Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Fakultät Sozial- und Wirtschaftswissenschaften

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Winter Term 2023/24

Hauptseminar zu Themen der internationalen Politik:

International Security Policy

Language: English

Credits: 8 ECTS

Date: Wednesday, 4 - 6 pm

Room: F21/02.31

In this seminar students will make themselves familiar with key concepts, theories and themes of security studies and will learn how to make use of them when preparing their seminar essays. Students will get to know various concepts and theories that have shaped the field of security studies in the past decades. We will explore what security means to different scholars and practitioners and we will get to know the key assumptions of securitization theory. We will familiarize ourselves with the security dilemma concept, democratic peace theory and the debate on humanitarian interventions. We will discuss what the security implications of the rise of China are. We will debate contemporary challenges to UN peacekeeping and look into how the US has justified the "War on Terror". Furthermore, we will concern ourselves with the twin issues of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament. Obviously, we will also cover Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine.

Language of instruction: English; discussions and presentations will be in English unless all participants agree to change to German. Essays may be submitted in either English or German language.

Admission conditions: This is a Master-level course open to students of the Political Science MA program and other Political Science programs. Other students are welcome if they have sufficient knowledge in international politics to meaningfully participate in the seminar.

Participants are expected to

- attend the seminar regularly
- read the texts mentioned as 'Required Reading'
- participate in seminar discussions

To obtain a certificate participants have to

- give a **presentation** of 15 minutes and moderate a discussion of 30 minutes
 - o topics will be allocated in the first session
 - o the presentation should include a powerpoint presentation
- write an **essay** ('Hausarbeit') of 18 pages (12 point font size, 1.5 space, 2cm margin) excluding title page, literature, and possible annexes)
 - o the essay examines an aspect of the seminar in a theory-/concept-based way and uses a qualitative method
 - o due 15 April 2024

At this time, I advise you not to use a chatbot to get help writing your term paper. Considerable prior knowledge is required to be able to use a chatbot sensibly for such a task. In addition, the legal questions have not yet been clarified. If you still decide to use a chatbot, you must indicate in your term paper for what purposes and how you used a chatbot. If you do not use a chatbot, add a paragraph to your declaration of authorship in which you certify that you have not used a chatbot.

Please note that the **Virtual Campus** is extremely important for you:

- You find the reading material of the course in the VC.
- If I want to contact you, I will use the email distribution list that comprises the email addresses with which you have registered in the VC.
- In the VC Forum you can communicate with fellow seminar participants.
- You will upload your essay in the VC.

Seminar Outline

1. Introduction (18 October 2023)

I. Concepts and Theories

2. Security - The concept (25 October 2023)

Required Reading:

Schlag, Gabi, Julian Junk and Christopher Daase (2016): Transformations of security and security studies: An introduction to the volume. In: Gabi Schlag, Julian Junk and Christopher Daase (eds.), *Transformations of Security Studies. Dialogues, diversity and discipline*, London & New York: Routledge, 1-32.

3. Securitization (Constructivism) (8 November 2023)

Required Reading:

Balzacq, Thierry, Sarah Léonard and Jan Ruzicka (2016) 'Securitization' revisited: Theory and cases, *International Relation*, Vol. 30, Issue 4, 494-531.

Presentation: Empirical application

4. Democratic peace theory (Liberalism) & Security dilemma (Neorealism) (15 November 2023)

Required Reading:

Russett, Bruce (1993): *Grasping the Democratic Peace: Principles for a post-cold war world*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 3-42.

Presentation: Security dilemma

Recommended introductory reading:

Jervis, Robert (2001): Was the Cold War a security dilemma? *Journal of Cold War Studies*, Vol. 3, Issue 1, 36-60.

II. Russia's war against Ukraine

5. Origins (22 November 2023)

Required Reading:

Mearsheimer, John J. (2014): Why the Ukraine Crisis Is the West's Fault: The Liberal Delusions That Provoked Putin. *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 93, Number 5, 77-89.

McFaul, Michael (2020): Putin, Putinism, and the Domestic Determinants of Russian Foreign Policy. *International Security*, Vol. 45, No. 2, 95-139.

Walt, Stephen M. (2022): An International Relations Theory Guide to the War in Ukraine. *Foreign Policy*, 8 March 2022, retrievable at: https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/03/08/an-international-relations-theory-guide-to-ukraines-war/?tpcc=recirc_latest062921 [last access: 25 July 2023].

Presentation: Appeasement

Recommended introductory reading:

Trubowitz, Peter and Peter Harris (2015): When states appease: British appeasement in the 1930s. *Review of International Studies*, Vol. 41, Issue 2, 289-311.

6. Strategic options (29 November 2023)

Required Reading:

Jervis, Robert (1982): Deterrence and Perception. *International Security*, Vol. 7, No. 3, 3-30.

Farrell, Henry and Abraham L. Newman (2019): Weaponized Interdependence: How Global Economic Networks Shape State Coercion. *International Security*, Vol. 44, No. 1, 42-79.

