

**POLITICAL SCIENCE (POL S) 328  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Winter 2018

M/W 8:30am – 10:20am

Savery Hall (SAV), Room 264

Professor: Geoffrey Wallace

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Office Hours: Wednesday 10:30am-Noon (or by appointment)

Course Website: On Canvas (<https://canvas.uw.edu>)

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Office Hours: M/W 10:30am-11:30am (or by appointment)

### **Course Description**

International organizations (IOs), such as the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Criminal Court, have become increasingly prominent across a wide range of domains in world affairs. Though states are sovereign actors in the international system, they often choose to surrender some of their authority to these international institutions. Why do IOs exist in the first place? Why do states create and join IOs? What are the ways in which IOs can influence interests and outcomes in the international arena?

This course investigates the origins, design, operation, and consequences of IOs in world politics. It is recommended (but not required) that students have taken POL S 203 (Introduction to International Relations) or an equivalent before enrolling in this course. Students will develop both a theoretical and empirical understanding of IOs and the global problems they are intended to address. Examples will be drawn from both historical and contemporary eras, and will cover issues including international security, political economy, human rights, and the environment.

All information in the syllabus, as well as additional readings, assignments, and announcements can be found on the Canvas course website at <https://canvas.uw.edu>. It is students' responsibility to check the website on a frequent basis, since this is where all course-related information and developments will be posted.

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Identify and explain the main cooperation problems and challenges that international organizations are intended to address.
- Compare and contrast different international organizations, in particular their origins, structures, strategies of action, and effectiveness.
- Apply theories of international organizations to historical and contemporary events.
- Improve writing skills through course readings and written assignments.

### **Readings**

There are no required books for purchase. Weekly readings will be posted on the Canvas course website. Assigned readings should be completed before the start of class unless otherwise noted by

the instructor. The reading load is quite substantial and often verges on around 100 pages per week. Many of the readings are also quite challenging both theoretically and empirically, which means they cannot be skimmed and students should plan ahead accordingly.

Students are also required to keep up with current international events through daily reading of the *New York Times*. Reading a daily news source is not only useful for keeping abreast of current events, but will also be central for the course by providing a valuable opportunity to grasp and apply key concepts to contemporary issues and IOs. A discounted digital subscription is available at [www.nytimes.com/uwashington](http://www.nytimes.com/uwashington). Hard copy is available through a campus discount program at <http://depts.washington.edu/thehub/services/new-york-times/>.

We will regularly integrate ongoing news stories into the course material. The instructor may also distribute additional summary materials for specific IOs that are relevant for a given section of the course.

### **Course Requirements**

Students are expected to attend all lectures and come prepared by doing all assigned readings beforehand. If students are absent, it is his/her responsibility to obtain notes from lecture. Lecture notes and slides will not be provided by the instructor.

Final grades for the course are determined by the following components. Take note of the relevant deadlines and exam dates:

- Participation – Classroom Response System (10%)
- Response Memo (20%) – Due 1/29/2018
- Midterm Exam (20%) – On 2/7/2018
- Policy Recommendation (25%) – Due 2/26/2018
- Final Exam (25%) – On 3/13/2018 at 8:30am-10:20am

Exams will be a combination of short answer/identification and short essay questions based on all course materials (lectures, readings, etc.) for the relevant part of the course. The final exam is cumulative, but will be weighted toward the material after the Midterm.

#### *Participation – Classroom Response System (10%)*

Attendance is not required, but you will receive credit through your active participation in class, which will primarily be evaluated through the use of a classroom response system (i.e. clickers). We will be using the *Poll Everywhere* platform, which allows students to use almost any electronic device (e.g. laptop, tablet, cell phone) instead of a separate stand-alone clicker for submitting responses either online or via text message. Further information on using the *Poll Everywhere* system will be provided, but you should also consult the following student guide if you have any questions – <https://www.poll everywhere.com/guides/student>. If you do not have a compatible device, UW's Student Technology Loan Program offers free loans for laptops, tablets, and other electronic equipment – visit <https://stlp.uw.edu/#/> for further information.

Throughout the course, I will ask questions during class to which you can respond using your electronic device. You cannot earn credit for participation without attending class. It is your responsibility to (a) ensure your Poll Everywhere account is properly set up (especially that it is associated with your UW email address); (b) make sure your device works and you are receiving

credit for your responses, and (c) bring your device to class. I cannot verify that you used your device if it does not register, and I will not accept written responses in lieu of clicker responses. Some lectures may have more questions asked than others.

