

Syllabus **WORLD POLITICS** **An introduction to Global Studies**

Professor: Helene Thiollet

Session: June

Language of instruction: English

Number of hours of class: 36

Objective of the Course

This course relies on both theoretical and empirical approaches to help students craft their own analysis of world politics. The course proposes an interdisciplinary analysis of international issues, using the methods and frameworks of a variety of social sciences fields, including sociology, history, political science, comparative politics, international relations, anthropology, geography and political economy.

Summary

This course offers an interdisciplinary approach to World Politics, combining conceptual tools, historical insight, and empirical evidence to investigate recurrent patterns and issues. It will introduce students to core concepts, such as power, security, cooperation, sovereignty, etc. from various disciplinary perspectives including Global History, Political Science, Comparative Politics, Political Theory, International Relations, International Political Economy, Sociology, International Public Law. In order to account for the profound transformation of world politics wrought by globalization, the course explores a vast array of topics ranging from foreign policy, social movements and economic crises to wars, empires and international organizations, and, to do so, uses different levels of analysis – from the local to the global. Through major themes in international politics (war, peace, imperialism, human rights, terrorism, economic development, economic crises, international organizations, migration, etc.), students will develop analytical skills grounded in both theoretical and empirical knowledge. The course is designed for students with a background in at least one of the human and social sciences (sociology, history, political science, economics, anthropology, geography).

Organization of the Course

First set of sessions

General introduction

- an interdisciplinary course
- the usual suspects: politics, policy, polity
- main questions

World Politics through World History: empire, international relations and globalisation

- Archaeology: Empires and World politics before modernity
- Modern world politics after the Peace of Westphalia: World Orders and International Systems
- Contemporary World Politics: globalising world politics (again)

Some definitions: empire, colonialism, power, international system, world order, international society, globalisation

States and the world order

- Defining sovereignty and framing the sovereignty debate
 - External sovereignty and public policy: foreign policy
 - Sovereignty under pressure
 1. intervention
 2. globalisation
 - Multilateralism and cooperation
 1. International regimes
 2. International organisations
 3. International Public Law: a product of multilateralism
 - Governance: a critical stance
- Environmental governance as an example

Case studies:

The Ottoman empire: politics, policies, polity over time and space

The interventions in Iraq: a comparison (1991 and 2003)

Ukraine today: context and multi-level analysis of the crisis

The UN: a critical study through history

Public diplomacy, hard and soft power: discussing the case of Japanese strategies through history

Environmental advocacy networks since the 1960s

Notions mastered:

- ✓ Politics, policy, polity
- ✓ Empire
- ✓ World order
- ✓ International systems
- ✓ International society
- ✓ Globalisation
- ✓ Power (soft, hard) and hegemony
- ✓ Sovereignty (external, internal)
- ✓ Multilateralism
- ✓ Transnationalism
- ✓ Governance

Second set of sessions

War and Peace: conflicts, (in)security, and violence in World Politics

- Definitions and measures
- The changing character of war
 1. The obsolescence of war
 2. The Revolution in Military Affairs
 3. Old wars, New wars? The case of the Balkan conflict (1992-1999)
- Violence in World Politics
 1. civil war: the case of Yemen (and Syria)
 2. genocide: the case of Rwanda
 3. Terrorism as a political issue: the case of Chechnya in the 1990s and 2000s
- Peace and State building
 1. Collective security
 2. The changes in multilateral “peace making”
 3. State “building” as a political issue

Economics as world politics

- State and markets in world politics: *International political economy* revisited
- International organisations, international regimes: economic multilateralism
- Questions around the 2008 crisis: bubbles and policies
- Development, poverty and inequality
 1. The case of International migration and development
 2. Relative poverty: inequality in developing and developed countries

Case studies:

A political study of the Afghan conflicts over time

A political study of the Libyan crisis

A political study of violence in the Central African Republic

A political History of Congolese wars since the 1960s

Violence in Columbia: a political history

The IRA: a political study through history

Gender inequality as an issue in world politics: determinants, implications, evolution, policies and politics

Sustainable Growth: a global political analysis of sustainable development

Revolutions and social movements: World Politics from below

- The Arab Springs: revolutions or what?
- The case of the Gulf countries
- Revolutions, revolutionary moments
- Social movements
- Social change: World structures and global agency?

