Course Description

This course is intended to introduce postgraduate students to theoretical approaches in the discipline of International Relations. The objective is to deal with the major theoretical orientations in the discipline and to give students an appreciation of the major intellectual tools available to them in analysing world affairs. Students are expected to go through the assigned reading before coming to class. Although this is an introductory course, it is at the postgraduate level. For this reason, almost all the assigned readings are original theoretical contributions, not textbooks.

Examinations and Grading

There will be one mid-semester examination and a final examination, of two hours and three hours duration respectively. The mid-semester examination will be held in late September (date will be announced in class). Since this is an introductory course, there will be no term papers or classroom assignments. The final grade will be computed with 40% weight to the mid-semester examination and 50% to the final examination. Snap tests, worth the remaining 10%, will be held without advance notice. There will be NO make up for any of these tests except for personal medical reasons, in which case a medical report stating that you are unable to attend the test is needed from the JNU Medical Centre.

Course Outline and Reading List

Most reading materials are available through JSTOR and other electronic sources through the JNU library website. It is your task to access these. Those materials that are not available through these electronic sources will be available at the photocopying store in SIS-II.
Thematic Readings

WEEK 1
What is IR Theory?

WEEK 2
Classics of Realism

WEEK 3
Realism to Neorealism

WEEK 4
Defensive, Offensive, Neoclassical and Hegemonic Realism

WEEK 5
Constructivism

WEEK 6
International Society/English School
WEEK 7
Liberal Theory in IR

WEEK 8
Liberal Theory: Democratic Peace

WEEK 9
Liberal Theory: Interdependence

WEEK 10
Marxist and Gramscian IR

WEEK 11
Feminist IR

WEEK 12
Non-Western IR: Chinese, Indian, Islamic

WEEK 13
Theorizing Non-Alignment

WEEK 14
New Directions in IR Theory

WEEK 15
Great Debates in IR