

International Organizations

PS 1503

Cathedral of Learning 206, Tuesday-Thursday, 1:00-2:15

Prof. Stephen Chaudoin

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## Course Description

International organizations, like the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the European Union are prominent features of international relations. How do they affect the policies of sovereign nations? How do they help solve global problems? Why are the rules and membership of organizations similar and different? This course answers these questions by analyzing organizations in a wide variety of issue areas. We will study the theoretical arguments and empirical evidence for how and why international organizations “matter.” The goal is to equip students with the tools to answer these questions for contemporary organizations like those designed to deal with war criminals, carbon emissions, and international trade and finance.

Required Text: Hurd, Ian. 2011. *International Organizations: Politics, Law, and Practice*. Cambridge University Press.

## Evaluation

The assignments for the class include class participation, group and individual assignments, and two exams. Grades will be distributed in the following manner:

*Assignments: 10%*

*Short Paper and Presentation: 20%*

*Midterm Exam: 30%*

*Final Exam: 40%*

## **Assignments**

There will be a few (approximately 2-4) assignments throughout the semester. These will consist of short response writing (1-2 pages). On certain days, either marked on the syllabus or announced during the semester, we will complete in-class assignments which you can only get credit for if you are in attendance. Attendance at in-class activities falls into this grading category.

## **Short Paper and Presentation**

Towards the end of the semester, you will give a short presentation (5 minutes) on a research question regarding a particular international organization. This will be accompanied by a medium length (8-12 page) paper describing your topic. Additional information will be provided further into the semester.

## **Mid-Term and Final Exams**

The mid-term exam will cover material from the beginning of the semester until the point of the exam. The final exam will focus more heavily on material covered after the mid-term exam, but I will also ask you to address and incorporate material from the entire semester. All material presented in readings and class discussion is relevant for these exams.

## **Course Policies**

- Absence: I do not take attendance. You do not need to alert me to the fact that you will be absent or bring me any official excuse letter. However, missing class means missing information. Many of these readings are demanding and may need clarification in class. Additionally, the lectures contain important supplemental information not found in the readings, and you

are responsible for this information in exams and papers. If a medical or other emergency causes you to miss an in-class assignment, we will arrange for you to complete the assignment (or approximate equivalent) outside of class. To take advantage of this, you *must* email me to make appropriate arrangements within two days of missing the in-class assignment.

- Late Assignments: Assignments are due at the end of class on the days indicated on the assignment. I will *not* accept assignments that are more than two days late. Within the two day window, assignments are penalized a letter grade per day.
- Assignment Review: I am happy to review any graded assignment or exam. However, I will not hear any concerns until 48 hours after the assignment has been returned to you. You must express your concern with the grade in an email and support your argument as to why it should be changed. If you bring me an assignment to regrade, I will regrade the entire assignment, and I reserve the right to raise your grade or lower it on any part of the assignment. In other words, be careful in your use of review.
- Cell Phones, Laptops, Tablets: Laptops and tablets are allowed in class, provided they are used for class related purposes. Abuse of this privilege may cause us to re-evaluate this policy. Cell phones should be off.
- Academic Integrity: Students in this course will be expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.
- Disability Services: If you have a disability that requires special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications, you need to notify both the instructor and Disability Resources and Services no later than the second week of the term. You may be asked to provide

documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify Disability Resources and Services, call (412) 648-7890 (Voice or TTD) to schedule an appointment. The Disability Resources and Services office is located in 140 William Pitt Union on the Oakland campus.

- Statement on Classroom Recording: To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.
- Feedback: I am very interested in what you're getting from the course and how I can make the course better. Periodically, I'll solicit anonymous feedback in class about what you find most or least useful.
- Readings: Some of the readings are very technical, involving game theoretic or econometric models. Both of these are mathematical tools that political scientists use extensively in research. However, students may not have had training in these methods. When a reading is marked "technical" on the syllabus, do not worry about the math or techne of the articles. You are more responsible for the arguments contained in the readings, which we will focus on "translating" in class where necessary.

## 1 Schedule

Students are expected to complete the readings prior to the course meeting on the listed date. All readings, apart from the required textbook, are available electronically on the course website. The most up-to-date syllabus will always be found on the course website, since the schedule may change.

