This is an advanced introduction to international relations theory. International relations theory is struggling to come to grips with recent and future developments in international politics. The course focuses on some of these developments, all of which present significant challenges to current theories: nationalism and ethnicity; the end of the Cold War; how best to respond to the rise of China; and globalization. Before we tackle these difficult issues, however, we need a better grasp of what the current theories are. We will therefore spend the first six weeks discussing various general frameworks or paradigms for thinking about international relations.

Course requirements:

1. **Midterm:**
2. **Final paper** (based in large part on the last four weeks of reading plus additional readings relevant to your particular topic). Topic to be posted on Blackboard. Date of posting to be announced in class. An electronic copy of your paper must be submitted to lskalnes@uoregon.edu no later than . No extensions will be given, and no late papers will be accepted. You cannot take an incomplete in this course.

The midterm accounts for 50% and the final paper for 50% of your grade.

Required readings available at the University of Oregon bookstore:


Required readings not listed above are available online. The articles listed under additional readings below will prove useful in writing the final paper.

**Academic Misconduct.** The University Student Conduct Code (available at http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx) defines academic misconduct. Students are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. By way of example, students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive) unauthorized help on assignments or examinations without express permission from the instructor. Students should properly acknowledge and document all sources of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by the instructor. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the students’ obligation to clarify the question with the instructor before committing
or attempting to commit the act. Additional information about a common form of academic misconduct, plagiarism, is available at www.libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students.

**Disability.** The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability related barriers to your participation, please notify me as soon as possible. You may also wish to contact Disability Services in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155 or disabsrv@uoregon.edu.

1. **International Relations as a Social Science**


   Milja Kurki and Colin Wight, “International Relations and Social Science.” In Dunne, Kurki, and Smith, chapter 1.

   Ole Wæver, “Still a Discipline After All These Debates?” In Dunne, Kurki, and Smith, chapter 15.

2. **Realism I**


3. **Realism II**


   Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*.

4. **Liberalism I**


5. Liberalism II


6. Constructivism


7. Nationalism, Ethnicity and International Conflict


Additional readings:


8. The End of the Cold War


Additional readings:


### 9. The Rise of China


**Additional readings:**


10. Globalization


Additional readings:


