

17.420

Advances in International Relations Theory

EXAMS

MIDTERM EXAM

Please answer 2 of the 3 questions below. Do not write more than 7 pages on each. In your answers, please identify and draw on the key references as needed:

1. What is 'international relations theory'? What 'uses' does IR theory have, if any? Please respond and illustrate with reference to specific examples of (a) theory and (b) reality.
2. Please review and assess the key features of *evolutionary theories* and please identify the criteria you use for review and for assessment. To what extent is this a useful 'addition' to IR theory? Please answer with reference to specific literatures and examples.
3. What are the major gaps in international relations theory? What criteria would you use to make that determination? Please discuss with reference to three specific examples of 'theory' and 'applications' in international relations.

FINAL EXAM

Please answer 2 of the 3 questions below. Do not write more than 7 pages on each. In your answers, please identify and draw on the key references as needed:

1. Compare and contrast key perspectives or theories on *international conflict*. How relevant are these to the dynamics of the 21st century? What criteria would you use to make that determination? Why? Please answer with reference to specific literatures and examples.
2. Please review and assess the key features of *evolutionary theories*. What contributions, if any, do they make to IR theory? Please identify the criteria you use for review and for assessment. In your essay, please refer to specific studies (theory and applications) and highlight their individual 'position' in the relevant literature.
3. What does '*globalization*' bring to the study of international relations? Does this concept provide insightful additions or an added confusions? Please answer with reference to specific literatures and examples.