International Relations Prelim Exam
Fall 2000

Instructions: Students must answer three (3) of the following questions.

Advice to the student: Choose questions that enable you to demonstrate a broad knowledge of international relations. Examinations should demonstrate knowledge of the history and development of the field. Relevant real world examples should be integrated and important recent published literature should be cited.

A good exam is characterized by coherent and forceful arguments based on existing work and evidence in the field. A weak exam is one where the argument is made in isolation from the literature and/or where no argument is made. Almost all the questions are designed to allow you to take a position on an issue. Do so, and don't simply produce an annotated bibliography. In other words, use the questions to show that you both know the material and can present an argument as a scholar.

We anticipate that each question can be answered in approximately 3000 words. Please double-space your answer, provide reasonable margins, and number the pages.

Questions:

1. How have psychological concepts contributed to our understanding of international conflict and conflict resolution? What alternative explanations does the psychological approach to international conflict and conflict resolution complement or compete with?

2. What will the field of foreign policy analysis look like in the year 2025? What theories and topics will we still be interested in at that point, and why?

3. Which general body of research in contemporary quantitative international relations do you think to be *most* promising and which do you think to be *least* promising. Your answer should clearly define why a body of literature constitutes a common approach, and assess it with respect to the underlying theories, philosophy of science, available data and techniques, and results obtained.

4. Is there a "democratic zone of peace"? If yes, what accounts for it? If no, what are the errors that have led so many people to assert that it
exists? Be sure to define your terms and take into account both theoretical arguments and recent empirical evidence.

5. What are the key challenges to successful international monetary management in 2000?

6. Using both international relations theories and any relevant empirical studies, evaluate the extent to which economic pressure against an adversary (for example, freezing of assets, boycotts, general economic sanctions) can be used to achieve the same results as the use of military force.

7. Using theories of cooperation or international political economy, try to explain the emergence of the World Trade Organization.

8. Compare authoritarian and democratic regimes with regard to the substance (or content) and process of foreign policy. What similarities and differences exist between these types of government structure? Be sure to reference important theories and arguments from the foreign policy analysis literature in your answer.

9. "Theoretical developments in international relations are no longer respecting established boundaries between international and comparative politics." Do you agree or disagree? In your essay refer to both older and more recent contributions.