Political Science 372/572: Field Seminar in International Relations  
Friday 9:30-12:00, Fenno Room (Harkness 329)  

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Purpose of the course: This is an advanced course intended to prepare Ph.D. students for comprehensive exams in international relations. The course conducts a broad survey of major works in the field and current research into the causes of international conflict and cooperation.  

Course Requirements: This is a seminar with a heavy reading load, and it is essential to complete the required reading. Students are expected to write short (no more than 2-page) papers critiquing the assigned readings for each week following week 1, due Thursday at noon. Students have the option of skipping two papers; alternatively, the lowest two grades will be dropped. There will be a 24-hour take-home final exam, due Monday, May 6 at 5:00 pm. Grading will be as follows: 1/3 class participation, 1/3 the average of the papers, and 1/3 final.  

Readings: The papers and some book chapters will be in folders in the cubby hole on the third floor, if they aren’t available through JSTOR. I recommend purchasing the books below through Amazon.com.  


Course Outline:
Week One

Friday, Jan. 18: Balance of Power


Week Two

Friday, Jan. 25: Power


Week Three

Friday, Feb. 1: Open Economy Politics


Friday, Feb. 8: No class
Week Four

Friday, Feb. 15: Institutions & Transaction Costs


Week Five

Friday, Feb. 22: Delegation & Principal-Agent Problems


Week Six

Friday, Mar. 1: Credibility


**Week Seven**

*Friday, Mar. 8: Bargaining*


*Friday, Mar. 15: SPRING BREAK No class*

**Week Eight**

*Friday, March 22: Reputation*


**Friday, Mar 29: No class**

**Week Nine**

**Friday, Apr. 5: Democratic Politics and International Bargaining**


Downs and Rocke, Chpts. 4, 5 (pp. 76-129).


**Week Ten**

**Friday, April 12: International Organizations**


**Week Eleven**

**Friday, April 19: Informal Governance**


Week Twelve

*Friday, Apr. 26: Global Domestic Politics*


*Monday, May 6, 5:00 pm: Final Exam Due*