

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION (PO433)-Spring 2006

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Office Hours: M 1-2:45; R 10:30-11:30, and by appointment

Course Overview

The twenty-first century is characterized by many complex challenges, such as HIV/AIDS, weapons proliferation, large-scale poverty, environmental degradation, and terrorism, which can only be addressed through cooperative efforts that transcend state borders and involve actors beyond national governments. This course examines the various ways members of the international community organize themselves to address such problems, a process increasingly referred to as “global governance.” According to Margaret Karns and Karen Mingst, global governance is the “collection of governance-related activities, rules, and mechanisms, formal and informal, existing at a variety of levels in the world today” (2004, p. 4). Global governance occurs through formal institutions (intergovernmental and non-governmental) created to facilitate cooperation as well as through more informal arrangements of norms, rules and decision-making structures organized around specific issue areas. The course begins by studying two formal intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU), focusing on their historical origins, structures and decision-making processes. Along the way, we will survey the major theoretical approaches in the field. We will then explore the art of negotiation and diplomacy, as these activities are central to the establishment and maintenance of governance arrangements. Finally, we will examine global governance processes around specific policy challenges to identify the strengths and weaknesses of different modes of governance and think about how global governance might develop in the future.

Course Requirements

This course, which combines lecture, discussions, group presentations, and individual research, relies heavily on student participation. Your final grade (+/- scale) will be based on the following requirements:

Attendance and participation in group activities	10%
Weekly Reading Quizzes	20%
Mid-term exam	15%
Cumulative final exam	15%
Research Project	40%
o Background worksheet (5%)	
o Group presentation (10%)	
o Topic proposal/preliminary bibliography (5%)	
o 12-15 page research paper (20%)	

Students are required to attend class regularly. In most cases, missing more than two meetings will negatively affect the attendance portion of your final grade.

The reading load for this course is 75-100 pages per week. All readings are required and should be completed before coming to class. Students will be required to complete weekly reading quizzes on WebCT before coming to class each Tuesday. Students may drop their two lowest scores.

Readings come primarily from the four books listed below which are available at the university bookstore. Additional readings (marked with an *) will be available through WebCT.

Michael Barnett. 2002. *Eyewitness to a Genocide: The United Nations and Rwanda*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Paul F. Diehl, ed. 2005. *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Interdependent World, 3rd edition*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Margaret P. Karnes and Karen A. Mingst. 2004. *International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

John McCormick. 2002. *Understanding the EU: A Concise Introduction, 2e.* New York: Palgrave.

Students should also subscribe to the UN Wire news service at < <http://www.unwire.org/>>.

Each student will conduct research and complete several assignments on one of the following international organizations:

- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- African Union (AU)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Grameen Bank
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- International Criminal Court (ICC)
- Amnesty International (AI)
- UN Environment Program (UNEP)

Policies

In order to facilitate open debate and exchange, it is essential that students recognize and respect the right of each individual to “engage in discussion, to exchange ideas and opinions, and to speak, write and publish freely, in accordance with the guarantees and limitations of our state and national constitutions” (University General Catalog, p. 37).

Extensions and make-ups will be given **ONLY IN THE EVENT OF AN UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY** (e.g. illness, death in the family, etc.) or with a university approved excuse. **Computer malfunction does not constitute a valid excuse.** Every effort should be made to make arrangements **PRIOR** to the due date (and may require written documentation).

Assignments are due at the **BEGINNING OF CLASS** (within first 5 minutes). In some instances, the instructor may not allow students to turn in assignments late. When permitted, late papers will be marked down one “notch” (e.g. B+ to a B) for each 24-hour period they are late (including weekends).

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Cheating (using unauthorized sources of information and providing or receiving unauthorized assistance on any form of academic work) and plagiarism (using another’s words or ideas without proper acknowledgment) are serious offenses and may result in a failing grade for a particular assignment, failing grade for the course and/or disciplinary action by the university. For clarification on what constitutes cheating and plagiarism, see the University’s General Catalog (pp. 35-36). All incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to [Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services](#) for possible further disciplinary action.

Students will not be permitted to hand in work that has been submitted for another class. When in doubt, please consult the instructor.

STUDENTS WHO DO NOT COMPLETE ALL COURSE REQUIREMENTS WILL FAIL THE COURSE.

Tentative Schedule and Outline: Any changes to this schedule will be posted on WebCT. It is the student’s responsibility to stay up-to-date with any changes.

Week of 1/17 Introduction	K&M ch. 1 Diehl chs. 1 (Pevehouse et al.) and 2 (Abbott and Snidal)
Week of 1/24 The United Nations	K&M chs. 3 and 4
Week of 1/31 The United Nations (con’t)	Diehl chs. 4 (Cox and Jacobson), 6 (O’Neill) and 7 (Mendez) Organization worksheet due (1/31)
Week of 2/7 Theories of International Organization	K&M ch. 2 Diehl ch. 3 (Mearsheimer)
Week of 2/14	Group Presentations (no readings)*
Week of 2/21 The European Union	McCormick chs. 1, 3 and 4
Week of 2/28	McCormick chs. 5-7

The European Union (con't)	
Week of 3/7	Mid-term exam 3/9 (no readings)
Week of 3/14 Spring Break	
Week of 3/21 Negotiation	*Starkey, Boyer and Wilkenfeld, 2005. <i>Negotiating in a Complex World</i> , chs. 2, 3 and 5.
Week of 3/28 Negotiation (con't)	*Anderson, "Understanding Policy Making in the European Union"
Week of 4/4 Negotiation (con't)	Research Proposals due (no readings)
Week of 4/11 Current challenges in global governance-poverty alleviation	K&M ch. 9 Diehl ch. 12 (Neumayer) Begin Barnett
Week of 4/18 Current challenges in global governance-genocide	Finish Barnett
Week of 4/25 Current challenges in global governance-environment	K&M ch. 11 Diehl ch. 16 (Najam)
Week of 5/2 The future of global governance	Research Papers due K&M ch. 12
5/8 (3:40-5:40)	Final Exam

*The date for group presentations may change depending on when the writing center can schedule workshops on selecting a research topic and working with sources.