Midterm Study Guide, Intro to International Relations, Fall 2011

The midterm will contain **10 definitions**, **3 short answer questions**, and **1 essay**. Do *not* answer more than the requested amount, as I'll only grade the first ones I read.

Everything on the test will either be drawn directly from class notes or from videos watched in class.

I will provide you with a list of 12 definitions, 5 short answers, and 2 essays on the midterm from which you can choose the terms and questions to which you want to respond.

All of the questions will be drawn from the list below. The short answers and example essays are provided as a template from which to study.

Definition Bank (max 1 sentence each, but a 3-point answer will be a full sentence) (30%)

- 1. regime
- 2. democratic peace theorem
- 3. self-determination
- 4. nation-state
- 5. transboundary externality
- 6. G20
- 7. global governance
- 8. total war
- 9. containment
- 10. multilateralism
- 11. George Kennan
- 12. Raison d'etat
- 13. self-help
- 14. relative gains

- 15. Melian dialogue
- 16. Hans Morgenthau
- 17. veto power
- 18. transnational civil society
- 19. responsibility to protect (R2P)
- 20. historical materialism
- 21. World-systems theory
- 22. sexual division of
 - labor
- 23. jus ad bellum
- 24. market failure
- 25. prisoner's dilemma
- 26. economic & social

rights

- 27. "Asian values"
- 28. Michael Ignatieff
- 29. ecological footprint 30. sustainable
- development
- 31. prior informed consent
- 32. precautionary principle
- 33. tragedy of the commons
- 34. peacekeeping
- 35. Ban-Ki Moon
- 36. conditional sovereignty

Short Answer (3-4 sentences each) (45% total - 15% each)

- 1. What distinguishes descriptive from normative theories? Give examples of each.
- 2. Define and give examples of the three pillars of the Westphalian state system: territoriality, sovereignty, and autonomy.
- 3. Explain how a given consumer product reflects various aspects of globalization (including, but not limited to, at least 3 of the following: social, economic, political, military, legal, ecological).

- 4. Which is more likely to create a stable international order, a bipolar world or a unipolar world? Use specific examples.
- 5. Define political power and distinguish it from other forms of power. Provide examples.
- 6. Explain how structural realism views international politics under anarchy.
- 7. What do liberals views as the key non-state factors and actors that influence state behavior?
- 8. Explain how constructivism views the world differently than rational choice (the prism through which most realists view the world).
- 9. The "life cycle of norms" progresses from emergence to cascade to internalization. Give examples of three social movements: one that is internalized, one that is undergoing cascade, and one that is currently emerging.
- 10. Using either the language of neoliberal institutionalism or Marxist dependency theory, defend or critique the argument that economic globalization benefits the world's poor.
- 11. Defend or critique Samuel Huntington's argument that post-Cold War conflict is defined primarily by the clash of civilizations.
- 12. Do you agree, with Amartya Sen, that human rights are universal rather than 'Western' values? Why or why not? Use specific examples.
- 13. Note the key similarities and differences between the ozone and climate regimes.
- 14. What distinguishes the UN Security Council from the General Assembly?

Short Essay (3 paragraphs) (25%)

- 1. Present three distinct examples of how different IR theories (pick between realism, liberalism, constructivism, Marxism, and feminism) view globalization.
- 2. Defend one of the following statements: "all politics is local" (Tip O'Neill) or "all politics is global" (Dan Drezner)
- 3. Defend or critique the traditional doctrine of non-intervention. (In other words: which is more important, sovereignty or humanitarian intervention?)
- 4. Was the Iraq war legal? Domestically? Internationally? (Note that I'm not asking whether or not it was justified...)