

POL S 328
Michael Strausz

International Organizations
Winter 2007

office: Gowen 111

office hours: Tuesday, 12:30-1:30; Thursday, 9:20-10:20

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course webpage: <http://students.washington.edu/strauszm/pols328wi07>

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. This course also aims to encourage students to develop a more specialized understanding of a topic of their choosing related to international organizations.

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 reserve the right to give pop quizzes that will be considered as a part of the participation grade.
2. Come to class on time.
3. Participate actively in the five discussion sections that will be held over the course of the quarter. Active participation includes making verbal contributions to discussions and listening to your classmates. If you do not attend these discussion sections, you will not be able to participate in discussions.
4. Students are asked to post a question or comment related to the readings and/or international organization-themed current events at least once per week on the course web page. In order to count for credit, students are expected to post on a reading *before* the class period for which that reading was assigned. Similarly, postings on current events must refer to something genuinely “current:” i.e., that we have not yet had the opportunity to discuss in class. This assignment will begin in week two.
5. 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

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

A major national newspaper (the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, etc.)

A course reader will be available at Ram's Copy Center on University Avenue.

In addition to the reader, many of the readings are available online, through the UW library's webpage.

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:

Midterm Exam (**February 8**): 20%

Final Exam (**March 12**): 25%

10-12 page Research Paper (**Due March 8**): 35%

Participation: 20%

You are required to turn in hard copies of assignments at the beginning of class.

Students are required to turn in a draft of the question they will be addressing in their research paper by **January 23**. Successful completion of this assignment will merit a .1 increase in the final research paper grade, and failure to complete this assignment will be penalized by a .1 decrease in the final research paper grade (i.e. 3.0→3.1 or 3.0→2.9). More specific instructions regarding my expectations for the research paper will be distributed in class on **January 9**.

Late assignments will be penalized .3 per date late (4→3.7→3.4, etc.).

One-fourth of your participation grade (5% of the total grade for the course) will be determined by the weekly questions and comments. If you do the readings and post questions or comments that demonstrate that you're doing the reading every week, you will get a 4.0 for this portion of your grade.

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 me with a written statement about why you believe you were graded unfairly. The statute of limitations for grading complaints is five working days after the return of the assignment.

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. I check my e-mail very frequently.

Schedule:

1/4 *Introduction*

Unit 1: Theories of International Organizations

1/9 *The Promise of International Organizations?*

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

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

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

Research paper assignment distributed in class.

1/11 *Theories of Compliance*

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

1/16 *Pathologies of International Organizations*

Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 1-44

Unit 2: International Organizations and National Security

1/18 *The Theory and History of Collective Security*

Weiss, Forsythe, and Coate, pp. 3-44

1/23 *UN Collective Security in the Post Cold War World*

Weiss, Forsythe, and Coate, pp. 47-120

Deadline for research paper questions/topics.

1/25 *Pathologies of Peacekeeping*

Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 121-155

Unit 3: International Organizations and Human Rights

1/30 *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, (ON-LINE).

Morris, Madeline. 2001. The Disturbing Democratic Deficit of the International Criminal Court. *Finnish Yearbook of International Law* 12: 109-118 (READER).

2/1 *Human Rights and the UN*
Weiss, Forsythe, and Coate, pp. 153-191.

2/6 *The UN High Commission on Refugees*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 73-120.

2/8 *Do Human Rights Treaties Matter?*
Neumayer, Eric. 2005. Do International Human Rights Treaties Improve Respect for Human Rights? *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49 (6): 1-29 (ON-LINE).

In-class midterm exam. Bring bluebook.

Unit 4: International Economic Organizations

2/13 *International Organizations and Trade Liberalization*
Davis, Christina. 2004. International Institutions and Issue Linkage: Building Support for Agricultural Trade Liberalization. *American Political Science Review*, 98 (1), 153–169, (ON-LINE).

2/15 *International Organizations and Monetary Policy*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 45-72.

2/20 *The European Union*
Pierson, Paul. 1996. The Path to European Union: An Historical Institutional Account. *Comparative Political Studies* 29 (2): 123-164 (READER).

Guest Lecturer: Umut Aydin, University of Washington

2/22 *International Economic Organizations and Social Movement Resistance*
Levi, Margaret and David Olson. 2000. The Battles in Seattle. *Politics and Society* 28 (3): 309-329 (ON-LINE).

Unit 5: International Organizations and the Environment

2/27 *Sustainable Development*
Weiss, Forsythe, and Coate, pp. 221-280.

3/1 *Whaling on 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 (READER).

- 3/6 *The Montreal Protocol and the Ozone Hole*
Litfin, Karen. 1995. Framing Science: Precautionary Discourse and the
Ozone Treaties. *Millennium* 24, pp. 251-277 (READER).
- 3/8 *Conclusion and Final Exam Review*
Research paper due at the beginning of class.
- 3/12 ***Final exam, 10:30-12:20.***