Case studies:

The Tunisian Revolution

The Egyptian Revolution

Notions mastered:

- ✓ War, conflict
- ✓ Peace
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Political violence
- ✓ Economic crises and regulation
- ✓ Inequality
- ✓ Development
- ✓ Migration
- ✓ Revolutions
- ✓ Social movements
- ✓ Agency

Requirements for course validation

The course's validation is based on three types of assignments:

- weekly readings and class participation based on the readings
- case studies (oral presentation on empirical case studies related to the course's content)
- a final essay (3 hours sit-in exam)

Bibliography

Empire and power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MANN, Michael, "American Empires: Past and Present", <i>Canadian Review of Sociology</i>, vol. 45, no. 1, 2008, pp. 7-50 - ROSENAU, James, "Illusions of Power and Empire", <i>History and Theory</i>, vol. 44, no. 4, Theme Issue: Theorizing Empire, December 2005, pp. 73-87. - NYE Joseph, "Soft Power and American Foreign Policy", <i>Political Science Quarterly</i>, vol. 119, no. 2, 2004, pp. 255-270
Globalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COOPER, Frederick, "What Is the Concept of Globalization Good For? An African Historian's Perspective", <i>African Affairs</i>, vol. 100, no. 399, April 2001, pp. 189-213 - SAUER Birgit and Stefanie Wöhl, Feminist Perspectives on the Internationalization of The State, <i>Antipode</i>, January 2011, Volume 43, Issue 1, Special issue: « Approaching the Internationalization of the State » by Markus Wissen and Ulrich Brand, pp. 108–128 <p>Additional reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CLARK, Ian, "Globalization", in his <i>Globalization and International Relations Theory</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999), p. 33-51.
State and sovereignty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KRASNER, Stephen, Rethinking the sovereign state model, <i>Review of International Studies</i> (2001) 27, 17-42 - JASON Ralph and Adrian GALLAGHER, Legitimacy fault lines in international society: The responsibility to protect and prosecute after Libya, <i>Review of International Studies</i> (2015), 41, 553–573 <p>Additional reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PUTNAM, Robert, Diplomacy and Domestic Politics <i>International Organization</i>, 42,3; 1988
Transnationalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KECK, Margaret & SIKKINK, Kathryn, "Transnational advocacy networks in international and regional politics", <i>ISSJ</i>, Volume 51, Issue 159, March 1999, Pages 89–101 - HÄGEL, Peter and PERETZ, Pauline, "States and Transnational Actors: Who's influencing whom? A case study in Jewish Diaspora Politics during the Cold War", <i>European Journal of International Relations</i>, 2005, 11:467. <p>Additional readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KALDOR, Mary, "The Idea of Global Civil Society", <i>International Affairs</i>, (Vol. 79, No. 3 (May, 2003), pp. 583-593 - WEISS Thomas, "Governance, good governance and global governance: conceptual and actual challenges", <i>Third World Quarterly</i>, Vol 21, No 5, 2000, pp 795–814
Multilateralism and governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MEARSHEIMER, John J., "The False Promise of International Organizations", in <i>International Security</i>, vol. 19, no. 3, Winter, 1994-1995, pp. 5-49. - BARNETT, Michael and FINNEMORE, Martha, "The Politics, Power and Pathologies of International Organizations", <i>International Organization</i>, Autumn 1999, pp. 699-732. <p>Additional readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YOUNG Oran R. The Politics of International Regime Formation: Managing Natural Resources and the Environment, <i>International Organization</i>, Vol. 43, No. 3 (Summer, 1989), pp. 349-375 - BARNETT Michael, 2001, "Humanitarianism with a sovereign face: UNHCR in the Global Undertow", <i>International Migration Review</i> 35, 1: 244-76
Wars, conflicts and Political violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GREGORY, Derek, "War and Peace", <i>Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers</i>, vol. 35, 2010, pp. 154-86. - TILLY, Charles, "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime", in P.B. Evans, D. Rueschemeyer and T. Skocpol (eds.), <i>Bringing the State Back In</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985) pp. 169-91. - KALYVAS Stathis N. The Ontology of "Political Violence": Action and Identity in Civil Wars <i>Perspectives on Politics</i>, Vol. 1, No. 3 (Sep., 2003), pp. 475-494
Civil wars, genocide and Terrorism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MAMDANI Mahmood "Good Muslim, Bad Muslim: A Political Perspective on Culture and Terrorism", <i>American Anthropologist</i>, New Series, Vol. 104, No. 3 (Sep., 2002), pp. 766-775 - AUTESSERRE Séverine Hobbes and the Congo: Frames, Local Violence, and International Intervention, <i>International Organization</i>, Vol. 63, No. 2 (Spring, 2009), pp. 249-280 <p>Additional reading:</p> <p>POWER Samantha, "Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen" <i>Atlantic Monthly</i>, Sept. 2001 URL: http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2001/09/bystanders-to-genocide/304571/</p>

