

# Exam Review

Monday, October 29, 2018

11:55 AM

**KNOW: ALL ON THE EXAM** : watch the two docs - Cold War and Syrian civil war

**Realism** - explain its assumptions

- Rationality of state actors
- They can only trust themselves
- The main unit of analysis: the states
- Statism: states behave just like human beings - uses a cost benefit analysis to gain without dying

**Cold war** - major events, connections with concepts

**Nature of war in general** - Cold War, new wars, middle east - how war fare has changed

**Different conflicts** - Syrian civil war - connected to greed and grievance and new wars - re watching videos

**Greed and grievance (Newman and Demmers)** - as a way to understand causes of individual - connection with the Syrian civil war

**\*\* what is arational analysis of conflict; whether it is state of individual**

- "Assumption of rationality" - to predict political behaviour
- Survival - what can you do to increase it in anartical system.
- Self help - only can trust yourself
  - Instrumental rationality - Utility seeking behaviour: decisions based on self interest: economic, political power - increase power
  - Its uncertain: information is often limited

**Reliam in international politics**

Statism - states behave just like human beings - uses a cost benefit analysis to gain without dying

Anarchy - no higher authority in politics

Self help - every state can only rely on itself to ensure its own well being and survival

Powersecurity -

Security dilemma -

In the Cold War - how can we explain that there were no major war between the super powers? - MAD

- Using nuclear power would be mutually destructive

\*\*\*summarize the main assumptions and apply them to one of the wars

Ex: the WW1

Security (ch.3)

Causes:

1. Mutual defensive alliances (survival and security dilemma)
2. Imperialism & Militarism (power)
3. Nationalism (Survival and competition)

-place yourself as if the German state is a rational actor - ensure its security and gain power

Causes of WW2

-Problems with the treaty of versailles

- Failure of the league of nations

-The rise of the nazi dictatorship

- Hitlers aggressive forain policy
- -failure of appeasement - Munich 1938

-Japanese imperialism

Cold War

-New bipolar war

-Uses realism: why does the soviet and US acted in different wats

USSR: wasn't to create a buffer zone

-USA believe:

- USSR is trying to expand in eastern Europe and Africa
- Domino theory =: Truman doctrine - Marshall plan

-Security dilemma between the 2 superpowers:

- Balance of powers between the USA and USSR = arms race; USA wanted to scare the USSR not to expand and the USSR wanted to protect its self
- Defencive
- Why is the USSR

Cold War and conflicts 3 dynamics of conflict

1. Alliances in Europe
  - NATO vs. Warsaw Pact
2. Arms race (deterrence & Mad)
  - Nuclear bombs
  - Interncontinental missiles
  - Unit-ballistic system

3. Proxy wars in the third war
  - a way for states to fight against each other
  - After 1945: interstate war death went down
  - Realism doesn't apply in interstate behaviour - realism explains the individual

### **Levels of analysis**

-Geopolitics and International relations

- Cold war (1945-1990)
- Unipolar with competing powers (1991-

-Regional politics

- Iran- Saudi Arabia (1979-)
- Proxy wars (Syria, Yemen)

-National politics

- Social uprising - Syria; Yemen; the rise of the Islamic State

-Individual engagement in conflict

- Greed vs Grievance

*Looking at the connections between the levels of analysis*

### **Civil Wars - Greed vs Grievance**

-Greed

- Economic motivations
- Control of resources

-Grievance

- Socio-political motivations and explanations to conflicts
- Fueled by resentment

Are conflicts different these days?

- More intrastate wars
- Less about interaction politics than is violence against civilians
- Not fighting for ideology; it fight for your ethnic or religious groups
- No longer armies fighting armies; its women and children via rape and torture
- It is less about controlling states and more about increasing instability and deconstructing the state

Define intra vs interstate wars

-use realism to explain any state to state behaviour

-What is the security dilemma

-What is the anarchical system

-the idea of the change in the nature of warfare - war isn't what it used to be: why and how - based on Cold War, WW1, WW2, and Syrian WW

-rational causes of conflict - state vs individual

Focus on the most important elements of the questions:

- Framing answer in advance - realism and causes of conflict - explain how the

Planning answer in advance - reason and causes of conflict - explain how the nature of conflict and how its evolved

- Focus on what you know best first

-cold war, realism, nature of conflict and Syrian civil war