

G8866: INTERNATIONAL SIGNALING AND COMMUNICATION

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1333 IAB, office hours M, Tues, 2-3.

The purpose of this course is to delve into how states infer what others are likely to do in the future and how they try to project desired images of how they will behave. This involves both purposeful or intended communication, as in diplomacy, and the ways in which perceivers try to discern others' capabilities and intentions from attributes and behaviors that the senders cannot readily manipulate.

Students will discuss the assigned reading and write a 25-page paper on a topic and case of their own choosing. A 3-page prospectus is due on February 7 and the paper is due the last day of class.

I. Sending and Receiving Signals

1-2. Introduction: International Politics as Poker or Rashomon?

James Fearon, "Rationalist Explanations for War," IO, vol. 49, Summer 1995, pp. 379-414.

Jonathan Kirshner, "Rationalist Explanations for War?" Security Studies, vol. 10, Autumn 2000, pp. 143-50.

Andrew Kydd and Barbara Walter, "The Strategies of Terrorism," IS, vol. 56, Summer 2006, pp. 49-79.

Robert Jervis, "Signaling and Perception," in Kristen Monroe, ed., Political Psychology, pp. 293-312.

Chihiro Hosoya, "Miscalculations in Deterrence Policy: Japanese-U.S. Relations, 1938-41," Journal of Peace Research, 1968, no. 2, pp. 97-115.

James Blight and Janet Lang, "When Empathy Failed: Using Critical Oral History to Reassess the Collapse of US-Soviet Détente in the Carter-Brezhnev Years," Journal of Cold War Studies, vol. 12, Spring 2010, pp. 42-65 (note that this is only part of the article).

Kevin Woods, et al., The Iraqi Perspectives Report, pp. 1- 36.

Thomas Schelling, "The Role of War Games and Exercises," in Ashton Carter, John Steinbruner, and Charles Zraket, eds., Managing Nuclear Operations, pp. 426-44.

Jonathan Mercer, "Emotional Beliefs," IO, vol. 64, Winter 2010, pp. 1-32.

3. Problems of Timing and Fear of Looking Weak

Pages and notes on reserve.

Henry Kissinger, White House Years, ch. XVIII (opening to China).

4. Signaling

Robert Jervis, The Logic of Images in International Politics.

James Fearon, "Signaling Foreign Policy Interests: Tying Hands versus Sinking Costs," Journal of Conflict Resolution, vol. 41, February 1997, pp. 68-90.

5. Credible Signals and Audience Costs

James Fearon, "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes,"

APSR, vol. 88, September 1994, pp. 577-592.

Jack Snyder and Erica Borghard, "The Cost of Empty Threats: A Penny, not a Pound," APSR, vol. 105, August 2011, pp. 437-56.

Kenneth Schultz, "Domestic Opposition and Signaling in International Crises." APSR, vol. 92, December 1998, pp. 829-844.

6. Beliefs and Threat Perception

Robert Jervis, "Understanding Beliefs," Political Psychology, vol. 27, October 2006, pp. 641-63.

Jervis, Perception and Misperception, chapter 2.

Crowe and Sanderson memoranda, in G.P. Gooch and Harold Temperley, eds., British Documents on the Origins of the War, vol. 3, pp. 397-431.

7. Traditional Diplomacy

Harold Nicolson, Diplomacy, chs. II-III, X.

Arthur Eckstein, Mediterranean Anarchy, Interstate War, and the Rise of Rome, pp. 58-65.

Rikhi Jaipal, "Commentary: A Personal View of Consensus Making in the UN Security Council," IS, vol. 2, Spring 1978, pp. 195-200.

II. Complicating Factors

8. Intermediaries

Robert Butow, The John Doe Associates, chs. 12, 13-14, 21.

9. Implementation

Wallace Thies, When Governments Collide: Coercion and Diplomacy in the Vietnam Conflict, 1964-1968, chs. 4, 7-8.

III. Types of Situations

10. Diplomatic Dialogues

"Memorandum of Conversation [between Kennedy and Khrushchev]," Foreign Relations of the US, 1961-1964, vol. V, The Soviet Union, pp. 172-97, 206-25, 229-30 (documents # 83-85, 87, 89).

US Department of State, Soviet-American Relations: The Detente Years, 1969-1972, pp. 8-25, 214-30, 673-97 (documents # 5-8, 192-95, 300-03).

11. Diplomatic Breakthroughs

FRUS, 1969-1976, vol. XL, Germany and Berlin, 1969-1972, pp. 1-10, 355-68, 638-769 (documents 1-4, 125-7, 213-64).

12. Continuing Crises

Jack Pritchard, Failed Diplomacy: The Tragic Story of How North Korea Got the Bomb, pp. 1-64 or Mike Chinoy, Meltdown: The Inside Story of the North Korean Nuclear Crisis, preface

and pp. 1-126.

Victor Cha, "What Do They Really Want?: Obama's North Korea Conundrum," Washington Quarterly, vol. 32, October 2009, pp. 119-38.

13. At the Brink

Michael Dobbs, One Minute to Midnight, pp. 163-76, 184-206, 230-44, 258-70, 288-328.