Peacekeeping and State building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DE WAAL, Alex, "Mission Without End? Peacekeeping in the African Political Marketplace", <i>International Affairs</i>, vol. 85, no. 1, 2009, pp. 99-113. - CHANDLER, David, "The Problems of 'Nation-Building': Imposing Bureaucratic 'Rule from Above'", <i>Cambridge Review of International Affairs</i>, Volume 17, Number 3, October 2004 <p>Additional reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DODGE, Toby, "Intervention and dreams of exogenous state building- the application of Liberal Peacebuilding in Afghanistan and Iraq", <i>Review of International Studies</i>, Volume 39, Issue 5, December 2013, pp. 1189-1212
Economic crises and political economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BLYTH, Mark "The Austerity Delusion: Why a Bad Idea Won Over the West", <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, Vol. 92, Issue 3 (May/June 2013), pp. 41-12 - MANN, Michael, "Global Crisis: The Great Neoliberal Recession", in his <i>The Sources of Social Power</i>, vol. IV: Globalizations, 1945-2011, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2013, pp. 322-360. <p>Additional readings:</p> <p>BUZAN Barry, and George LAWSON, Capitalism and the emergent world order, <i>International Affairs</i>, 90: 1 (2014) 71-91</p>
Aid and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KEEN, David, "Aid", in his <i>Complex Emergencies</i>, Cambridge, Polity Press, 2008, Chapter 6, pp. 116-148. - BEST, Jacqueline, "Redefining Poverty as Risk and Vulnerability: Shifting Strategies of Liberal Economic Governance", <i>Third World Quarterly</i>, vol. 34, no. 1, 2013, pp. 109-129.
Revolutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HALLIDAY, Fred, "An Alternative Modernity: The Rise and Fall of 'Revolution'", in his <i>Revolution and World Politics: The Rise and Fall of the Sixth Great Power</i>, Durham, Duke University Press, 1999, Chapter 2, pp. 27-55. - BAYAT, Asef, "Revolution in Bad Times", <i>New Left Review</i>, no. 80, March-April 2013, pp. 47-60 <p>Additional readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ROY, Olivier, The Transformation of The Arab World, <i>Journal of Democracy</i> Volume 23, Number 3 July 2012 - TILLY, Charles, "Does Modernization Breed Revolution?", <i>Comparative Politics</i>, vol. 5, no. 3, 1973, pp. 425-447.

Main Professor Biography



Hélène Thiollet is a CNRS tenured researcher and teaches international relations, comparative politics and migration studies at Sciences Po. She works on the politics of migration and asylum in the Global South, and focuses her empirical research on the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa. Her recent publications are available [here](#). In the Fall 2016, she was a Visiting Scholar at GRITIM University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona and in 2010 she was a post-doctoral Fellow at the DPIP and St Antony College Univ. of Oxford. Hélène coordinated the ANR research project "MobGlob – Global Mobility and Migration Governance" (ANR 2012-2015) with Catherine Wihtol de Wenden.