

# GV103: Introduction to International Relations

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Theories of IR

# Introduction

- One goal for this lecture
  - ① Introduce most prominent **explanatory** theories of IR

# Explanatory Theories of IR

- Can be differentiated by how they answer three questions
  - ① Who are the dominant **actors** in IR?
  - ② What do they **want**?
  - ③ What **constraints** do they face?

Theory	Actors	Goals	Constraints
Neo-realism	States	Security	Material
Neo-liberalism	States	Security	Int'l institutions
Classical liberalism	Individuals	Various	Various
Constructivism	Various	(Self-)Respect	Norms, values