Presentation: Détente

Recommended introductory reading:

Kieninger, Stephan (2020): Diplomacy beyond deterrence: Helmut Schmidt and the economic dimension of Ostpolitik. *Cold War History*, Vol. 20, Issue 2, 179-196.

Snyder, Sarah B. (2011): *Human rights activism and the end of the Cold War: a transnational history of the Helsinki network*. Cambridge University Press. (especially Introduction)

III. Challenges

7. The rise of China (6 December 2023)

Required Reading:

Breuer, Adam and Alastair Iain Johnston (2019): Memes, narratives and the emergent US—China security dilemma. *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, Vol. 32, No. 4, 429-455.

Ikenberry, G. John (2018): Why the Liberal World Order Will Survive. *Ethics & International Affairs*, Vol. 32, No. 1, 17-29.

Presentation: Thucydides trap

Recommended introductory reading:

Allison, Graham (2017): Destined for war: can America and China escape Thucydides's trap? Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

8. Counterterrorism (13 December 2022)

Required Reading:

Sanders, Rebecca (2017): Human rights abuses at the limits of the law: Legal instabilities and vulnerabilities in the 'Global War on Terror'. *Review of International Studies*, Vol. 44, part 1, 2-23.

Presentation: Legitimating the "War on Terror"

Recommended introductory reading:

Esch, Joanne (2010): Legitimizing the "War on Terror": Political myth in official-level rhetoric. *Political Psychology*, Vol. 31, Issue 3, 357-391.

9. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (20 December 2023)

Required Reading:

Noda, Orion (2021): A wolf in sheep's clothing? The NPT and symbolic proliferation. *Contemporary Security Policy*, Vol. 43, Issue 1, 1-27.

Presentation: Nuclear disarmament

Recommended introductory reading:

Egeland, Kjølv (2021): A theory of nuclear disarmament: Cases, analogies, and the role of the non-proliferation regime. *Contemporary Security Policy*, Vol. 43, Issue 1, 1-28.

10. Humanitarian interventions (10 January 2023)

Required Reading:

Wheeler, Nicholas J. (2000): Saving Strangers: Humanitarian Intervention in International Society. *Oxford: Oxford University Press*, 21-52, 285-310.

Presentation: Selectivity of Humanitarian Interventions

Recommended introductory reading:

Western, Jon (2002): Sources of humanitarian intervention: Beliefs, information, and advocacy in the US decisions on Somalia and Bosnia. *International Security* Vol. 26, Issue 4, 112-142.

11. UN Peacekeeping (17 January 2023)

Required Reading:

Walter, Barbara F., Lise Morje Howard, and V. Page Fortna (2021). The extraordinary relationship between peacekeeping and peace." *British Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 51, Issue 4, 1705-1722.

Karlsrud, John (2023). 'Pragmatic Peacekeeping'in Practice: Exit Liberal Peacekeeping, Enter UN Support Missions? *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*: 1-15.

Presentation: UN Peacekeeping in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Recommended introductory reading:

Autesserre, Séverine (2012) "Dangerous tales: Dominant narratives on the Congo and their unintended consequences." *African Affairs* 111.443 (2012): 202-222.

Day, Adam, and Charles T. Hunt (2023) "A Perturbed Peace: Applying Complexity Theory to UN Peacekeeping" *International Peacekeeping*, Vol. 30, Issue 1 (2023): 1-23.

12. Legitimacy of international security institutions (24 January 2023)

Required Reading:

Binder, Martin and Monika Heupel (2015): "The legitimacy of the UN Security Council: Evidence from recent General Assembly debates." *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 59, Issue 2 (2015): 238-250.

Group discussion: Reform of the UN Security Council

IV. Preparation for your essay

13. How to write a good essay? (31 January 2023)

To obtain a certificate in this seminar, you will write an essay using a qualitative method. This session therefore serves to provide insights into respective skills as well as opportunity for discussion and to ask questions. We will specifically address the following questions: What is a good research question? How can we operationalize concepts? How do we select cases? What are the characteristics of sound process tracing and content analysis? To prepare for this session, please read **one** of the following texts:

- Hancké, Bob (2009): Intelligent Research Design. A Guide for Beginning Researchers in the Social Sciences. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 10-34.
- Toshkov, Dimiter (2016): Research Design in Political Science, Houndmills: Palgrave MacMillan (Ch. 4).
- Levy, Jack S. (2008): Case Studies: Types, Designs, and Logics of Inference, Conflict Management and Peace Science 25(1), 1-18.
- Bennett, Andrew and Jeffrey T. Checkel (2014): Process Tracing: From Metaphor to Analytic Tool. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (Ch. 1).
- Mayring, Philipp (2015): Qualitative content analysis: Theoretical background and procedures. Approaches to qualitative research in mathematics education. Dordrecht: Springer, 365-380.

14. Student presentations of essay ideas (7 February 2023)

In this session, you have the opportunity to briefly present your ideas for your essay and get feedback from me and fellow students.