

PSCI 205: International Organizations

Tuesdays at 11:45-01.10 & Thursday at 12:45-02.05 Holland Hall 433

Fall 2019

Instructor: Dr. Menevis Cilizoglu

E-mail: menevisc@stolaf.edu

Office Hours: Mondays at 2:00-3:30 & Thursday at 9:30-11:00 or by appointment

Office Location: Holland Hall 506

Course Description

Why do states create and join international organizations (IOs)? What role do they play in solving global problems? How can international organizations affect state behavior? The goal of this course is to help students develop a theoretical as well as practical understanding of international organizations and the global problems that they attempt to address. Particular emphasis will be placed on students' ability to think critically, both about the nature of problems that states face as well as development of global governance mechanisms. We will begin the course by addressing some overarching theoretical issues to have a core set of analytical tools we can apply to specific international organizations. We will cover general purpose organizations, like the United Nations, as well as those with more specialized functions, like NATO, the WTO, the IMF and the ICC. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to articulate the leading explanations within political science for why IOs exist, why they are thought to help solve global problems, the major challenges they face in meeting their objectives, and to assess the effectiveness of specific IOs.

Expectations

Academic Honesty

I expect you to be diligent about avoiding plagiarism or cheating in any form. I am committed to treating Honor System violations seriously and urge all students to become familiar with its terms set out at <https://wp.stolaf.edu/thebook/academic/integrity/>.

Communication

While I am always happy to communicate via e-mail for quick clarification questions, e-mails are not the best way to discuss substantive questions concerning course material. I encourage you to come to office hours or schedule meetings with me if you would like me to clarify concepts or discuss issues in depth.

Technology

The use of laptops/tablets/phones are not allowed during lectures. Besides being distracting, existing research proves that taking notes by hand improves learning outcomes. I will let you know when a specific group discussion/class activity requires you to use your

laptops. If you want to have the articles, reading notes, or any other materials in front of you during class, please print them beforehand.

Disability and Access Accommodations

I am committed to supporting the learning of all students in my class. Students seeking accommodations, please contact Disability and Access staff at 507-786-3288 or by visiting wp.stolaf.edu/asc/dac.

Preferred Gender Pronoun

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is on the class roster, please let me know. Feel free to correct me on your preferred gender pronoun. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Course Materials

There are no required books for the course. All readings are available on Moodle.

Additionally, you are also encouraged to read articles from international news sources such as The Economist, BBC, Al Jazeera, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, etc. These and similar publications are very useful in keeping up with international issues that may be relevant to topics discussed in class.

Course Requirements

Case Studies: (10% x 4=40%)

You will complete four (4) 1000-word case study assignments. The first case study will examine a dispute in the World Trade Organization's Dispute Settlement Body. The second case study will focus on the United Nations Security Council and a civil conflict. The third case study will examine environmental organizations and treaties. Lastly, the fourth case study will examine efforts to reform existing international organizations. Your case study responses will cover details from the specific cases as well as short-essay questions. Case study assignments are due the beginning of the class on the assigned day via Moodle submission.

Below are our case-study dates:

1. **October 3** - World Trade Organization Dispute Settlement Mechanism
2. **October 31** - UN Security Council Peacekeeping Missions
3. **November 14** - Environmental IOs
4. **November 26** - Reforming IOs

The Global Governance Project: (40%)

You will work in groups of 2 to design an international organization. The goal is to pick one global issue/problem and design an international organization to tackle it. You can consider non-traditional issues such as the financial governance of crypto currencies, ownership in space, or international cooperation on cybersecurity. You can also pick an international organization and propose ways to reform it to achieve better outcomes.

To help guide you as you work on this project, we will work in stages:

1. **Proposal:** a one page formal proposal is due on **October 10** at the beginning of the class. You are highly encouraged to discuss your ideas with me before submitting your proposal. [10%]
2. **Research Presentation:** You will each present your policy paper to the class at the end of the term, either on **December 3** and **December 5**. I will assign you to presentation days randomly. If you know that there are presentation days that you will have to miss, let me know as soon as possible. [10%]
3. **Final Paper:** The final paper is due on **December 16** at **4pm**. [20%]

Further instructions will be provided via Moodle.

Participation: (10%)

Perfect attendance does not mean a perfect participation grade - you must be actively engaged in class to score well in this area. Class time will be divided between lecture and in-class discussions or activities. Discussion is a central part of this class and each student is expected to do the readings prior to the class and come to each class ready to ask questions and discuss key points of the assigned readings. Participation points are assigned based upon the quantity and quality of a student's contributions to the class.

I understand that not everyone is willing or feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and opinions with a large group of people. However, I hope that in the first few weeks we can foster a community where everyone feels that their opinions are valid and valued.

Quizzes: (10%)

You are expected to do the readings in preparation for (i.e. before) the day it is assigned since we will discuss the readings on its assigned day. In order to ensure that everyone is doing the readings, I will give unannounced quizzes throughout the semester. The quizzes will ask you to identify the main points of the articles, make connections between the assigned articles, or simply pose questions about the readings.

Grading Scale

The following 10-point grading scale is used for this course:

93 and above: A	90-92: A-	87-89: B+	83-86: B
80-82: B-	77-79: C+	73-76: C	70-72: C-
67-69: D+	64-66: D	61-63: D-	60 and below: F

Course Schedule

All readings are available electronically on the Moodle course page.

- September 5 (Thurs): Course Introduction
 - Review Syllabus
 - Amelia Hoover Green - “How to Read Political Science”
 - McMahon handout on “critical reading”
- September 10 (Tues): An Increasing Need for Global Governance
 - Karns, Margaret and Karen A. Mingst. “Chapter 1: The Challenges of Global Governance”

Unit I: Conceptual and Theoretical Foundations

- September 12 (Thurs): Alternative Perspectives on IOs
 - Kotkin - “Realist World: The Players Change, but the Game Remains”
 - Deudney and Ikenberry - “Liberal World: The Resilient Order”
- September 17 (Tues): Why Do Countries Act Through IOs?
 - Mitchell - “Cooperation in World Politics: The Constraining and Constitutive Effects of International Organizations”, pp.1-10
- September 19 (Thurs): Designing IOs
 - Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson and Duncan Snidal - “The Rational Design of International Institutions”
- September 24 (Tues): International Organizations as Information Providers
 - Cosette Creamer and Beth Simmons - “Do Self-Reporting Regimes Matter? Evidence from the Convention against Torture”
 - International Atomic Energy Agency - “Safeguards Overview”

- September 26 (Thurs): Compliance
 - Jana Von Stein - “Do Treaties Constraint or Screen? Selection Bias and Treaty Compliance.” *Skim the Introduction and Conclusion*
 - Hafner-Burton and Tsutsui - “Justice Lost! The Failure of International Human Rights Law to Matter Where Needed Most” *pp.407-415*

Unit II: Governing International Trade and Finance

- October 1 (Tues): World Trade Organization - Day 1
 - World Trade Organization - “Understanding the WTO: Basics”
 - Financial Times - “The Doha Round Finally Dies a Merciful Death”
 - New York Times Editorial Board - “Global Trade After the Failure of the Doha Round”
- October 3 (Thurs): World Trade Organization - Day 2
Case Study Assignment 1 is Due - Readings TBD
- October 8 (Tues): Aid Agencies
 - Explore UN’s Sustainable Development Goals
 - Read the World Bank’s Who We Are and What We Do pages
 - Malik and Stone - “Corporate Influence in World Bank Lending” *pp.103-107, read until the data section*
 - Easterly - “The Cartel of Good Intentions”
- October 10 (Thurs): Global Governance Project Pitch Day
 - Global Governance Project Proposal is due the beginning of the class via Moodle.
- October 15 (Tues): No Class: Fall Break
- October 17 (Thurs): Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank & Asian Development Bank
 - Patrick - “AIIB: Is the Chinese-led Development Bank a Role Model”
 - Subacchi, Paola. “The AIIB Is a Threat to Global Economic Governance.”
 - Lipsy, Phillip. “Who’s Afraid of the AIIB: Why the United States Should Support China’s Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.”
- October 22 (Tues): International Monetary Fund
 - Masters - “International Monetary Fund” CFR-Backgrounder

- Stone - “The Political Economy of IMF Lending in Africa”
- Masters and Chatzky - “The IMF: The World’s Controversial Financial Fire-fighter” - CFR-Backgrounder
- Oatley - American Interests and IMF Lending *pp.415-419*

- October 24 (Thurs): No Class: Group Meetings

Unit III: Governing Global Security & Human Rights

- October 29 (Tues): United Nations & UN Security Council

- Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder - “The UN Security Council”
- Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder - “The UN General Assembly Council”
- Hurd - “Legitimacy, Power, and the Symbolic Life of the UN Security Council”

- October 31 (Thurs): UN Security Council Peacekeeping

- Fortna - “Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War”

Case Study Assignment 2 is Due - Readings TBD

- November 5 (Tues): The Global Human Rights Regime

- Readings TBD

- November 7 (Thurs): Poster Sessions 101

- We will have a training workshop for Global Governance Project Poster Session.

- November 12 (Tues): International Criminal Court

- ICC - “Understanding the International Criminal Court”
- Campbell - “Misaligned Incentives Handcuff the ICC”
- Hatcher-Moore - “Is the World’s Highest Court Fit for Purpose?”

Unit IV: Governing Global Challenges & Moving Forward

- November 14 (Thurs): Environment

Case Study Assignment 3 is Due - Readings TBD

- November 19 (Tues): Global Health

- November 21 (Thurs): **Refugee Governance**
- November 26 (Tues): **Reforming IOs**
Case Study Assignment 4 is Due - Readings TBD
- November 28 (Thurs): **No Class: Happy Thanksgiving!**
- December 3 (Tues): **Global Governance Project Day 1**
- December 5 (Thurs): **Global Governance Project Day 2**
- December 10 (Tues): **Wrapping Up**
– Readings TBD
- December 16, Monday (4pm): **Global Governance Project Papers Due**