### The Basics

August 28: Syllabus and Scientific Method

- **Required:** The syllabus.
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 1.

August 30: Scientific Method cont.

- **Required:** Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 2003. “Chapter 2: Evaluating Arguments about International Politics.” *Principles of International Politics: People’s Power, Preferences, and Perceptions*.

September 4: I<sup>3</sup> and Rational Choice

- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 2.

September 6: Prisoner’s Dilemma, \*\*\* **Required In Class Activity**\*\*\*

- **Required:** Axelrod, Robert. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation*. Chapters 1-2, pp. 3-54. (Emphasis on Ch. 1)
  - This reading has some technical parts, but *do* try and work through some of the math. We will also focus on these models in class.

September 11: Institutions

- **Required:** Gambetta, Diego. 2009. *Codes of the Underworld: How Criminals Communicate*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapter 2 (pp. 30-53).
- Suggested: Martin, Lisa L. and Simmons, Beth A. 1998. “Theories and Empirical Studies of International Institutions.” *International Organization* 52(4): 729-757.
- Suggested: Milgrom, Paul R., North, Douglass C. and Barry R. Weingast. 1990. “The Role of Institutions in the Revival of Trade: The Law Merchant, Private Judges, and the Champagne Fairs.” *Economics and Politics* 2(1): 1-23. (technical)

### September 13: Compliance

- **Required:** Downes, Locke, and Barsoom. 1996. “Is the Good News About Compliance Good News about Cooperation?” *International Organization* 50(3): 379-406. (technical)
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 7.

### Institutions and War

### September 18: Paradox of War

- **Required:** Fearon, James. 1995. “Rationalist Explanations for War” *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.
  - This reading has some technical parts, but *do* try and work through some of the math. We will also focus on these models in class.

### September 20: Alliances

- **Required:** Frieden, Lake, and Schultz. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, Chapter 5, pp. 174-189.

### September 25: United Nations

- **Required:** Frieden, Lake, and Schultz. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, Chapter 5, pp. 189-211.
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 5.
- **Required:** “Making Intervention Work: Improving the UN’s Ability to Act.” *Foreign Affairs*. September/October 2008.

September 27: United Nations cont.

- **Required:** Voeten, Erik. 2005. “The Political Origins of the UN Security Council’s Ability to Legitimize the Use of Force.” *International Organization* 59(3): 527-557.
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 6.

October 2: Civil War

- **Required:** Fortna, Page. 2003. “Inside and Out: Peacekeeping and the Duration of Peace After Civil and Interstate Wars.” *International Studies Review* 5(4): 97-114. (technical)

International Law and Norms

October 4: Intro

- **Required:** Simmons, Beth. 2009. “Chapter 2: Why International Law? The Development of the International Human Rights Regime in the Twentieth Century.” *Mobilizing for Human Rights International Law in Domestic Politics*. Massachusetts: Cambridge University Press.
- **Required:** Simmons, Beth. 2009. “Chapter 4: Theories of Compliance.”

October 11: International Criminal Court

- **Required:** Simmons, Beth and Allison Danner. 2010. “Credible Commitments and the International Criminal Court.” *International Organization* 64(2): 225-226. (technical)
- Suggested: Chapman, Terrence and Stephen Chaudoin. 2013. “Ratification Patterns and the International Criminal Court.” *forthcoming International Studies Quarterly*.” (technical)
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 9.

- **Required:** “Costly Club or Sword of Justice?” *The Economist* November 26, 2011.

October 16: Norms

- **Required:** Finnemore, Martha, and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. “International Norm Dynamics and Political Change.” *International Organization* 52(4): 887-917.

October 18: Midterm

Institutions and the World Economy

October 23: The WTO

- **Required:** Douglas A. Irwin. 1995. “The GATT in Historical Perspective.” *The American Economic Review* 85(2): 323-328.
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 3.
- **Required:** “China’s Economy and the WTO: All Change,” *The Economist*, December 10th, 2011.
- **Required:** “Russia’s Economy and the WTO: A chance to get down to business,” *The Economist*, July 14th, 2012.

October 25: The WTO cont.