#### *Response Memo (20%)*

Each student will write a 3-4 page double-spaced response memo based on a question surrounding a set of readings/materials selected by the instructor. Details will be provided in a separate handout. Submissions are due by the beginning of class on Monday, January 29.

#### *Policy Recommendation (25%)*

Each student will write a 5-6 page double-spaced policy recommendation. Students will take on the role of an advisor to a state or IO and make a recommendation regarding how the organization can address a policy challenge. Details will be provided in a separate handout. Submissions are due by the beginning of class on Monday, February 26.

### **Grading Scale**

The 4.0 scale used in this course will be posted to Canvas before the first assignment. Graded assignments will be returned including both a letter grade, percentage point total out of 100, and corresponding score on the 4.0 scale.

#### *\*A Note Regarding the Evaluation of Writing Assignments (e.g. response memo; policy recommendation)*

- Written work in the **A** range is characterized by a strikingly creative, perceptive, and persuasive argument/thesis statement; comprehensive synthesis and analysis of the course material; straightforward yet sophisticated organization of thoughts and error-free prose.
- Written work in the **B** range is characterized by sound, original, and reasonably thoughtful argument/thesis statement; competent analysis of various course material, logical organization; and clear and error-free prose.
- Written work in the **C** range is characterized by a relatively underdeveloped, simplistic, or derivative argument/thesis statement; partial, inconsistent, or faulty analysis of course material; convoluted organization; and awkward, or otherwise distracting prose.
- Written work in the **D** range is characterized by an incoherent or extremely confusing argument; superficial or fleeting engagement with the course material; chaotic or irrational organization; and error-riddled prose.
- Written work that lacks any argument or analysis and is sloppy, earns an **F**.

Please make sure to put time and care into your writing, as the instructor/TA have given out all of these grades in the past.

### **Late Penalties**

Any papers turned in after the deadline will be penalized 10% per day (24-hour period), or any part thereof. No papers will be accepted after 72 hours from the original deadline. It is your responsibility to ensure late work reaches the instructor/TA (i.e., don't simply place something in the department mailbox). Electronic copies alone will not be accepted as proof of submitting your paper – a hard copy must be handed in to the instructor/TA. Given the severity of the late penalty, it is rarely in a student's interest to work on a paper more and turn it in late.

## **Extensions and Make-up Exams**

Extensions or make-up exams are only available under the direst of circumstances, such as a *documented* illness, debilitating injury, or comparable emergency. For paper extensions, this condition should have spanned much of the time when you could have worked on the assignment. Even in these exceptional cases, you are responsible for informing the instructor, when circumstances permit, well ahead of the assignment deadline or date of the exam. Unnecessary delays in notification will disqualify you for an extension. Only after written confirmation from the instructor should a student consider that an extension or make-up exam has been granted. *Note: personal travel plans are not a legitimate reason for requesting an extension, or to take an exam at a different time, and will not be granted.*

## **Grading Policy and Appeals**

Appeals must be made within one week of when the exam or assignment was originally returned to the class. Appeals simply asking for more points will not be considered. To make an appeal, a student is required to write a typed memo (no longer than 1 page single-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font) clearly explaining the reasons why they feel the grade they received was inappropriate. Students must submit the memo along with the original graded assignment to their TA, who will re-grade the assignment. If the student is still not satisfied, they may then submit a separate written appeal to the instructor who will then issue a final grade for the assignment. The memo, assignment, and the TA's response to the original appeal must be submitted to the instructor within three days of receiving the appeal decision from their TA. Please note, however, that both the TA and the instructor reserve the right to re-grade the *entire* assignment once an appeal is made, which may result in an increase *or decrease* from the original grade.

## **Accessibility**

If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to the instructor as soon as possible so we can discuss your needs in this course. If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to: mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924, email [uwdrs@uw.edu](mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu), or online at <http://disability.uw.edu>. DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor, and DRS. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

## **Citations/Footnotes**

In your papers you must cite authors from whom you draw ideas/quotations. The typical parenthetical style in Political Science is (Last Name, Year of Publication: Page Number), such as (Abbott and Snidal, 1998: 25). Footnotes or endnotes are also acceptable ways of acknowledging work. In your exams it is a good idea to cite authors we have encountered in the course; page numbers are obviously not required. You can use any citation style you prefer as long as it is an official style and is used consistently throughout the assignment (e.g. MLA or Chicago).

## Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is a serious offense at The University of Washington. All cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Conduct, and may result in a grade of 0.0 for the assignment in question.

University policies and guidelines regarding cheating and plagiarism can be found at <https://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>.

What constitutes academic misconduct? The University of Washington Student Conduct Code defines it as the following (WAC 478-120-024).

**Academic misconduct** includes:

- (a) **“Cheating,”** which includes, but is not limited to:
  - (i) The use of unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; or
  - (ii) The acquisition, use, or distribution of unpublished materials created by another student without the express permission of the original author(s).
- (b) **“Falsification,”** which is the intentional use or submission of falsified data, records, or other information including, but not limited to, records of internship or practicum experiences or attendance at any required event(s). Falsification also includes falsifying scientific and/or scholarly research.
- (c) **“Plagiarism,”** which is the submission or presentation of someone else’s words, composition, research, or expressed ideas, whether published or unpublished, without attribution. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
  - (i) The use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; or
  - (ii) The unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or acquired from an entity engaging in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
- (d) **Prohibited collaboration.**
- (e) Engaging in behavior specifically prohibited by an instructor in the course of class instruction or in a course syllabus.
- (f) **Multiple submissions** of the same work in separate courses without the express permission of the instructor(s).
- (g) Taking deliberate action to destroy or damage another’s academic work in order to gain an advantage for oneself or another.
- (h) The recording of instructional content without the express permission of the instructor(s), and/or the dissemination or use of such unauthorized records.

If you are uncertain what constitutes plagiarism, please ask the instructor. The Political Science/JSIS/LSJ/CHID Writing Center also offers guidance on plagiarism, general advice on writing, and related issues of academic integrity:

<http://depts.washington.edu/pswrite/forstudents.html>.

## VeriCite and Canvas

Students are required to turn in written assignments in both hard copy and electronically through Canvas when noted on the assignment instructions. Failure to turn in both formats by the deadline will result in a late penalty. Please be aware that the electronic copy is submitted to VeriCite on the Canvas website. VeriCite is a software program that checks for plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. All students are required to submit their written assignments to this program.

It is the student's responsibility to verify that the electronic upload to the Canvas website was successful, and print a confirmation sheet with date and time stamp for their records.

### **Classroom Expectations**

Some of the material covered in this course may be controversial. While debate is expected and in fact encouraged, students are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Students are expected to arrive on time and ready to start class. We have a very short period of time and a limited number of meetings, and it is disrespectful to the instructor/TA and your fellow classmates to show up late. All disruptive behavior is not permitted during class, including but by no means limited to sleeping, talking outside of regular class discussion, using cell phones, and insulting classmates and/or the instructor/TA. Laptops are permitted, but should be used solely for course work (e.g. taking notes, accessing course readings, etc.). Violation of the laptop/electronic device policy may result in a student being prohibited from using a laptop or similar device in class for the remainder of the quarter. Eating is permitted as long as it does not disrupt others.

### **Acknowledgement of Course Material Content**

All of the assigned materials for this course (lectures, readings, films, discussion) are directly relevant to its central theme – international organizations and global governance. The assigned materials are all widely recognized as important scholarly or cultural works. The assigned articles and books have appeared in some of the highest ranking academic journals, or published with prestigious presses. The films or video clips that may be shown in class have received critical praise and, in many cases, been nominated for major cinematic awards.

Students who intend to take this class should be aware, however, that a number of the assigned works contain adult themes and language. In some cases these depictions, which may be sexual or violent in nature, are central to the issues raised in the course; in other cases they are more peripheral but still part of the author or creator's vision. Students are responsible for all of the assigned material in the course, even those portions they may find objectionable due to the content described above. Students who believe that exposure to such content will detract from their ability to absorb and understand the required course materials, or complete assignments, are encouraged to drop the class.

By remaining in this course, students acknowledge that the professor has alerted them to the adult themes and language present in some of the assigned material for this course. Students have been advised that if such content will interfere with their ability to learn, they should drop this class. Finally, students recognize that by remaining in this class they are responsible for all of the required materials, even those that they might find offensive.

### **Questions and Communication**

If you have any straightforward administrative or logistical questions not of a personal nature (e.g. readings for the week; location of exam, etc.), please consult the website and syllabus first, and then email your TA if you are still uncertain. The answers to most such questions are often on the website or syllabus. If you still cannot obtain an adequate answer, email the instructor. Email is the preferred form of contact for these matters. For more substantive detailed questions, please see your TA or instructor during office hours.

