

Political Science 124: International Organizations
Fall 2017
MW 3:30-4:45 in Phelps 2524

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Office Hours: T 10-1 in Ellison #2809

Course Description:

This upper division course in international relations deals with international institutional arrangements, the role that they play at the global level, and the extent to which states interact/ use international organizations.

At a time when the world is experiencing global problems such as economic recessions, migration crises, inter-state and intra-state wars, and terrorism (to name a few), a world order characterized by nation-states may seem inefficient or ineffective in providing adequate solutions. In this class we will examine the some answers to the following questions to tackle this dilemma: What are international organizations? Why do they exist? What are their responsibilities in regards to different issue areas? And what role do they play in global politics? Additionally, we will investigate the historical origins and functions of various kinds of international organizations. The overarching theme of this course is about the extent to which IOs function independently of nation-state interests and goals, if at all. To what extent do international organizations adapt their own goals along the way?

The course is organized in such a way that will begin with broader international relations theories specific to international organizations, so that we have an appropriate basis for analysis of various types of IOs. In regards to specific international organizations we will examine the roles, responsibilities, and functioning of security organizations such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), International Financial Institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Trade Organizations (WTO) and World Bank, various organizations within the U.N. system, and regional organizations such as the European Union. Each of these kinds of international organizations is charged with addressing an international issue that perhaps cannot be resolved by states alone.

*PS 7 is a prerequisite. PS 121 is highly recommended.

Learning Objectives:

In this course, you will identify and analyze theories of international organizations, and evaluate the roles and impacts of IOs in international affairs. You will then learn how to integrate these theoretical arguments into an analysis of contemporary world issues to devise a strong analytical essay and draw your own conclusions regarding the effectiveness and purpose of IOs. In addition to any personal goals you set yourself, by the end of this course you will have the analytical tools to extend to other issue areas in political science. Hopefully, you will also have gained a greater interest and appreciation for international cooperation.

Required Texts: For this course, you will be asked to purchase the following books:

1. International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance by Margaret Karns, Karen Mingst, and Kendall Stiles- **3rd edition** (Lynne Rienner 2015). Hereby referred to as KMS.

2. Rules for the World: International Organizations in Global Politics by Michael Barnett and Martha Finnemore (Cornell University Press 2004). Hereby referred to as B&F.

Any additional readings will be made available to you on GauchoSpace.

Please note: Lectures will integrate readings from the required books with current events. I highly recommend keeping current with the news from reputable sources (NYTimes, Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, The Economist, etc). On some occasions, I will assign particular news articles to complement textbook readings; they are required and will be sent out through email and posted on GauchoSpace.

Assessments and Grade Breakdown

-Attendance and Participation 10%

-Midterm 25%

-Paper 35% (Due Wed, Nov 22nd at the beginning of class)

-Final 30%

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation are highly encouraged. You will be permitted to miss two classes without a penalty. I do not want, or require any documentation for absences. Be wise with how you want to use your two free absences. I would recommend that you save them for when you need them. ****Please note that participation points will be allocated based on class *engagement*.** In other words, these are not awarded for simply attending lecture.

Midterm- The midterm for this class will be a combination of multiple-choice questions, and one longer essay.

Paper- There is one writing assignment for this course, approximately 4-6 pages in length (1000-1500 words). You will be asked to apply the theories presented in class to a pre-selected current world event. **The assignment will be due on Wed, Nov 22- uploaded onto GauchoSpace by 3:30 PM.**

Submission Policy: All submission dates and times for the paper and exams are binding. A late assignment will be marked down by a full letter grade for each day's delay. If an assignment is more than three days late, a 50% (F) grade will automatically be assigned to it.

Final- The final exam will be a combination of multiple-choice questions and two longer essays. It will cover all the material since the midterm.

University Resources

Academic Integrity: Any and all plagiarism will be reported-NO EXCEPTIONS. For more information on what constitutes plagiarism please visit: [A Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at UCSB](#)

Disabled Students Program: The American Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the

Disabled Students Program (<http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu/>) as soon as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements, otherwise your needs may not be accommodated.

Reading and Course Schedule

IR Theory and Global Governance I

Mon, Oct. 2- Introduction to the course (no readings)

Wed, Oct 4-

1. KMS Chapter 1 “The Challenges of Global Governance”

Recommended:

KMS Chapter 2, especially pages 59-73

IR Theory and Global Governance II

Mon, Oct 9-

1. KMS Chapter 3 “IGOs and the Foundations of Global Governance”

Wed, Oct 11-

1. B&F Ch. 1 “Bureaucratizing World Politics”

2. B&F Ch. 2 “International Organizations as Bureaucracies”

Economic Governance

Mon, Oct 16-

1. KMS Chapter 8 “Global Economic Governance”

Wed, Oct 18- Case Study (IMF)

1. B&F Chapter 3 “Expertise and Power at the International Monetary Fund”

Wed, Oct 25- Case Study (World Bank and Development)

1. Chapters 1 and 3 *The World Bank: from reconstruction to development to equity* by Katherine Marshall (Routledge Press: 2008).

Security Organizations

Mon, Oct 30-

1. K&M Chapter 7 (pages 279-316 and 353-366)

2. Case study: NATO [“Military Spending by NATO Members”](#) *The Economist* Feb 16, 2017

Wed, Nov 1-

1. K&M Chapter 7 (pages 317-353 and 366-376)

2. B&F Chapter 5 – “Genocide and Peacekeeping Culture in the UN”

Midterm

Mon, Nov 6- **MIDTERM**

Wed, Nov 8- CLASS CANCELED due to conference travel

The UN System and Human Rights I

Mon, Nov 13-

1. K&M Chapter 4 “The United Nations: Centerpiece of Global Governance”
2. Voeten, Eric “Clashes in the Assembly” *International Organization*, 54 (2): 185-215.

Wed, Nov 15- Case Study UNHCR

1. B&F Chapter 4 “Defining Refugees and Voluntary Repatriation at the UN High Commissioner for Refugees”

The UN System and Human Rights II

Mon, Nov 20-

1. KMS Chapter 10 “Protecting Human Rights”

Wed, Nov 22- Case Study ICC

1. Birdsall, Andrea “The ‘Monster We Need to Slay’? Global Governance, the United States and the International Criminal Court” *Global Governance* 16(4):451-469, 2010

PAPER DUE- uploaded onto GauchoSpace by 3:30 PM

NGOs/ INGOs

Mon, Nov 27-

1. K&M Chapter 6 “Nonstate Actors”
2. Case Study (Global Environmental Facility)-
Erin R. Graham and Alexander Thompson, "Efficient Orchestration? The Global Environmental Facility in the Governance of Climate Adaptation." In *International Organizations as Orchestrators* eds. Kenneth Abbott, Phillip Genschel, Duncan Snidel, and Bernhard Zangl. (Cambridge University Press 2015)

Regional Organizations

Wed, Nov 29-

1. K&M Chapter 5 “Regional Organizations”

Mon, Dec 4-

2. Case study: E.U.- Excerpts form The European Union: A Very Short Introduction

Conclusion

Wed, Dec 9- B&F Chapter 6 “The Legitimacy of an Expanding Global Bureaucracy”

FINAL EXAM- FRIDAY, December 15 (12-3PM)