International Relations
Ph.D. Exam
Spring 2006

Directions: This is a 72-hour examination. Ph.D. majors – Answer the question from Section A and three (3) questions from Section B. Ph.D. minors – Answer the question from Section A and two (2) question from Section B. Focus on preparing coherent, well-organized essays that display your mastery of the literature and indicate how that literature expands our collective knowledge. Completed examinations should conform to the following guidelines:

- Place your student ID# at the top of each page of your examination. Do not write your name anywhere on the examination.

- Clearly identify the question you are answering at the start of each response.

- Cite sources throughout your examination using a standard format and provide a bibliography that covers all of the materials used in preparing your responses.

- Number your pages consecutively for the entire examination.

- Submit a cover page with your responses that lists your ID# and the type of examination you completed (e.g. MA Minor, MA Major, Ph.D. Minor, Ph.D. Major).

Section A

The question of how states maintain cooperative relationships under anarchy is a central puzzle for students of international relations. Which of the major theoretical approaches (realism, liberalism, Marxism, and constructivism) is the most useful for understanding international cooperation and which is the least useful? Explain, referring to specific theories and authors in your answer.

Section B

1. Can realism accommodate the basic elements of democratic peace theory, or are the two theoretically incompatible?

2. The idea of human rights as expressed in international norms has clear liberal roots. Some suggest that the strengthening of international human rights norms poses a successful challenge to realism’s core assumptions and offers strong support for a constructivist understanding of politics. Evaluate the contribution of human rights studies to theoretical understanding in the broader international relations literature. What are the limits (if any) to an effective critique of realism based on cases of human rights norms? Do such critiques confirm the relevance of constructivist approaches, or do doubts remain? Answer with regard to specific works and theories.
3. International law restricts the resort to armed force by states to certain instances of humanitarian intervention, collective security and self-defense. Regarding the current Iraq war – Operation Iraqi Freedom and its continuing aftermath – are the United States and its pertinent allies justified according to some or all of these criteria of permissibility? Where can these criteria be found? Be sure that your answer is precise in defining and explaining all three standards.

4. Some theorists see neo-liberal policies and the process of globalization as intimately connected. Write an essay describing "neo-liberalism" and "globalization." Discuss why some theorists believe the two are so connected. Finally, evaluate the relevance of "neo-liberal globalization" for the study of international relations.

5. In a recent article ("Soft Balancing Against the United States," *International Security* 30, 1 [Summer 2005]: 7-45), Robert Pape argues that the foreign policy strategy pursued by the current Bush administration is "one of the most aggressively unilateral US national security strategies ever" (p.7-8). What, if any, are the likely consequences of a hegemon's pursuit of a unilateral strategy for the way the current international system is governed? Be sure to support your answer with reference to specific scholars and literatures and explain the reasoning behind your response.

6. Susan Hawthorne and Bronwyn Winter, in the introduction to their anthology, *September 11, 2001: Feminist Perspectives*, tell us that in the ongoing climate of war, terrorism, and counter-terror, feminist voices and feminist analysis have been "alarmingly lacking in public fora." Why do Hawthorne and Winter find the lack of feminist voices and analysis in public spaces, press, and media "alarming"? Based on your knowledge of feminist IR theory and readings on gender and the "wars on terror," what insights could feminist analysis contribute to our understanding of terror, counter-terror, and the war in Iraq today? Would you agree that the lack of attention to such voices is a matter for "alarm" in regard to the prospects for overcoming terrorism and war? Explain the grounds for your conclusion.
International Relations
Masters Exam
Spring 2006

Directions: This is a 48-hour examination. MA majors – Answer the question from Section A and two (2) questions from Section B. MA minors – Answer the question from Section A and one (1) question from Section B. Focus on preparing coherent, well-organized essays that display your mastery of the literature and indicate how that literature expands our collective knowledge. Completed examinations should conform to the following guidelines:

- Place your student ID# at the top of each page of your examination. Do not write your name anywhere on the examination.

- Clearly identify the question you are answering at the start of each response.

- Cite sources throughout your examination using a standard format and provide a bibliography that covers all of the materials used in preparing your responses.

- Number your pages consecutively for the entire examination.

- Submit a cover page with your responses that lists your ID# and the type of examination your completed (e.g. MA Minor, MA Major, Ph.D. Minor, Ph.D. Major).

Section A

The question of how states maintain cooperative relationships under anarchy is a central puzzle for students of international relations. Which of the major theoretical approaches (realism, liberalism, Marxism, and constructivism) is the most useful for understanding international cooperation and which is the least useful? Explain, referring to specific theories and authors in your answer.

Section B

1. In the final analysis, genocide and genocide-like crimes are the product of individual human deficiencies and inclinations. Are these deficiencies remediable, or must an improved world order require new structural alterations of international relations (e.g., more centralized institutions for collective security or world government)? Be sure that your answer identifies pertinent deficiencies and inclinations, and that it clarifies, in detail, the nature of proposed behavioral and/or structural changes.

2. Several recent studies have sought to understand whether treaties “make a difference” in governments’ human rights behavior. Others focus more broadly on the power of norms. What do we know, or think we know, about the theoretical and actual role of formal and informal norms in countries’ human rights behavior? Answer with regard to specific works and their relation to broader theories of international politics.
3. Were the patterns of international alignment during the Cold War consistent or inconsistent with the predictions of balance of power theory?

4. The literature on international political economy argues that most states have embraced economic policies referred to as "neo-liberal." These policies, much of the literature suggests, have been encouraged or enforced by significant international economic organizations and collections of industrial capitalist states. Write an essay on the meaning and significance of "neo-liberalism" for the contemporary international political economy. What is it? From where in the history of economic thought does it come? What are the most familiar neo-liberal policies? What international institutions insist that states adopt such policies? What have been the main consequences of neo-liberalism for international life?

5. In a recent article ("Soft Balancing Against the United States," *International Security* 30, 1 [Summer 2005]: 7-45), Robert Pape argues that the foreign policy strategy pursued by the current Bush administration is "one of the most aggressively unilateral US national security strategies ever" (p.7-8). What, if any, are the likely consequences of a hegemon’s pursuit of a unilateral strategy for the way the current international system is governed? Be sure to support your answer with reference to specific scholars and literatures and explain the reasoning behind your response.

6. "The terrorist is the logical incarnation of patriarchal politics in a technological world" (Robin Morgan, *The Demon Lover: On the Sexuality of Terrorism*, 1990, p.33). Explain the meaning of this statement as elaborated by Morgan, and discuss its significance in the broader context of feminist IR theory. In your response, consider the similarities and differences between the views expressed by Morgan and those of other writers on gender, terrorism, and the so-called "wars on terrorism."