Syllabus

REGIONAL SECURITY IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE - 58883

Last update 07-04-2015

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: International Relations

Academic year: 1

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Korina Kagan

Coordinator Email: korina.kagan@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Mondays 17:00-18:00

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Korina Kagan
Course/Module description:
The seminar deals with analyzing the current and evolving security situation in three key regions in the international system: Western Europe, East Asia, and the Middle East. We shall seek to account for the variance among these three regions in terms of their security situation in light of competing theories and approaches to the study of war and peace in the international system.

Course/Module aims:
A critical evaluation of the various competing approaches and theories to explain war and peace in the international system, and their application to the regional level in three key regions: Western Europe, East Asia, and the Middle East.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
To examine the concept of a region, and the different approaches to the definition and delineation of regions
To debate and criticize the different approaches to the concept of [international security] and [regional security]
To analyze the different competing theoretical approaches and theories to explaining war and peace in the international system, and their application to the regional level
To investigate the security situation (in terms of war and peace) in each of three key regions in the international system: Western Europe, East Asia, and the Middle East
To compare and contrast the three regions in terms of their security situation (the state of war and peace in each region)
To appraise the various competing approaches and theories that try to account for the security situation in each region in turn
To assess the ability of the competing theories and approaches to account for the variance among the regions in terms of regional security
To evaluate the relative success of the competing approaches and theories in accounting for regional security and the variance among key regions in the international systems in terms of war and peace.

Attendance requirements(%):
80% of the classes

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:
Seminar
Course/Module Content:
Program of the seminar:

1. Introduction: Theoretical approaches to regional war and peace

n What is security? What is a region? What is regional security, why should we study it and how?

n Some recent theoretical works on regional security

2. Security in Europe since the end of the Cold War:

n How can we explain the warm and stable peace in Europe?

n Germany as the linchpin of European peace: has the tiger changed its spots?

n The extension of the European zone of peace to Eastern Europe: the role of European security institutions

n Why does NATO endure and expand - and was expanding it a good idea?

n Europe in the world: US partner, US competitor or a normative power?

n Muslim immigration in Europe: is there a serpent in the European paradise?

3. Security in East Asia since the end of the Cold War:

n The causes of the peace in East Asia comparison with Europe

n The Rise of China and its implications for regional and international security

n Japan in East Asia: the Asian Germany?

n Security institutions in East Asia: the role of ASEAN

n Nuclear weapons in South Asia and East Asia: stabilizing or destabilizing?

4. Security in the Middle East since the end of the Cold War:
The causes of conflict and war in the Middle East: why does it lag so far behind Europe and East Asia?

The causes of Islamic terrorism

Nuclear weapons in the Middle East: the implications of a nuclear Iran; What should Israel do?

The US intervention in the Middle East in the last decade and the war in Iraq: the causes of failure

Conclusions: the Middle East in light of the other two regions: Is there any hope?

Required Reading:

The Required Readings

1. Introduction: Theoretical approaches to regional war and peace

What Is Security?

General sources on regions and regional security in the post-Cold War era:
How should we study regional security? The theoretical perspectives (the ?isms?) and going beyond them:


Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories", Foreign Policy, no. 145 (2004), pp. 52-62.


Recent theories of regional war and peace


Ch. 3 - pp. 82-128

2. Security in Europe since the End of the Cold War:

The Causes of the European Peace


Joseph Joffe, "Europe’s American Pacifier", Foreign Policy, no. 54 (1984), pp. 64-82.


William Wallace, "Europe After the Cold War: Interstate Order or Post-Sovereign

The Foreign and Security Policy of Germany: Why So Moderate?


Extending the European Peace to Eastern Europe: socialization and the role of the European institutions
The role of NATO in European Security:

Europe in the world and vis-à-vis the US: ally, rival or normative power?

3. Security in East Asia since the End of the Cold War

East Asia: A Region of Peace or a Future of Conflict?


Japan in East Asia: the Asian Germany?


Paul Midford, “The Logic of Reassurance and Japan’s Grand Strategy,” Security

The role of security institutions in East Asia: the case of ASEAN


The rise of China and possible regional and US responses

5-40.

