COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the theoretical frameworks, empirical cases, and cutting-edge debates in the field of international organizations. The course is structured in two parts. First, we will focus on the different theoretical perspectives for understanding international organizations such as: realist, neoliberal institutionalist, domestic, principal-agent, and constructivist approaches. Second, the course will examine the effects of international organizations on world politics. We will address key questions such as: How do IOs foster interstate cooperation and state compliance? How do IOs shape state interests and identities? Why do IOs often fail? How should we think about the pathologies of IOs as global bureaucracies? How do IOs influence NGOs and their strategies? In addressing these and other questions, we will explore several IO cases around the globe, such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the European Union.

COURSE MATERIALS

The following book is required and should be available for purchase at the Book Marq.


A number of articles are also required and can be downloaded from Desire2Learn.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Requirements:

- Participation: 15%
- On-call presentation and one response paper: 10%
Research paper: 25%
Mid-term exam: 20%
Final exam: 30%

Your grade is based on several contributions. First, you must do all the reading on time, attend every session, and actively participate in the discussion. Choosing to listen in the discussion is not acceptable. In case you do not feel comfortable speaking in class, you may post your comments on each session’s discussion questions at the Discussions of Desire2Learn as a substitute for your class participation. Your comments should be about 200 words in length. Please post your comments by midnight of the day of that session. Late posting will not be acceptable.

Second, you must lead the class discussion once during the semester. This entails preparing five minutes or so of remarks to get us started discussing the reading, composing a number of discussion questions about the reading, and in general, getting your fellow students riled up about the reading. I will assign two students to each session. You are welcome to meet me for advice at least one week before your presentation.

You must also write one response paper that critically evaluates the reading of your presentation. The paper should summarize the core argument of the reading only briefly. It should primarily focus on critically analyzing the argument and/or evidence, such as the reading’s strengths, weaknesses, and implications. Assuming 12 point, Times New Roman, double-spacing, and standard one-inch margins, your response paper must be at least three pages long. The paper is due at the beginning of class on the day of your presentation. Please upload a copy of your paper at the Dropbox of Desire2Learn and hand in a hard copy of your paper by that time. No late submissions will be accepted.

Third, you must write a research paper on a topic of your choice and relating to the themes of the course. In your paper, you will write about international organizations (but not about nongovernmental organizations) by making a theoretically-informed argument and supporting it with empirical evidence. A critical book review will not be accepted. In case your paper topic overlaps with empirical case studies covered in lectures, your paper must demonstrate substantial independent research. Assuming 12 point, Times New Roman, double-spacing, and standard one-inch margins, your paper must be no longer than 10 pages of text. Please do not cite any online sources (e.g., Wikipedia). Articles and books should be your main references.

The paper is due at the beginning of class on May 1. Please upload a copy of your paper at the Dropbox of Desire2Learn and hand in a hard copy of your paper by that time. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per day including weekends and holidays if turned in after class on May 1.

Fourth, one mid-term exam and the final exam will be administered on March 6 and May 9, respectively, and only in class. Please note that both exams will also include a take-home essay exam. As for the mid-term exam, the essay questions will be distributed during the in-class, mid-term exam on March 6 and due at the beginning of class on
March 8. As for the final exam, the essay question(s) will be distributed in class on May 3 and due at the beginning of the in-class, final exam on May 9. No late submissions. No exceptions. In the exams, you will be tested on all the materials covered in lectures and the readings. There will be no make-up exams except for medical or family emergencies. No extra credit will be given. I will hold a review session prior to each exam.

Please note that I have zero tolerance for academic dishonesty including cheating, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion. For more details on Marquette University’s Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures, please see: http://www.marquette.edu/mucentral/registrar/policy_honesty.shtml.

You are expected to arrive in time as late arrivals are disruptive to your fellow students. Please do not use your laptop computer during class for non-class activities (e.g., email or web-surfing unrelated to class) because it detracts from your fellow students’ learning experience.

**Grading Scale:**

- A: 93-100
- AB: 88-92.9
- B: 83-87.9
- BC: 78-82.9
- C: 73-77.9
- CD: 68-72.9
- D: 60-67.9
- F: 0-59.9

**Dates to Remember:**

- Mid-term exam: March 6.
- Take-home essay exam: March 8.
- Research paper: May 1.
- Final exam and take-home essay exam: May 9.
COURSE OUTLINE

PART I. THEORETICAL APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

January 17: Course Overview

January 19: Introduction: The Expansion of International Organizations


January 24: Realist Approaches


RECOMMENDED

Andreas Hasenclever, Peter Mayer, and Volker Rittberger, Theories of International Regimes (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), Chapters 1, 2, and 4.


January 26: Neoliberal Institutionalist Approaches


RECOMMENDED

Andreas Hasenclever, Peter Mayer, and Volker Rittberger, Theories of International Regimes (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), Chapter 3.


**February 2: Domestic Approaches**


**RECOMMENDED**


**February 7: Principal-Agent Approaches**

**RECOMMENDED**


**February 9: Constructivist Approaches I (à la Emile Durkheim)**


**RECOMMENDED**


February 14: Constructivist Approaches II (à la Max Weber)


RECOMMENDED


February 16: Is Theoretical Synthesis Possible? Desirable?


PART II: THE EFFECTS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

February 21: Conceptualizing Institutional Effects


RECOMMENDED


February 23: Peacekeeping


**RECOMMENDED**


February 28: Science Policy


**RECOMMENDED**


March 1: Exam Review

MARCH 6: IN-CLASS, MID-TERM EXAMINATION, 2:00-3:15 PM

March 8: Film Screening


**TAKE-HOME ESSAY EXAMS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**

March 20: International Finance

RECOMMENDED


March 22: Humanitarian Intervention


RECOMMENDED


March 27: Human Rights


RECOMMENDED


March 29: Foreign Aid and Development


RECOMMENDED


April 3: Refugees

April 10: External Democracy Promotion


**RECOMMENDED**


April 12: No Class. Professor Kim at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference.

April 17: Humanitarian Relief


April 19: Anti-Corruption


April 24: International Trade


April 26: International Organizations and Nongovernmental Organizations

Joachim and Birgit Locher, eds., *Transnational Activism in the UN and the EU: A Comparative Study* (London: Routledge, 2009), pp. 3-18, 44-60, 121-139.

**RECOMMENDED**


**May 1: The Legitimacy and Accountability of International Organizations**


**RESEARCH PAPERS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**

**May 3: Conclusion and Exam Review**

**MAY 9: IN-CLASS, FINAL EXAMINATION, 1:00-3:00 PM**

**TAKE-HOME ESSAY EXAMS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE IN-CLASS, FINAL EXAM**