



Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament (CIPOD)

Advanced International Relations Theory

Course:	Ph.D. Course Work
Course No:	IO 649
Course Title:	Advanced International Relations Theory
Course Type:	Compulsory
Semester:	Winter 2026
Course Teacher & Contact Details:	<p><i>Name: Dr. Prasanta Sahoo, Assoc. Prof.</i> <i>Room No.: #309, SIS-II</i> <i>Email: prasantsahoo@mail.jnu.ac.in</i> <i>Tel. No.: (O): 26704349</i></p> <p><i>Name: Sandip Kumar Singh, Asst. Prof.</i> <i>Room No.: #318, SIS-II</i> <i>Email: sandipksingh@jnu.ac.in</i> <i>Tel. No.: (O): 26704597</i></p>
Credits:	04
Contact Hours:	04 hours/week
Tutorial (for difficulties & discussion)	01 hour/week
Class Schedule & Room Number	

About the Course

This course is designed to provide students with a more advanced and specialised reading in international political theory. It will look at how international political theory has evolved over the years by reading some of the seminal texts. Through a detailed examination of these core texts, the course would cover major theoretical traditions in the discipline to help students develop a strong theoretical foundation for their research.

Course Evaluation

Class Participation (10%):

Participation in class discussions is essential as this is not strictly a lecture course. Students are expected to read the assigned text beforehand and participate in the class discussion which will be initiated by a student (10-15 minutes). They would be assessed on this component of course evaluation throughout the semester. When you read a book, try to think of at least 4-6 points (agreements, disagreements, questions, puzzles etc.) on each reading that you want to discuss further in class. Students will take turns to initiate discussion on a book. It is expected that all students will participate in the discussion, not just the student who has been assigned the responsibility to lead the discussion.

Mid-Semester Evaluation (40%):

Two book reviews of 20% each with a word limit of 1000 words. The first review is due on 31 May. The second review is due on 15 June. To avoid duplication, you are required to get prior approval of the book you wish to review. The book selected for review must be different from the book you are assigned to initiate discussion in class. The book can be from outside the course readings but must be explicitly dealing with IR theory.

End-Semester Evaluation (50%):

Review Essay of not more than 3000 words of at least two books, one of which could be from the reading list below. Review essays are different from book reviews; please read review essays in journals such as *World Politics*, *International Security*, and *International Organization* to get an idea of what is expected from a review essay. The books chosen must be first cleared by the course instructors. The reviews are due on 30 June.

Note:

- Students are required to maintain a high degree of academic integrity, which particularly includes *abstaining from plagiarism in any form*. Please consult course instructors if you are unsure of the rules regarding plagiarism.
- All written assignments must be submitted through <http://www.turnitin.com>, along with a hard copy, within stipulated deadlines.
- Penal grades would be imposed for late submission/ presentation, plagiarism, and use of any other unethical academic practice. You will lose one grade for every week of late submission.
- SIS Research Manual (http://www.jnu.ac.in/SIS/SIS_Research_Manual.pdf) should be used as a guide for all written assignments.

Course Outline and Readings

Statecraft, War, Power

1. Kautilya, *Arthashastra* (250 BCE), English edition by L. N. Rangarajan, New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2000
2. E.H. Carr, *The Twenty Years Crisis*, London: Macmillan, 1939
3. Hans J. Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1948

Structure, Agency, System

4. Graham Allison, *Essence of Decision*, Boston: Little Brown and Company, 1971
5. Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*, Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1979
6. John Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, New York: W. W. Norton, 2001

Society, Interdependence, Hierarchy

7. Hedley Bull, *The Anarchical Society*, London: Macmillan, 1977
8. Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, Jr., *Power and Interdependence*, Boston: Little Brown, 1977
9. Mohammed Ayoob, *The Third World Security Predicament*, Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 1995

History, Production, Capital

10. Robert Cox, *Production, Power and World Order*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1987
11. Giovanni Arrighi, *The Long Twentieth Century*, London: Verso, 1994
12. Benno Teschke, *Myth of 1648*, London: Verso, 2003

Culture, Identity, Gender

13. Nicholas Onuf, *World of our Making*, Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1989
14. Cynthia Enloe, *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*, London: Pandora, 1989
15. Edward W. Said, *Orientalism*, New York: Pantheon Books, 1978