**Government 765**

**The Politics of International Hierarchy**

**Version 2.0**

Thursdays, 9.30am-12.00pm, ICC 112

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2.00-4.00pm, or by appointment

This course examines the broad topic of international hierarchy: the stratification and structuring of power relations among states and other entities in the international system. Focusing on concepts, theory, and case studies, it surveys scholarship that treats hierarchies as central to world politics, as well as research that views the international system as fundamentally anarchic yet shaped by specific "zones of hierarchy." Students will should develop an understanding of core debates on hierarchy in international relations and the myriad ways that hierarchical international relations have operated in different historical settings.

## Readings and Class Participation

Although I will occasionally give short lectures, the class is taught primarily as a seminar. Students contribute to the intellectual and educational life of the class via participation in class discussions and small-group exercises. I expect students to complete all of the readings most of the time. Because the reading load is heavy, you will need to plan accordingly, and space assignments out over the week before each class. Class participation constitutes 50 percent of your final grade.

## Research Paper

Students will write a research paper of 8k-12k words that deals with some dimension of the topics explored in the class. The main contribution could be theoretical, explanatory, or both. The paper can take the form of a standard academic article or of a review essay of the type found in [*International Organization*](https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-organization/information/instructions-contributors) or [*World Politics*](http://piirs.princeton.edu/sites/default/files/world_politics_guidelines-for-review-articles.pdf). The paper is due on December 22nd at 11.59pm. Please submit via Canvas. It is worth 50 percent of your final grade.

You will want to start talking to me about your paper no earlier than the middle of October.

## General Policies

* You are bound by Georgetown’s honor code. Plagiarism or other instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. I put all writing assignments through plagiarism-detection software.
* The subject line of emails to me should begin with “Government 765” This will ensure that they are automatically flagged and make it much less likely that I will miss them. But I do miss emails, and so you should ping me again if you don’t hear from me within 24 hours.

## Obtaining Readings

* You are responsible for procuring copies of the books as I have not ordered them through the bookstore.
* Other texts are available online.

# Schedule

## August 29 Introduction

No readings

## September 5 Hierarchy in International Relations Theory

### Required

* Hobson, John M., and J.C. Sharman. 2005. “The Enduring Place of Hierarchy in World Politics: Tracing the Social Logics of Hierarchy and Political Change.” *European Journal of International Relations* 11 (1): 63–98.
* Mattern, Janice Bially, and Ayşe Zarakol. 2016. “Hierarchies in World Politics.” *International Organization* 70 (3): 623–54. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818316000126>.
* Colgan, Jeff D., and Nicholas L. Miller. 2019. “Rival Hierarchies and the Origins of Nuclear Technology Sharing.” *International Studies Quarterly* 63 (2): 310–21. https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqz002.
* Sabaratnam, Meera. 2011. “IR in Dialogue … but Can We Change the Subjects? A Typology of Decolonising Strategies for the Study of World Politics.” *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 39 (3): 781–803. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0305829811404270>.
* Weber, Cynthia. 2016. “Queer Intellectual Curiosity as International Relations Method: Developing Queer International Relations Theoretical and Methodological Frameworks.” *International Studies Quarterly* 60 (1): 11–23.

Recommended

* Donnelly, Jack. 2015. “The Discourse of Anarchy in IR.” *International Theory* 7 (3): 393–425.

## September 17 & 19 Hegemonic Orders

### Required

* Gilpin, Robert. 1981. *War and Change in World Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
  + September 17: Chapters 1-3
  + September 19: Chapters 4-6

Recommended

* Gilpin, Robert. 1988. “The Theory of Hegemonic War.” *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18 (4): 591–613.
* Ikenberry, G. John, and Daniel H. Nexon. 2019. “Hegemony Studies 3.0: The Dynamics of Hegemonic Orders.” *Security Studies* 3 (28): 395–421.
* Lake, David A. 1993. “Leadership, Hegemony, and the International Economy: Naked Emperor or Tattered Monarch?” *International Studies Quarterly* 37 (4): 459–89.
* Lemke, Douglas. 2002. *Regions of War and Peace*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
* Norrlof, Carla. 2010. America’s Global Advantage: US Hegemony and International Cooperation. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## September 24 Logics of Hierarchy

* Cooley, Alexander. 2005. Logics of Hierarchy: The Organization of Empires, States, and Nations in Transit. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
  + Entire

## September 26 & October 1 Hierarchy in International Relations

* Lake, David A. 2009. *Hierarchy in International Relations*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press.
  + September 26: Through Chapter 2
  + October 1: Chapter 3-End

## October 3 & 8 Federations

### Required

* Rector, Chad. 2009. *Federations: The Political Dynamics of Cooperation*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press.
  + October 3: Through Chapter 2.
  + October 8: Chapters 3-End

### Recommended

* Parent, Joseph M. 2011. *Uniting States: Voluntary Union in World Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press.

## October 15 Networks of Domination

* MacDonald, Paul K. 2014. Networks of Domination: The Social Foundations of Peripheral Conquest in International Politics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

## October 17 States of Emergency

### Required

* Fassin, Didier, and Mariella Pandolfi, eds. 2010. Contemporary States of Emergency: The Politics of Military and Humanitarian Interventions. New York: Zone Books.
  + Chapters TBD

## October 22, 24, & 29 China’s Hegemony

* Lee, Ji-Young. 2016. China’s Hegemony: Four Hundred Years of East Asian Domination. Columbia University Press.
  + October 22: Entire
* Zhang, Feng. 2015. Chinese Hegemony: Grand Strategy and International Institutions in East Asian History. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press.
  + October 24: Through Chapter 2.
  + October 29: Chapters 3-End

## October 31 & November 5 After Defeat

* Zarakol, Ayşe. 2011. *After Defeat: How the East Learned to Live with the West*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
  + October 31: Through Chapter 2.
  + November 5: Chapter 3-End.

## November 7 & 12 Rising Powers, Part I

* Goddard, Stacie E. 2018. When Right Makes Might: Rising Powers and World Order. Cornell University Press.
  + November 7: Through Chapter 2
  + November 12: Chapter 3-End

## November 14 & 19 Rising Powers, Part II

* Goh, Evelyn. 2013. The Struggle for Order: Hegemony, Hierarchy, and Transition in Post-Cold War East Asia. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
  + November 14: Through Chapter 2
  + November 19: Chapter 3-End

## November 26 Declining Powers

* Shifrinson, Joshua R. Itzkowitz. 2018. *Rising Titans, Falling Giants: How Great Powers Exploit Power Shifts*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press.

## December 3 & 5 Empires and Imperialism

* Abernethy, David B. 2000. The Dynamics of Global Dominance: European Overseas Empires, 1415-1980. Yale University Press.
  + December 3: Read through Part IV
  + December 5: Parts V & VI, Appendix

## December 22 Paper Due