Nuclear weapons in South Asia and East Asia: stabilizing or destabilizing?
Saira Khan, “A Nuclear South Asia: Resolving or Protracting the Protracted Conflict?”, International Relations, vol. 15, no. 4 (2001), pp. 61-78.

4. Security in the Middle East since the End of the Cold War:

The causes of conflict and war in the Middle East: why does it lag behind Europe and East Asia?
Benjamin Miller, States, Nations and the Great Powers: The Sources of Regional War and Peace (Cambridge University Press, 2007), ch. 4 (pp. 129-204), ch. 5 (pp.
205-255).

Nuclear weapons in the Middle East: a nuclear Iran and its implications; what should Israel do?


Additional Reading Material:

Additional Readings

1. Introduction: Theoretical approaches to regional war and peace

What Is Security?

General sources on regions and regional security in the post-Cold War era:


Predictions of the future at the end of the Cold War: how well have they fared in different regions?
Richard Betts, “Conflict or Cooperation? Three Visions Revisited”, Foreign Affairs,
vol. 89, no. 6 (2010), pp. 186-194.

The debate on the future of the state: how is it related to different regions?

Attempts to divide the world into two: is it enough?

Can regions be compared?

How should we study regional security? The theoretical perspectives (the “isms”) and going beyond them:

Recent theories of regional war and peace
Etel Solingen’s Theory of Liberal Coalitions and Regional Peace:
A version of this article may also be found in:

Benny Miller’s Theory of Regional War and Peace
Ch. 1 - pp. 1-40
Ch. 2 - pp. 41-81
Conclusions - pp. 369-421

2. Security in Europe since the End of the Cold War:
The Causes of the European Peace

Sebastian Rosato, “Europe's Troubles: Power Politics and the State of the European
The theory of the obsolescence of major war

The Foreign and Security Policy of Germany: Why So Moderate?

Peter Rudolf, “The Myth of the German Way: German Foreign Policy and..."

Extending the European Peace to Eastern Europe: socialization and the role of the European institutions


The role of NATO in European Security:

The role of NATO in the post-Cold War era: Why Does It Persist?

Sean Kay, NATO, the Kosovo War, and Neoliberal Theory, Contemporary Security Policy, vol. 25, no. 2, (2004), pp. 252-279.

Why has NATO expanded east?
Was NATO enlargement a good idea? The issue of relations with Russia:


The issue of democracy promotion:

Europe in the world and vis-a-vis the US: ally, rival or "normative power"?

Transatlantic relations:

Christopher Layne, "It's Over, Over There: The Coming Crack-up in Transatlantic
3. Security in East and South Asia since the End of the Cold War

East Asia: A Region of Peace?
Michael Klare, “The Next Great Arms Race”, Foreign Affairs, vol. 72, no. 3 (1993),


How should we study East Asian Security?


Thomas Berger, “Power and Purpose in Pacific East Asia: A Constructivist Interpretation”, in International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific, edited by
Japan in East Asia: the Asian Germany?


Japan and nuclear weapons:

The role of security institutions in East Asia: the case of ASEAN

The rise of China and possible regional and US responses
Deborah Welch Larson and Alexei Shevchenko, Status Seekers: Chinese and


Denny Roy, China’s Reaction to American Predominance, Survival, vol. 45, no. 3
(2003), pp. 57-78.

What Should the US Do About China?
Chung Min Lee, “China’s Rise, Asia’s Dilemma”, The National Interest, no. 81


Nuclear weapons in South Asia and East Asia: stabilizing or destabilizing?


Patrick Cronin, “The Trouble with North Korea,” in Double Trouble: Iran and North Korea as Challenges to International Security, edited by Patrick Cronin (Praeger

4. Security in the Middle East since the End of the Cold War:
The causes of conflict and war in the Middle East: why does it lag behind Europe and East Asia?

Nuclear weapons in the Middle East: a nuclear Iran and its implications; what should Israel do?

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 25 %
Project work 50 %
Assignments 25 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %