

POL S 328
Michael Strausz

International Organizations
Fall 2007

office hours: Tuesdays 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

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course webpage: <http://courses.washington.edu/pols328>

Course Description and Objectives: Why do states form international organizations? How do international organizations influence the behavior of states? What is the role of non-state actors in international organizations? This course will address these questions both theoretically and in light of the recent experiences of a variety of international organizations. This course aims to introduce students to the major theoretical approaches to international organizations, as well as the history and contemporary status of international organizations formed around security, economic, humanitarian, and environmental issues.

Expectations:

1. Prepare for each class by carefully reading the assigned materials. If it appears that substantial numbers of students are not doing the readings, I will give pop quizzes that will be considered as a part of the online discussion grade.
2. Come to class on time.
3. Students are asked to post a question or comment related to the readings and/or international organization-themed current events at least four times over the course of the quarter on the course's online bulletin board (it is linked to the course website). Questions/comments may be direct responses to questions/comments by other students, and questions/comments should make it clear that the poster has done the reading. The first question must be posted by **October 19**, the second question must be posted by **November 2**, the third question must be posted by **November 16**, and the fourth question must be posted by **November 30**. Late postings will not receive any credit.
4. Papers should be made up entirely of your original work. Copying or paraphrasing a source without acknowledging that source is plagiarism and will not be tolerated. Allowing another student to copy your work is also cheating and likewise will not be tolerated. Students determined to have committed plagiarism will be treated in accordance with the University of Washington's policy on academic honesty (<http://depts.washington.edu/grading/issue1/honesty.htm>).

Course Materials: The following materials are required. The books are available at the UW bookstore, but feel free to buy copies at other bookstores or online.

The United Nations and Changing World Politics, by Thomas G. Weiss, David P. Forsythe, Roger A. Coate, and Kelly-Kate Pease

Rules for the World: International Organizations in Global Politics, by Michael Barnett and Martha Finnemore

A newspaper with good international coverage (the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, etc.).

The rest of the readings are available on the university library webpage as electronic reserves.

Disabled Student Services: If you would like to request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disabled Student Services, 448 Schmitz, 543-8924 (V/TDD). If you have a letter from Disabled Student Services indicating you have a disability that requires academic accommodations, please present the letter to the professor so accommodations you might need for class can be discussed.

Grading: Grades in this course will be determined as follows:

First Midterm Exam (**Oct. 22**): 25%

Second Midterm Exam (**Nov. 21**): 30%

Take Home Final Exam (**Due Dec. 11, 4:20 pm**): 35%

Online Posting (**Due Oct. 19, Nov. 2, Nov. 16, and Nov. 30**): 10%

You are required to turn in a hard copy of the final exam.

Late assignments will be penalized .3 per date late (4→3.7→3.4, etc.). Once grades have been officially submitted for the course, late assignments will no longer be accepted.

Makeup exams and paper deadline extensions will not be allowed except in the cases of university-excused absences or illnesses, and proper documentation is required.

If you feel that you have been graded unfairly on any course assignment, please wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned and then contact the TA with a typed statement about why you believe you were graded unfairly. This typed statement must provide substantive reasons why you believe that you were graded unfairly. If after the TA you still believe that you were graded unfairly after the TA has reevaluated your assignment, you may bring the assignment to the instructor. The appeal process must be started one week after the exam/homework was returned.

Office Hours: I encourage students to take advantage of my office hours in order to ask questions about course materials or to chat about issues related to the course or political science more generally. Also, if you have any comments about or problems with the course itself I encourage you to share them in my office hours.

If you would like to get in touch with me to ask a question or schedule an appointment, I encourage you to e-mail me.

Schedule:

9/26 *Introduction*

Unit 1: Theories of International Organizations

10/1 *The Promise of International Organizations?*

Mearsheimer, John J. 1994/95. The False Promise of International Institutions. *International Security* 19 (3): 332-376, (electronic

reserve).

Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa Martin. 1995. The Promise of Institutional Theory. *International Security* 20 (1): 39-51, (electronic reserve).

Wendt, Alexander. 1995. Constructing International Politics. *International Security* 20 (1): 71-81, (electronic reserve).

10/3 *Theories of Compliance*

Chayes, Abram, and Antonia Handler Chayes. 1993. On Compliance. *International Organization* 47 (2): 175-205 (electronic reserve).

10/8 *Theories of the European Union*

Pierson, Paul. 1996. The Path to European Union: An Historical Institutional Account. *Comparative Political Studies* 29 (2): 123-164 (electronic reserve).

Unit 2: International Organizations and National Security

10/10 *Collective Security and International Organizations*

Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, and Pease, pp. 3-43.

10/15 *The First Iraq War as Successful Collective Security?*

Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, and Pease, pp. 45-88.

10/17 *International Organizations and Weapons Proliferation*

Campbell, Kurt M. 2004. Reconsidering a Nuclear Future: Why Countries Might Cross Over to the Other Side. In *The Nuclear Tipping Point: Why States Reconsider Their Nuclear Choices*, edited by K. M. Campbell, R. J. Einhorn and M. Reiss. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, pp. 18-29 (electronic reserve).

Einhorn, Robert J. 2004. Will the Abstainers Reconsider? Focusing on Individual Cases. In *The Nuclear Tipping Point: Why States Reconsider Their Nuclear Choices*, edited by K. M. Campbell, R. J. Einhorn and M. Reiss. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, pp. 32-40 (electronic reserve).

10/22 **FIRST MIDTERM EXAM**

Unit 3: International Organizations and Human Rights

10/24 *Rwanda as an IO Failure*

Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 1-15, 121-155.

Frontline: Ghosts of Rwanda

10/29 *The International Criminal Court*

Mayerfeld, Jamie. 2003. Who Shall Be Judge? The United States, the International Criminal Court, and the Global Enforcement of Human Rights. *Human Rights Quarterly*, 25 (1): 93-129, (electronic reserve).

- 10/31 *IOs and Refugees*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 73-120.
- 11/5 *Regional Human Rights IOs*
Guest Lecturer: Theresa Squatrito, University of Washington
“Regional Application of Human Rights Norms,” in Forsythe, David P.
2000. *Human Rights in International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge
University Press, pp. 110-136 (electronic reserve).

Unit 4: International Economic Organizations

- 11/7 *International Organizations and Trade*
Davis, Christina. 2004. International Institutions and Issue Linkage:
Building Support for Agricultural Trade Liberalization. *American
Political Science Review*, 98 (1), 153–169, (electronic reserve).
- 11/12 **Class Cancelled for Veterans Day**
- 11/14 *International Organizations and Monetary Policy*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 45-72.
- 11/19 **SECOND MIDTERM EXAM**
- 11/21 *Resistance to Economic IOs: The Battle in Seattle and Beyond*
Levi, Margaret and David Olson. 2000. The Battles in Seattle. *Politics and
Society* 28 (3): 309-329 (electronic reserve).

Unit 5: International Organizations and the Environment

- 11/26 *Sustainable Development*
Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, and Pease, pp. 269-301.
- 11/28 *Whaling*
Mitchell, Ronald. 1998. Forms of Discourse, Norms of Sovereignty:
Interests, Science, and Morality in the Regulation of Whaling. In *The
Greening of Sovereignty in World Politics*, edited by K. Litfin.
Cambridge, MA: MIT (electronic reserve).
- 12/3 *The Montreal Protocol and the Ozone Hole*
Litfin, Karen. 1995. Framing Science: Precautionary Discourse and the
Ozone Treaties. *Millennium* 24, pp. 251-277 (electronic reserve).
- 12/5 *Conclusion and take home final distributed in class*
- 12/11 ***Take home final due between 2:30-4:20***