

SYLLABUS: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Summer A Term 2009

Course Number: PSCI 4173
Room: Muenzinger E431
Time: M-F 9:15-10:50

Instructor: Curtis Bell
Office: Ketchum 5D
Office Hours: M-R 11-12

Course Description

Over the course of this term, we will study theories of international cooperation, discuss the common obstacles to cooperation, and evaluate strategies that states and non-state actors might use to overcome these obstacles. This will require us to consider our basic assumptions about the international system and state interests. It will also require us to scrutinize extant international organizations and treaties to better understand patterns of interstate cooperation. Through careful reading and the completion of a major research project, you will gain the ability to evaluate cooperative strategies available to states as they address a wide range of problems in international relations.

Course Prerequisites

The prerequisite to this course is PSCI 2223, Introduction to International Relations. If you have not passed this course prior to the beginning of this term, then you may not take this class. Exceptions may be made for special circumstances, such as completion of the prerequisite at another institution, but the instructor has the authority to drop any student lacking the university's prerequisite requirement.

Readings

There is one required book for this class:

- Rittberger, Volker and Bernhard Zangl (with Matthias Staisch). 2006. *International Organization: Polity, Politics, and Policies*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book is available to purchase from the campus bookstore and the usual online vendors. Either the hardcover or the paperback edition will suffice. All other readings for the course will be made available on CULearn. For more information, please see the course schedule appended at the end of this syllabus.

Assessment

The bulk of your grade will be determined by an extensive research project to be completed over the course of the term. For this research project, you will apply the theories of cooperation discussed in the course to the international organization/treaty of your choice. You

will research the origin, history, and scope of your organization/treaty, you will evaluate an important problem with your organization/treaty, and you will develop a feasible policy proposal for addressing this problem. We will discuss this project at length on the first day of the course.

Research Project: Paper One (10%)

On Wednesday 10 June, you will submit the first of the three papers that comprise your research project. Paper One (5 pages) is a backgrounder on the international institution your research project will explore. It should answer the following questions:

- How did the institution form? What states or non-state actors supported or opposed the formation of the institution?
- What is the scope of the institution? Has it changed over time? Do any other institutions perform similar functions?
- Why is the institution relevant to international relations today? Is it involved in any contemporary events or policy debates?

I strongly encourage you to discuss your institution with me before turning in this paper.

Research Project: Paper Two (20%)

Paper Two (10 pages) is due Friday 19 June. For this paper, you will make revisions to Paper One and add a 5-page discussion of a major problem facing your international organization/treaty. This problem could be related to the structure of the institution (membership, scope, democratic deficit, legitimacy, enforcement, neutrality, etc.) or you could discuss a case that illustrates a critical weakness (India and the NNPT, North Korea and the Security Council, Darfur and the African Union, etc.). Choose something that interests you. You will spend a considerable amount of this term exploring the problem you choose. In this paper, make sure to answer the following questions:

- How is this a problem for the institution? Why is this important?
- Are there any cases that illustrate why this is a problem for the institution?
- What kind of problem is this? Is it related to any of the kinds of problems discussed in the course give special attention to topics covered 10-19 June.
- Why hasn't this problem been resolved? If there have been previous attempts to resolve this problem, why did they fail?

Research Project: Paper Three (40%)

Paper Three (15 pages) is the final iteration of your research project for this course. On Monday 29 June you will turn in a paper that consists of revisions to the previous two sections and a policy proposal that addresses the problem discussed in your second paper. This proposal should be feasible and it should draw from solutions discussed in class or solutions drawn from the experiences of other international institutions. Be creative! Your proposal should answer the following questions:

- Specifically, how can the institution address this problem?
- What suggests this solution may work? You should draw on examples from other institutions and/or course readings.
- Is this solution feasible? What obstacles may impede the success of your proposed policy? What actors have the most to gain from your proposal? What actors have the most to lose?

Quizzes (20%)

In place of examinations, you will be held responsible for course material with frequent quizzes. These quizzes will not be cumulative - they will focus on the main ideas from the reading(s) assigned for that session. Some quizzes will be closed-note in-class quizzes. However, I may assign short open-note at-home quizzes for you to complete while you read some of the more difficult readings. If you are absent for a quiz, you will receive a 0% for that quiz unless you have a university-approved excuse for your absence. However, I will drop your worst quiz grade of the term. As you study, remember that I will not ask trick questions on the nuances of the readings. These quizzes are intended to help you focus on the major themes of the assigned material.

Participation (10%)

The final 10% of your grade will be determined by your participation in class discussions. I expect you to come to class ready to discuss the assigned reading. I strongly encourage you to keep a list of questions while you read so we can address these questions during class. As you work on your research project, you will become an expert on your organization/treaty. Please share your knowledge of your case if class discussion touches on some of the major issues you've discovered while researching your organization/treaty.