- **Required:** Rose, Andrew. 2004. “Do We Really Know the WTO Increases Trade?” *The American Economic Review* 94(1): 98-114. (technical)



- **Required:** Tomz, Michael, Goldstein, Judith, and Douglas Rivers. 2007. “Do We Really Know That the WTO Increases Trade? Comment” *The American Economic Review* 97(5): 323-328. (technical)
- **Required:** Rose, Andrew. 2007. “Do We Really Know That the WTO Increases Trade? Reply” *The American Economic Review* 97(5): 2019-2025. (technical)

October 30: The IMF and World Bank

- **Required:** Beth Simmons. 2000. “The Legalization of International Monetary Affairs.” *International Organization* 54(3): 573-602. (mildly technical)
- **Required:** Hurd, Chapter 4.
- **Required:** “Hungary and the IMF: A Washington Wipeout.” *The Economist* January 13, 2012.

November 1: Foreign Aid

- **Required:** Thad Dunning. 2004. “Conditioning the Effects of Aid: Cold War Politics, Donor Credibility, and Democracy in Africa.” *International Organization* 58(2): 409-423. (technical)

NGO’s, Networks, and Transnational Politics

November 6: Naming and Shaming

- **Required:** Hafner-Burton, Emilie M. 2008. “Sticks and Stones: The Efficacy of Human Rights Naming and Shaming.” *International Organization* 62(4): 689-716. (technical)

- **Required:** Lebovic, J. and E. Voeten. 2009. “The Cost of Shame: International Organizations and Foreign Aid in the Punishing of Human Right Violators.” *Journal of Peace Research* 46(1): 75-97. (technical)
- **Required:** “Naming and Shaming.” *The Economist* October 28, 2010.

November 8: TANs

- **Required:** M.J. Peterson. 1992. “Whalers, Cetologists, Environmentalists, and the International Management of Whaling.” *International Organization* 46(1): 147-186.
- **Required:** Keck, Margaret E. and Kathryn Sikkink. 1999. “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International and Regional Politics.” *International Social Science Journal* 51(159): 89-101.

November 13: Networks

- **Required:** Sageman, Marc. 2004. *Understanding Terror Networks*. University of Pennsylvania Press, Ch 5.

November 15: “Side Effects”

- **Required:** Pevehouse, Jon C. 2002. “Democracy from the Outside-In? International Organizations and Democratization.” *International Organization* 56(3): 515-549. (technical)
- **Required:** Emilie Hafner-Burton. 2005. “Trading Human Rights: How Preferential Trade Agreements Influence Government Repression,” *International Organization* 59(3): 593-629. (technical)

- **Required:** “Chinese Politics and the WTO: No Change.” *The Economist* December 10th, 2011.

Institutions and the Environment (and presentations and side topics)

November 20: Environment

- **Required:** Browne, John. 2004. “Beyond Kyoto.” *Foreign Affairs* 83(4): 20-32.

November 27: Environment cont.

- **Required:** Biermann, Frank, and Philip Pattberg. 2008. “Global Environmental Governance: Taking Stock, Moving Forward.” *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 33(1): 277-294.
- **Required:** “Containing Climate Change: An Opportunity for U.S. Leadership.” *Foreign Affairs*. September/October 2008.

November 29: Democracy Enhancing Multilateralism

- **Required:** Keohane, Robert O., Macedo, Stephen, and Andrew Moravcsik. 2009. “Democracy Enhancing Multilateralism.” *International Organization* 63(1): 1-31.
- **Required:** Gartzke, Eric and Naoi, Megumi. 2011. “Multilateralism and Democracy: A Dissent Regarding Keohane, Macedo, and Moravcsik.” *International Organization* 65(3): 589-598.
- **Required:** Keohane, Robert O., Macedo, Stephen, and Andrew Moravcsik. 2011. “Constitutional Democracy and World Politics: A Response to Gartzke and Naoi.” *International Organization* 65(3): 599-604.

December 4: Audience Costs

- **Required:** Tomz, Michael. 2007. "Domestic Audience Costs in International Relations: An Experimental Approach." *International Organization* 61(4): 821-840.
- **Required:** Chaudoin, Stephen. 2012. "Promises or Policies? An Experimental Analysis of International Agreements and Audience Reactions."

December 6: Review and Further Topics