## Course Schedule

The following is a schedule of topics and readings for the course. The schedule is subject to change based on the pace of the class. The instructor will clearly announce any changes.

## Part I: Overview and Setting the Scene of IOs in World Politics

### Week 1

W 1/3: Introduction and Overview – State Sovereignty, IOs, and Global Governance

- Armstrong, David, Lorna Lloyd, and John Redmon. 2004. Ch.1 “The Rise of International Organisation.” In *International Organisation in World Politics*. New York, N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan. (Excerpt: 1-10).
- Powner, Leanne C. 2007. “Reading and Understanding Political Science.” Only read pg.1-14 (stop at “Formal Modeling” section). Read carefully, since this article provides a foundation for more effectively reading and understanding many of the subsequent readings in the course. The exercises included in-text are completely optional.

### Week 2

M 1/8: What are IOs Anyway?

- Volgy, Thomas J., Elizabeth Fausett, Keith A. Grant, and Stuart Rodgets. 2008. “Identifying Formal Intergovernmental Organizations.” *Journal of Peace Research* 45(6): 849-862.
- Hurd, Ian. 2014. Ch.2 “Theory, Methods, and International Organizations.” In *International Organizations: Politics, Law, and Practice*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (15-40).

W 1/10: Why do States Create and Join IOs?

- Oye, Kenneth A. 1985. “The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics.” In *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues (10<sup>th</sup> Edition)*. Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, eds. New York, N.Y.: Longman. (79-92).
- Abbott, Kenneth W., and Duncan Snidal. 1998. “Why States Act through Formal International Organizations.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42(1): 3-32.

## Part II: Delegation, Design, & Decision-Making

### Week 3

M 1/15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day – NO CLASS

W 1/17 IOs as Bureaucracies – Pathologies and Organizational Culture

- Barnett, Michael. 2002. “Chronology of Rwandan Conflict and United Nations’ Security Agenda.” In *Eyewitness to a Genocide: The United Nations and Rwanda*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press. (183-192).
- Barnett, Michael and Martha Finnemore. 2004. Ch.5 “Genocide and the Peacekeeping Culture at the United Nations.” In *Rules for the World: International Organizations in Global Politics*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press. (121-155).

Film Screening in Class – *Ghosts of Rwanda* (PBS Frontline, 2004).

## Week 4

M 1/22: Delegation – Principal-Agent Problems

- Gutner, Tamar. 2017. Ch.5 “The World Bank.” In *International Organizations in World Politics*. Los Angeles, C.A.: Sage Publications. (83-109).
- Nielson, Daniel L. and Michael J. Tierney. 2003. “Delegation to International Organizations: Agency Theory and World Bank Environmental Reform.” *International Organization* 57(2): 241-276.

W 1/24: Rational Design – Bargaining, Negotiation, and Formation

- Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal. 2001. “The Rational Design of International Institutions.” *International Organization* 55(4): Excerpt 761-780.
- Barnett, Michael, and Liv Coleman. 2005. “Designing Police: Interpol and the Study of Change in International Organizations.” *International Studies Quarterly* 49(4): 593-619.

## Week 5

**\*\*\*Response Memo due at the Start of Class on Monday, January 29\*\*\***

M 1/29: Decision-Making Within IOs – The United Nations I

- Rittberger, Volker and Bernhard Zangl. 2006. Ch. 6. “Decision-Making in International Organizations: The Conversion Process.” In *International Organization: Polity, Politics and Policies*. New York, N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan. (88-101).
- Karns, Margaret P., Karen A. Mingst, and Kendall W. Stiles. 2015. Ch.4 “The United Nations: Centerpiece of Global Governance.” In *International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. Boulder, C.O.: Lynne Rienner. (Excerpt: 109-140).

W 1/31: Decision-Making Within IOs – The United Nations II

- “Thinking the UNthinkable.” *The Economist*. November 11, 2011.
- Mahbubani, Kishore. 2016. “Council Reforms and the Emerging Powers.” In *The UN Security Council in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Sebastian von Einsiedel, Davis M. Malone, and Bruno Stagno Ugarte, eds. Boulder, C.O.: Lynne Rienner. (157-173).
- Hurd, Ian. 2008. “Myths of Membership: The Politics of Legitimation in UN Security Council Reform.” *Global Governance* 14(2): 199-217.

