Who Rules the World?  
International Order(s) in Theory and Practice

COURSE SCHEDULE

Part 1: Theories of International Order

Week 1: Thinking about Order

Session 1: introduction  Date TBD


Session 2: thinking about order even more

- Zhao Tingyang, “A Political World Philosophy in Terms of All-under-Heaven (Tian-Xia),” Diogenes 56, no. 1 (February 1, 2009): 5–18.

Week 2: The Major Approaches to Order

Session 1: International system


Session 2: International society


Recommended:
• Alexander Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 1999).

**Week 3: Order in Transition**

**Session 1: out of empire**

• Lauren A. Benton, *A Search for Sovereignty: Law and Geography in European Empires, 1400-1900* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), chapter 1.

**Session 1: the construction of global international order**


**Recommended:**

• Amitav Acharya, “Global International Relations (IR) and Regional Worlds,” *International Studies Quarterly* 58, no. 4 (December 1, 2014): 647–59.
• Rosemary Foot, John Gaddis, and Andrew Hurrell, eds., Order and Justice in International Relations (OUP Oxford, 2003).
• Stuart Elden, The Birth of Territory (University of Chicago Press, 2013).
• The debate on Buzan and Lawson in International Studies Quarterly 57, no. 3 (2013).

Week 4: mechanisms of order I—anarchy & equilibrium

Session 1: anarchy as ordering principle


Session 2: the balance of power

• David Hume, “On the Balance of Power.”
• Bull, The Anarchical Society, chapter 5 (selections).

Recommended:


**Week 5: mechanisms of order II—hegemony and hierarchy**

**Session 1: hegemonic stability & hegemonic war**


**Session 2: hierarchy and domination**


**Recommended:**

Week 6: mechanisms of order III—empire and imperialism

Session 1: empires, ancient and modern


Session 2: imperialism and liberalism


Recommended:

- David Tabachnick and Toivo Koivukoski, eds., Enduring Empire: Ancient Lessons for Global Politics (University of Toronto Press, 2009).

Week 7: Mixed orders & global governance

Session 1: mixed orders


Session 2: global governance & the world state
• Alexander Wendt, “Why a World State Is Inevitable,” European Journal of International Relations 9, no. 4 (December 1, 2003): 491–542 (see also https://u.osu.edu/wendt/world-state/).

Recommended:


Part 2: Empirical International Order(s)

Week 8: the Concert of Europe

Session 1: the European equilibrium

• Paul W. Schroeder, “Did the Vienna Settlement Rest on a Balance of Power?,” The American Historical Review 97, no. 3 (June 1, 1992): 683–706.

Session 2: the imperial context


Recommended:


Week 9: Hierarchy in East Asia

Session 1: the East Asia tribute system


Session 2: the tribute system and the rise of China


Recommended:
• Tingyang, “A Political World Philosophy in Terms of All-under-Heaven (Tian-Xia).”

**Week 10: the “postwar” order I**

**Session 1: the United States’ rise to globalism**


**Session 2: the “Long Peace” and the system effects of order**

• Ikenberry, *Liberal Leviathan*, chapter 6.

**Recommended:**


**Week 11: the postwar order II**

**Session 1: American primacy and resurgent powers**


**Session 2: the Liberal World Order—RIP?**


**Recommended:**

• Brooks and Wohlfforth, *America Abroad*.

**Week 12: review and final exam**