(2): 139-143.

Pape, R. A. 2003. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." *American Political Science Review*. 97(3): 343-361.

Lopez, G. A. 1995. "Terrorism and Peace Studies," *Peace Review* 7 (3): 261-266.

Recommended:

Wilkinson, P. & D. Bryan. "Is Terrorism Still a Useful Analytical Term or Should it be Abandoned?" In R. Jackson and S.J. Sinclair, eds. *Contemporary Debates on Terrorism*. Routledge.

Jones, D. M. & M. L. R. Smith. 2009. We're All Terrorists Now: Critical—or Hypocritical—Studies "on" Terrorism? *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* 32(4): 292-302

Dixit, P. & J. L. Stump.2011. "A Response to Jones and Smith: It's Not as Bad as It Seems; Or, Five Ways to Move Critical Terrorism Studies Forward." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* 34(6): 501-511.

November 13, 2018
12) Migration and the Environment

Continue reading the Waller book.

Homer-Dixon, T. F. "Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict." In Betts Text, pp. 607-621.

Salehyan, I., & C. Hendrix. 2014. "Climate shocks and political violence." *Global Environmental Change* 28: 239-250.

Cooley, J. "The War Over Water," in Betts Text.

Buhauga, H., N. Petter Gleditsch & O. Magnus Theisen. 2010. "Implications of Climate Change for Armed Conflict." Ch. 3 in R. Mearns and A. Norton, eds., *Social Dimensions of Climate Change, Equity and Vulnerability in a Warming World*. Washington DC: The World Bank.

Nel, P. & M. Righarts. 2008. "Natural Disasters and the Risk of Violent Civil Conflict." *International Studies Quarterly* 52(1) : 159-185.

Boehm, D. A. 2011. US-Mexico Mixed Migration in an Age of Deportation: An Inquiry into the Transnational Circulation of Violence. *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 30(1):1-21.

November 27, 2018

13)   Culture, Identity and Peace: How does collective identity hinder and help peace?

Continue reading the Waller book.

Gagnon, V.P. 1994-95. Ethnic Nationalism and International Conflict. *International Security* 91(3): 130-166.

Avruch, K. 2013. *Culture and Conflict Resolution.* USIP Press, pp. 3-72.

Crawford, B. 1998. "The Causes of Cultural Conflict: An Institutional Approach." In Crawford, B. and Ronnie D. Lipschutz, eds. *The Myth of "Ethnic Conflict: Politics, Economics and "Cultural" Violence.* UC Berkeley

December 4, 2018

14)   Psychology of Mass Atrocities & Poetics: How can we possibly explain genocide?

Waller, J. 2007. *Becoming Evil: How Ordinary People Commit Genocide and Mass Killing*. Oxford University Press. (Yes, the whole book).

Hinton, A. 2004. "The Poetics of Genocidal Practice: Violence under the Khmer Rouge" in *Violence*, SAR Press.