## Week 6

M 2/5: Money Matters – The Politics of Budgets and Financing

- Karns, Margaret P., Karen A. Mingst, and Kendall W. Stiles. 2015. Ch.4 “The United Nations: Centerpiece of Global Governance.” In *International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. Boulder, C.O.: Lynne Rienner. (Excerpt: 154-158).
- Cooley, Alexander, and James Ron. 2002. “The NGO Scramble: Organizational Insecurity and the Political Economy of Transnational Action.” *International Security* 27(1): 5-39.

W 2/7: **\*\*\*Midterm Exam in Class – Bring Exam Books\*\*\***

## Part III: IOs in Action – Functions Facilitating Compliance and Enforcement

### Week 7

M 2/12: Information and Monitoring

- Thompson, Alexander. 2006. “Screening Power: International Organizations as Informative Agents.” In *Delegation and Agency in International Organizations*. Darren G. Hawkins, David A. Lake, Daniel L. Nielson, and Michael J. Tierney. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (229-254).
- Vreeland, James R. 2007. Ch.2 “What is the IMF?” In *The International Monetary Fund: Politics of Conditional Lending*. New York, N.Y.: Routledge. (Excerpt: 5-25).
- Listen to *Freakonomics* Podcast. “Not Your Grandmother’s I.M.F.” (December 13, 2017). <http://freakonomics.com/podcast/not-grandmothers-m-f/>. (About 40 minutes).

W 2/14: Legitimacy and Laundering

- Claude, Inis L. 1966. “Collective Legitimization as a Political Function of the United Nations.” *International Organization* 20(3): 367-379.
- Vreeland, James R. 2007. Ch.3 “Why do Governments Participate in IMF Programs?” In *The International Monetary Fund: Politics of Conditional Lending*. New York, N.Y.: Routledge. (50-72).

### Week 8

M 2/19: President’s Day – NO CLASS

W 2/21: Power and Coercion

- Lloyd Gruber. 2000. Ch.2 “Collective Action and Mutual Gain” (Excerpt: 27-32) and Ch.3 “Winners and Losers: The Case for Theoretical Reorientation” (33-57). In *Ruling the World: Power Politics and the Rise of Supranational Institutions*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. Note: don’t get bogged down in some of the formal models; focus on main argument.
- Leeds, Brett Ashley. 2003. “Do Alliances Deter Aggression? The Influence of Military Alliances on the Initiation of Militarized Interstate Disputes.” *American Journal of Political Science* 47(3): 427-439.

### Week 9

**\*\*\*Policy Recommendation Due at the Start of Class on Tuesday, February 26\*\*\***

M 2/26: Socialization and Persuasion

- Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink. 1999. “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International and Regional Politics.” *International Social Science Journal* 51(159): 89-101.
- Finnemore, Martha. 1996. Ch.3 “Norms and War: The International Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions.” In *National Interests in International Society*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press. (69-88).

## W 2/28: Adjudication and Judicialization

- Alter, Karen J. 1998. "Who are the 'Masters of the Treaty'? European Governments and the European Court of Justice." *International Organization* 52(1): 121-147.
- Pease, Kelly-Kate S. 2012. "International Criminal Law." In *International Organizations*. New York, N.Y.: Longman. (Excerpt: 288-299).
- International Criminal Court. *Understanding the International Criminal Court*. (Excerpt: 3-15).

## Part IV: Organizational (d)Evolution and Looking Forward

### Week 10

#### M 3/5: Adaptation, Death, and...Zombies

- Wallander, Celeste A. 2000. "Institutional Assets and Adaptability: NATO after the Cold War." *International Organization* 54(4): 705-735.
- Thies, Wallace J. 2012. "Is the EU Collapsing?" *International Studies Review* 14(2): 225-239.
- Listen to NPR's *Planet Money* Podcast. "Episode 743: 50 Ways to Leave Your Union." (December 21, 2016).  
<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2016/12/21/506502394/episode-743-50-ways-to-leave-your-union>. (About 20 minutes).

#### W 3/7: The Future of Global Governance – Challenges, Opportunities, and...is a World State Possible?

- Rittberger, Volker and Bernhard Zangl. 2006. Ch. 12. "Between a World State and International Anarchy: Global Governance." In *International Organization: Polity, Politics and Policies*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. (88-101).
- Craig, Campbell. 2008. "The Resurgent Idea of World Government." *Ethics & International Affairs* 22(2): 133-142.

**\*\*\*Final Exam on Tuesday, March 13 8:30am-10:20am – Bring Exam Books\*\*\***

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