This course is intended for second year graduate students developing their seminar papers and third year graduate students working on their dissertation prospectuses. The course is less structured than many and will be tailored to the interests of the students. Although there are assigned readings on some weeks, the majority of the reading will be defined by the students in the course of developing their own research proposals. Assignments must be submitted in advance and will be “workshopped” by the students in the course. It is expected that earlier assignments will have to be substantially revised to accord with later assignments as the course unfolds. A single grade will be assigned for the quarter based on progress made over the ten weeks.

October 2: Motivations for research

Read essays by Oran Young (69-82), Bruce Russett (329-335), Robert O. Keohane (403-415), Stephen D. Krasner (417-427).

Scan the following works for their motivating “puzzle”:


Guide to writing a research paper/dissertation
October 9: Puzzles (continued) and the DV


October 16: One-on-one meetings on DV (no class)

Paragraph due October 13
Will schedule individual meetings on Oct. 15 and 16

October 23: Presentations on DV

Up to 5 pages, due October 21. These memos will be circulated to the class. Everyone should read all the memos prior to the meeting.

October 30: Theory and the IV

Marks, Michael P. *Metaphors in International Relations Theory*. New York: Palgrave McMillan, 2011. Read Chapter 1-4 and one or more of 5-8 according to interest.

Scan the following works for their central theoretical idea, “metaphor,” or “analogy”:


**November 6: One-on-one meetings on IV (no class)**

Paragraph due November 4
Will schedule individual meetings on Nov. 5 and 6

**November 13: Presentations on IV**

Up to 5 pages, due November 11. These memos will be circulated to the class. Everyone should read all the memos prior to the meeting.

**November 20: Construct validity**


November 20: No Class (Thanksgiving)

December 4: Final Presentations

Papers due December 1. These paper will be circulated to the class. Everyone should read all the papers prior to the meeting.