The examination consists of five questions. The student must write on three of these questions. The questions attempt to be integrative – that is to demand the student demonstrate a comprehension that crosses the sub-field limits. Normally the sub-fields are thought of as being theory, American foreign policy, international political economy, international cooperation (law and organizations), and international security. So often questions will deal with real world cases (current and recent events) but will involve knowing the literature in one or more fields in order to answer the question. The best guide, however, to the exam is to look at the two or three previous examinations to understand what kinds of questions are asked.

The reading list is intended to help graduate students prepare for the comprehensive. Mastery of this is sufficient preparation with respect to the literatures and main debates in the field. Additionally students should be methodologically astute, able to write clearly, and able to make arguments.

We want our international relations students to be well versed in IR-related current events and historical developments for two reasons. First, they should be able to apply theoretical knowledge to real world issues. Second, student should develop their own strands on the main debates in international relations. A principal way of demonstrating their own point of view is to make informed and theoretical arguments about current events and historical issues. That is why most of the questions ask the student to expound their arguments with reference to current events and historical ideas.

Students preparing for this examination may also find it useful to review the last several years’ issues of the principal journals in international relations, including *International Organization*, *International Security* and *World Politics*. Review of field seminar syllabi from schools that offer field seminars and talking with you IR professors are also encouraged.

Preparation for the exam is an opportunity to build a broader and more integrated view of the field. You should try to knit together theories, themes and arguments from your courses and outside readings so that they form a more coherent whole, and you should try to integrate international relations with your other field(s). This exam is part of the passage from being a student consuming IR courses to a professional producing political science knowledge. The IR exam is first and foremost part of your intellectual development.

The exam is also the faculty’s chance to gauge your progress in our program. Success means that we certify you as a competent scholar in international relations. If we pass you, it means we believe you could hold your own in general international relations discussions at conferences or at a job interview and that you could teach an introductory IR class. Our field, our department, our university, and your peers on the job market have a vested interest in maintaining high standards.
International Relations Reading List

**Theory**

**Methodology/Analytical Theory**

**Realism**
- Carr, E.H., *Twenty Years’ Crisis* (1946)
- Keohane, Robert (ed) *Neorealism and Its Critics* (1986)
- Waltz, Kenneth, *Man, the State, and War* (1959)
- Waltz, Kenneth, *Theory of International Politics* (1979)
Institutionalism


Liberalism

- Kant, Immanuel, *Perpetual Peace* (any edition)

Constructivism and Ideas

Normative Theory and Ethics

- Nardin, Terry and David Mapel (eds) *Traditions of International Ethics* (1992)
- Walzer, Michael, *Just and Unjust Wars* (1977)

International Political Economy

Trade


Finance


**Globalization**

• Clark, Ian *Globalization and International Relations Theory* (1999)


• Keohane, Robert and Helen Milner (eds) *Internationalization and Domestic Politics* (1996)


**Regionalism Integration**


Development

• Amsden, Alice, *The Rise of “The Rest”: Challenge to the West from Late Industrializing Economies* (2001)
• Haggard, Stephan, *Pathways from the Periphery* (1990)

International Institutions and Global Governance

Historical International Orders

• Polanyi, Karl, *The Great Transformation* (1944)

International Institutions

• Young, Oran, *Governance in World Affairs* (1999)

International Law

• Goldstein, Judith L., Miles Kahler, Robert O. Keohane and Anne-Marie Slaughter. 2000. *Introduction: Legalization and World Politics* *International Organization* Vol. 54 No. 3 (Summer): 385 – 399.
• Kahler, Miles. 2000. Legalization as Strategy: The Asia-Pacific Case
  *International Organization* Vol. 54 No. 3 (Summer):549 – 571.

• Simmons, Beth A. 2000. “International Law and State Behavior: Commitment
  and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs,” *American Political Science

**Transnational Actors and Interdependence**


**International Security**

*Power and Security*

• Art, Robert and Kenneth Waltz (eds) *The Use of Force* (1999)
• Schelling, Thomas, *The Strategy of Conflict* (1960)

**Causes of War, Collective Violence, and Peace**

• Appleby, Scott, *The Ambivalence of the Sacred : Religion, Violence, and
  Reconciliation* (2000)
• Betts, Richard, *Conflict after the Cold War* (1994)
• Brown, Michael *et al., America’s Strategic Choices* (2000)
• Brown, Michael (ed) *Theories of War and Peace: An International Security
  Reader* (1998)
• Brown, Michael, Sean M. Lynn-Jones and Steven E. Miller (eds) * Debating the
• Brown, Michael, Sean Lynn-Jones and Steven Miller (eds) *The Perils of Anarchy
  (1995)
• Fearon, James. 1994. “Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of
  International Disputes.” *APSR* 88(3).
• Fearon, James. “Signaling vs. the Balance of Powers and Interests.” *Journal of
  Conflict Resolution* 38(2): 236-69.
  Organization* 49(3).
• Geller, Daniel S. and J. David Singer, *Nations at War: A Scientific Study of
  International Conflict* (1998)

Jervis, Robert, *Perception and Misperception in International Politics* (1976)


**Foreign Policy**

**Theories**


**History and Cases**

- Gaddis, John Lewis, *We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History* (1997)