

Instructions: This is an open book exam for which you have eight hours. Answer one question from the Theory section and one question from each of any other two sections. The examination is open-book. Be sure your answers refer specifically to relevant literatures. Be sure also that your answers do not use the same basic literature for more than one question. Please be careful to address the actual question that is asked.

THEORY

1. IR is conventionally divided into three camps: realists, liberals, and constructivists. But it is sometimes unclear what, if anything, divides these approaches. What are the meaningful distinctions among these three theoretical camps? What commonly asserted distinctions are not meaningful? Is this way of dividing theories of international politics useful? If not, how should the universe of theories be organized?
 2. Is a positive science of international politics possible? Is a normative study of international politics testable?
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IPE

1. Should we understand 'globalization' as something that happens to states or a project led by states?
2. Does the study of individual preferences over the global economy actually add to our understanding of the international political economy at the systemic level?

SECURITY

1. Are traditional state-centered conceptions of security adequate? Is 'human security' a useful conceptual move, analytically and normatively?
2. 'Theories of deterrence versus the spiral model may be theoretically interesting but they are empirically impossible to grasp'. Discuss.

FOREIGN POLICY

1. To what extent does the analysis of 'empire' and 'hegemony' help us in explaining US foreign policy, and the global reaction to it, since the collapse of the Soviet empire? Do theories of empire and hegemony have purchase beyond this particular era?
2. What is intended and what happens in foreign policy are not necessarily the same. What intellectual strategies exist to understand intent or motivations of foreign policies? Are there any conceptual or theoretic arguments that shed light on why what happens may not be what was intended?

WORLD ORDERS

1. What are the different theoretical traditions for thinking about global governance? Review and critique their strengths and weaknesses.
2. How or how not is Marxist theory relevant to the theorization of contemporary world order?

NORMS AND INSTITUTIONS

1. How have IR scholars conceptualized institutional change? What are the implications for understanding the promotion and spread of international norms?
2. John McCain, the presumptive Republican nominee for president, has argued in favor of a League of Democracies as an alternative to the United Nations. Thus membership of this international institution would be determined by regime type. Evaluate the proposal from various IR theories.