

POL S 328
Michael Strausz

International Organizations
Winter 2008

course time and place: Monday and Wednesday, 8:30-9:50, EEB 105

e-mail: strauszm@u.washington.edu

office hours: Tuesdays 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Gowen 112

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

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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 lecture by carefully reading the assigned materials. If it seems that you are not doing the readings, I will give pop quizzes that will be considered as a part of your participation grade.
2. Regularly read a newspaper with good international coverage (*New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Times of London*, etc.). If it seems that you are not doing this, I will give pop quizzes on current events relating to international organizations that will be considered as a part of your participation grade.
3. Come to lecture on time, and stay for the duration.
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:

Midterm Exam (**February 11**): 20%

Final Exam (**March 17, 2:30-4:20, Parrington 108**): 30%

Participation: 20%

10-page Research Paper: (**Due March 12 at the beginning of class**): 30%

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.

Research Paper: The research paper will give you an opportunity to apply some of the concepts you are learning in class to an international organization-related topic that interests you. A detailed assignment will be distributed in class on **January 14**. You will be required to turn in a topic on **January 23** and a preliminary thesis statement, bibliography, and outline on **February 20**. If you submit a topic and a thesis/bibliography/outline that is on time and that your TA deems satisfactory, you will receive a 4.0 for 1/6 of the research paper grade (5% of your overall grade). If the first draft of the topic and thesis/bibliography/outline is not satisfactory, you are welcome to submit additional drafts for credit. However, if you do not submit the first draft of the topic and thesis/bibliography/outline on time, you will not be able to receive credit (although you are still welcome to submit drafts of your topics and thesis/outline/bibliography to get feedback). In other words, if you don't submit a topic and thesis/outline/bibliography on time, you will get a 0.0 for 5% of your overall course grade.

You are required to turn in a hard copy of the research paper, and papers are due at the beginning of class.

Late research papers will be penalized .5 per date late (4→3.5→3.0, etc.). Once grades have been officially submitted for the course, late assignments will no longer be accepted.

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:

1/7 *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, (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).

1/14 *Theories of Compliance*

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

Research paper assignment distributed in class.

1/16 *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).

Guest Lecturer: Ian Lasas, University of Washington

1/21 **Class Cancelled for Martin Luther King Day**

Unit 2: International Organizations and National Security

1/23 *Collective Security and International Organizations*

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

Research paper topic due at the beginning of class.

1/28 *The First Iraq War as Successful Collective Security?*

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

1/30 *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).

Unit 3: International Organizations and Human Rights

- 2/4 *Rwanda as an IO Failure*
We'll watch ***Frontline: Ghosts of Rwanda***.
No assigned reading.
- 2/6 *IO Pathologies and Rwanda*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 1-15, 121-155.
- 2/11 **Midterm Exam. Bring bluebook.**
- 2/13 *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).
- 2/18 **Class Cancelled for Presidents' Day**
- 2/20 *IOs and Refugees*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 73-120.
Preliminary thesis, outline, & bibliography due at the beginning of class

Unit 4: International Economic Organizations

- 2/25 *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).
- 2/27 *International Organizations and Monetary Policy*
Barnett and Finnemore, pp. 45-72.

Unit 5: International Organizations and the Environment

- 3/3 *Sustainable Development*
Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, and Pease, pp. 269-301.
- 3/5 *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).

- 3/10 *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).
- 3/12 *Conclusion*
- 3/17 **Final Exam, 2:30-4:20, Parrington 108. Bring bluebook**