Course Policies

Course Conduct: Much of our class will consist of discussion and debate. Strong opinions are encouraged, but you are also expected to be professional and respectful at all times. Rude behavior will result in a loss of participation points. Especially inappropriate behavior may result in further grade deductions.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course. Any plagiarism will result in course failure and referral to the Honor Council. If you have any questions regarding what constitutes plagiarism, please visit my office hours BEFORE submitting your paper. Your first reference regarding what constitutes plagiarism should be the brief reading on plagiarism that is assigned for the second class session. I strongly encourage you to read the university's policies on plagiarism as well as your rights should you be accused of plagiarism. These documents are available online at <http://www.colorado.edu/honorcode/>

Special Considerations: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, faculty are required to make "reasonable and timely accommodations" for students with disabilities. By university policy, that obligation only extends to students who have registered with the Office of Disability Services, which makes the determination of whether, for example, students have real learning disorders. If you are a student with a disability, please notify the professor in writing within the first two weeks of semester what accommodations are needed. Please provide me documentation from Disability Services (303-492-8671, Willard 322, www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices). If you have religious obligations that may conflict with this course, please notify me in writing within the first two weeks of semester in order to seek a reasonable and fair arrangement. The campus policy regarding religious observance is available at www.colorado.edu/policies.fac_relig.html.

Course Outline

Mon 1 Jun - Welcome and Course Introduction

- No Required Readings

Tue 2 Jun - The Modern International System

- Indiana University. 2004. "Plagiarism: What it is and How to Avoid it."
- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter One
- Krasner, Stephen D. 1995-1996. "Compromising Westphalia." *International Security*, 20(3): 115-151.

Wed 3 Jun - Realism and Power Politics

- Mearsheimer, John J. 1994-1995. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security*, 19(3): 5-49.

Thu 4 Jun - Hegemonic Stability

- Ikenberry, John G. 2000. *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (Chapter One)

Fri 5 Jun - Neoliberal Institutionalism

- Oye, Kenneth A. 1985. "Explaining Cooperation Under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies." *World Politics*, 38(1): 1-24.

Mon 8 Jun - Constructivist and Social Theories

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

Tue 9 Jun - Non-State Actors and International Organization

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Five
- Keck, Margaret E. and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. (Chapter One)

Wed 10 Jun - The Structure of International Institutions

* * * **FIRST PAPER DUE** * * *

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Four
- Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal. 2001. "The Rational Design of International Institutions." *International Organization*, 55(4): 761-799.

Thu 11 Jun - Bargaining Politics

- Fearon, James D. 1998. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation." *International Organization*, 52: 269-305.

Fri 12 Jun - Enforcement and Compliance

- Tallberg, Jonas. 2002. "Paths to Compliance: Enforcement, Management, and the European Union." *International Organization*, 56(3): 609-643.

Mon 15 Jun - Democracy, Legitimacy, and Power

- Buchanan, Allen and Keohane, Robert O. 2006. "The Legitimacy of Global Governance Institutions." *Ethics and International Affairs*, 20(4): 405-437.

Tue 16 Jun - International Organization and State Sovereignty

- Barnett, Michael N. and Martha Finnemore. 1999. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations." *International Organization*, 53(4): 699-732.

Wed 17 Jun - Collective Action Problems

- Hardin, Garrett. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science*, 162: 1243-1248.

- Harris, Paul G. 2007. "Collective Action on Climate Change: The Logic of Regime Failure." *Natural Resources Journal*, 47: 195-224.

Thu 18 Jun - International Organization and Domestic Politics

- Goldstein, Judith. 1996. "International Law and Domestic Institutions: Reconciling North American "Unfair" Trade Laws." *International Organization*, 50(4): 541-564.

Fri 19 Jun - Security: Interstate War

* * * **SECOND PAPER DUE** * * *

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Eight
- Jervis, Robert. 1982. "Security Regimes." *International Organization*, 36(2): 357-378.

Mon 22 Jun - Security: Intrastate War

- Williams, Paul D. and Alex J. Bellamy. 2005. "The Responsibility to Protect and the Crisis in Darfur." *Security Dialogue*, 36(1): 27-47.

Tue 23 Jun - Political Economy: Trade and Integration

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Nine
- Rodrik, Dani. 1997. "Sense and Nonsense in the Globalization Debate." *Foreign Policy*, 107: 19-37.

Wed 24 Jun - Political Economy: Aid and Development

- Collier, Paul. 2007. *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can be Done About It*. New York: Oxford University Press. Chapter Seven: 99-123.

Thu 25 Jun - The Environment

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Ten
- Young, Oran R. 1989. "The Politics of International Regime Formation: Managing Natural Resources and the Environment." *International Organization*, 43(3): 349-375.

Fri 26 Jun - Human Rights

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Eleven
- Hafner-Burton, Emilie M. 2008. "Sticks and Stones: Naming and Shaming the Human Rights Enforcement Problem." *International Organization*, 62: 689-716.

Mon 29 Jun - Democratization

***** THIRD PAPER DUE *****

- Pevehouse, Jon C. 2002. "Democracy from the Outside-In? International Organizations and Democratization." *International Organization*, 56(2): 339-374.

Tue 30 Jun - Nuclear Proliferation

- Mitchell, R.B. 1997. "International Control of Nuclear Proliferation: Beyond Carrots and Sticks." *The Nonproliferation Review*, 5: 40-52.

Wed 1 Jul - Regionalism

- Mansfield, Edward D. and Milner, Helen V. 1999. "The New Wave of Regionalism." *International Organization*, 53: 589-627.

Thu 2 Jul - The Future of International Organization

- Rittberger and Zangl, Chapter Twelve
- Brooks, Stephen G. and William C. Wohlforth. 2009. "Reshaping the World: How Washington Should Reform International Institutions." *Foreign Affairs*: 88(2): 49-63.