

The University of Hong Kong

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Department of Politics and Public Administration

Presents

Does War Have a Future in International Relations?

Professor Lebow will look at the historical causes of war based on an original data set that includes all wars involving rising or great powers. He argues that the struggle for standing and the desire for revenge have been the most important motive across four centuries. He contends that interstate war is declining because leaders have learned that they generally do not advance interests, security or standing. He asks how such learning can be encouraged further to make war an increasingly obsolete social institution.

Richard Ned Lebow

Professor of International Political Theory

Department of War Studies

King's College London

Richard Ned Lebow is Professor of International Political Theory in the War Studies Department of King's College London, Bye-Fellow of Pembroke College, University of Cambridge and the James O. Freedman Presidential Professor (Emeritus) of Government at Dartmouth College. Among his recent publications are *A Cultural Theory of International Relations* (Cambridge, 2008), winner of the Jervis-Schroeder Award for the best book in international relations and history and the Susan Strange Award for the best book of the year; *Forbidden Fruit: Counterfactuals and International Relations* (Princeton, 2010); *Why Nations Fight: The Past and Future of War* (Cambridge, 2010) and *The Politics and Ethics of Identity* (Cambridge, 2012), winner of the Alexander L. George Award for the best book of the year by the International Society of Political Psychology. In 2014, he published *Franz Ferdinand Lives: A World Without World War I* (Palgrave-Macmillan), *Constructing Cause in International Relations* (Cambridge) and, coauthored with Simon Reich, *Goodbye Hegemony! Rethinking America's Role in the World* (Princeton).

Date: 15 December 2014 (Mon)

Time: 4:30 pm

**Venue: Room 966 The Jockey Club Tower
Centennial Campus**

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