

**International Affairs 4240
International Organizations
Spring 2009
University of Georgia**

Instructor: Cynthia McMeekin
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Office hours: M 10am -12pm and by appointment
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Prerequisite: INTL 3200 or INTL 3300

Objectives

What is the purpose of international organizations? States don't need them so why do they exist at all? This class will explore the purpose of international organizations and the relevance of international organizations in major issue areas. This first segment of this course will consider the history, decision-making and theoretical orientations to studying international organizations. The second section of the course looks at international organizations and global issues. Finally, we will consider a case study of the influence of international organizations on international politics.

Required Texts

Pease, Kelly-Kate. 2008. *International Organizations: Perspectives on Governance in the Twenty-First Century*. Third Edition. Prentice Hall.

Kratochwil, Friedrich and Edward D. Mansfield. 2006. *International Organization and Global Governance*. Second Edition. Pearson Longman. (K&M)

Additional excerpts from journal articles and book chapters are assigned throughout the course and made available through WebCT.

Assignments and Grades

First Exam	10%
Second Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Participation	20%
Presentations	15%
Simulation	15%

Exams: There will be three exams during the course of the semester. The exams will cover material from readings, lectures and discussion. The format of the exam will be discussed in class. There will be no make-up exams without documentation of illness or family emergency. Any make-ups will be administered the day of the final exam.

Participation: Please note this is a sizeable portion of your overall grade and failure to participate will certainly have an adverse affect on your final mark in the class. And, to state the obvious, you cannot participate if you are not in class. Coming to class and completing all assignments meets the bare minimum required for participation and will achieve a grade of “C.” To achieve a higher grade, students must demonstrate an understanding of the readings during discussions, suggest how the readings complement and/or contradict each other and add their own personal insights to class discussion. Additionally, students are expected to follow current news related to international organizations. At the beginning of each class students will have the opportunity to summarize relevant new stories and explain how they relate to class subject matter.

Presentation: During the first couple weeks of class students will choose groups for a class presentation. After establishing groups, you will choose an organization from a list at the end of the syllabus and sign-up with the instructor. There will be no repetitions, so you’re encouraged to sign-up early if you have your heart set on an institution. The deadline for signing up is **January 30th**. Presentation dates will be assigned February 2nd. You will then become experts on your organization and create a presentation for the class.

The presentations should be detailed, accurate and creative. You should try to engage your classmates during your presentation and make them part of the discussion. Students will be rewarded for unique and interesting presentations that do not simply recite the summary of their findings. Use of visual aids is strongly encouraged. The following points should be addressed: Present a brief history of the IO. What is the purpose of your organization? Who belongs to your IO? How does the organization decide what actions it will pursue? How do its actions affect international politics? What theoretical lens might best explain the general activities or important actions taken by your organization? The anticipated length of each presentation is about thirty minutes and the primary source of information will be the organization’s website.

Simulation: At the end of the semester students will participate in a negotiation simulation. This is a group project that will consist of a short group paper and in person negotiations. The simulation will take place the last week of classes, April 27-30. You must attend all simulation sessions. Missing one class this week will lower your simulation grade by 50%. Further details will be revealed as the semester proceeds.

Miscellaneous

Religious Holiday: Being absent for a religious holiday will not adversely affect your grade. Let me know within the first two weeks of class if you will miss class for a religious holiday.

Academic Honesty: All academic work must adhere to the University’s “A Culture of Honesty,” which can be found at http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/culture_honesty.htm. Cheating or plagiarizing someone else’s work will result in **FAILING** grade in the course and you will be referred to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction for further action.

Absences: If you miss a class, you should contact a classmate for notes and any potential changes to the schedule of the class. Please be advised that I will not respond to e-mails asking what was covered in a class that you missed.

This is a tentative outline of the course and is subject to change as needed.

I INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Week 1 (Jan. 9)

Introduction to the course

- This syllabus

Week 2 (Jan. 12-16)

Introduction to International Organizations

- Pease Chapters 1-2
- WebCT Article

JANUARY 19 - Martin Luther King Day– NO CLASS

Week 3 (Jan. 21-23)

Theoretical approaches – realism, liberalism, constructivism

- Pease Chapter 3
- Robert Keohane “International Institutions: Two Approaches **K&M**”
- Alexander Wendt. “Anarchy is What States Make of It.” **K&M**

Week 4 (Jan. 26-30)

Evolution of international organizations

- Friedrich Kratochwil “Politics, Norms and Peaceful Change: Two Moves to Institutions” **K&M**
- Michael Barnett and Martha Finnemore “The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations”
- WebCT Article

Week 5 (Feb. 2-6)

Decision-making

- WebCT Articles

II INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Week 6 (Feb. 9-13)

International Security: Collective Security

- Pease Chapter 5
- WebCT Article

Week 7 (Feb. 16-20)

International Security: Peacekeeping

- WebCT Articles

FIRST EXAM

Week 8 (Feb. 23-28)

Regional Security and NATO

- Pease Chapter 6
- WebCT Article

Week 9 (March 2-6)

Regional Integration and the EU

- WebCT Articles

March 9 – 13 Spring Break – NO CLASS

Week 10 (Mar. 16-20)

Trade: The GATT and WTO

- Pease Chapter 7
- WebCT Articles

Week 11 (Mar. 23-27)

Development: The IMF and World Bank

- Pease Chapter 8
- Joseph Stiglitz “Democratizing the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank: Governance and Accountability” **K&M**
- WebCT Article

Week 12 (March 30-Apr. 1)

The Environment

- Pease Chapter 9

SECOND EXAM

April 3 - Midwest Political Science Association – NO CLASS

Week 13 (Apr. 6-10)

Human Rights

- Pease Chapter 10
- John Pace “The Development of Human Rights Law in the United Nations” **K&M**

Week 14 (Apr. 13-17)

Human Rights and Intervention

- WebCT Articles

III APPLICATION OF CONCEPTS TO CASE STUDY

Week 15 (Apr. 20-24)

Case Study

- WebCT Articles

Week 16 (Apr. 27-30)

Simulation

- WebCT Articles

FINAL EXAM: WEDNESDAY MAY 6
8:00AM – 11:00AM

List of IOs for presentations

Amnesty International <http://www.amnesty.org/>
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) <http://www.apecsec.org.sg>
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) <http://www.asean.or.id>
International Labor Organization (ILO) <http://www.ilo.org/>
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) <http://www.nato.int>
Organization of American States (OAS) <http://www.oas.org/>
Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) <http://www.oic-oci.org>
World Bank <http://www.worldbank.org/>
World Trade Organization (WTO) <http://www.wto.org>
United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) <http://www.unhcr.ch>
European Union (EU) www.europa.eu.int
Organization of American States (OAS) www.oas.org
Greenpeace www.greenpeace.com
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) www.iaea.org
International Monetary Fund (IMF) www.imf.org
UN Security Council www.un.org/Docs/sc
UN Peacekeeping www.un.org/Depts/dpko/
UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) www.unctad.org
ICRC (Red Cross) www.icrc.org