

PSCI 205: International Organizations Interim 2022

Instructor: Menevis Cilizoglu

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Class Meetings:

When: M-F 10:40-12:40

Where: [Zoom](#)

Office Hours:

When: Mondays & Thursdays at 9:00-10:30

Where: [Zoom](#)

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.

Learning Environment

For your online learning contract, please read this [document](#) carefully.

All classes will be based on discussion in various forms. To participate fully in these discussions, you must keep up with all the readings and attend class regularly. We all have a great deal to learn from the texts, but also from each other. I ask all of you to help the class be one in which others feel free to contribute their ideas. I am aware that participating in a virtual class is much different than participating in an in-person class. I understand that not everyone is willing or feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and opinions with others, especially virtually. However, I hope that in the first few weeks we can foster a community where

everyone feels that their opinions are valid and valued. It is of utmost importance that every student feels comfortable speaking in class and that we are always respectful of one another. Students with concerns, challenges, or special circumstances of any sort are encouraged to let me know as soon as possible.

Expectations

Care: Approach all of your coursework with care, especially your class participation, written assignments, oral presentations and your interaction with alumni participants of this class. All work should be turned in on time (or you should contact me before the due-date to discuss very rare instances in which you cannot meet a deadline). Late work will receive the deduction of 5 points per day late.

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](#).

Communication: Read this syllabus, all course materials, occasional email, and the expectations/assignment instructions I'll share along the way. You can ask me questions via email and during office hours.

Disability and Access Accommodation: I am committed to supporting the learning of all students in my class. Students seeking accommodations, please contact [DAC](#) staff.

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 Requirements

Below you can find the summary of course requirements. See Moodle for further instructions.

1) Global Governance Project: 60%

You will work in groups of 3 to design an international organization. You will 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.

a. Proposal [10%] : a one page formal proposal is due on **January 7** at the beginning of the class. You are highly encouraged to discuss your ideas with me before submitting your

proposal. On January 7, you will meet with your group members during class to discuss next steps, divide up the work moving forward, and draft and submit an accountability plan.

b. Presentation & Handout [40%]: You will present your IOs to the class either on **January 26 or 27** and distribute a handout to summarize the design features of your IO.

c. Peer Review [10%]: You will be assigned to an IO other than yours as a peer reviewer and you will write a short paper assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed IO and discuss ways to improve its efficacy. Peer reviews are due on **January 28**.

2) IO Presentations / Discussion Leading: 25%

You will be assigned to a group of 3 with an assigned IO. On your assigned day, you are expected to present your IO to the class (using Powerpoint), prepare discussion questions about your IO, and be prepared to lead the class discussion based on the readings assigned on that day, as well as your own research. Further instructions are posted on Moodle.

3) Participation: 15%

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 virtual 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.

Evaluation Policies

I follow the College's official grading benchmark. You can access them in the Academic catalog section on "grades."

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| 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 |

Policy on Make-ups and Late Submissions: You are expected to submit your work on time. The only allowable exception to this policy is a documented emergency. If you have other unexpected emergency situations that force you to submit your work late, please contact me as soon as possible. For paper submissions, I will deduct 5 points for every late 24 hours.

Course Schedule and Readings

This course has no textbooks. All readings/external links are below.

January 3, Monday: Introduction

- Read the Syllabus.
- Read the [online learning contract](#).
- Complete the [survey](#).
- Add your slide to Google Slides.
- In-class group meetings

January 4, Tuesday: An Increasing Need for Global Governance

- Karns & Mingst. "[Chapter 1: The Challenges of Global Governance](#)"
- Mitchell. "[Cooperation in World Politics: The Constraining and Constitutive Effects of International Organizations](#)", pp: 1-10

January 5, Wednesday: Why Do Countries Act Through IOs?

- Thompson - "[Coercion through IOs](#)"
- Jana Von Stein - "[Do Treaties Constrain or Screen? Selection Bias and Treaty Compliance](#)" (skip "A Statistical Model of Treaty Commitment and Compliance" section)

January 6, Thursday: Designing IOs

- Koremenos et al. "[The Rational Design of International Institutions](#)"

January 7, Friday: Global Governance Project Updates & Meetings

*** Global Governance Project Proposals are due at the beginning of the class.

January 10, Monday: Enforcement & Compliance

- Simmons - "[Treaty Compliance and Violation](#)"
- Hafner-Burton and Tsutsui - "[Justice Lost! The Failure of International Human Rights Law to Matter Where Needed the Most](#)"

January 11, Tuesday: United Nations General Assembly & Security Council

Presenters: Maureen, AJ, LJ

- Read the Preamble and Chapters I-VII and Chapter XIV of the [UN Charter](#)
- Patrick - [What's Wrong With the United Nations?](#)
- Nossel - "[The World Still Needs the United Nations](#)"
- Shendruck & Rosenthal - "[Funding the United Nations](#)"

January 12, Wednesday: UN Department of Peace Operations

Presenters: Andres, Mbuyisile, Kieran

- UN Peacekeeping - "[What We Do?](#)"
- Hultman, Kathman and Shannon - "[United Nations Peacekeeping and Civilian Protection in Civil War](#)" [pp:875-881 (until "Research Design")]
- Autesserre - "[The Crisis of Peacekeeping: Why the UN Can't End Wars](#)"

January 13, Thursday: UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Presenters: Sam, Natalie, Maegan

- [Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2020](#)
- Crisp - [An Uncertain Future for the International Refugee Regime](#).
- Betts et. al. *The UNHCR: The Politics and Practice of Refugee Protection*. [Chapter 6: New Challenges](#).

January 14, Friday: World Trade Organization

Presenters: Maria, Morgan, Alia

*** Global Governance Project - Check-in

- [WTO in Brief](#)
- CFR - "[How are Trade Disputes Resolved?](#)"
- NYT - "[Global Trade after the Failure of the Doha Round](#)"
- Chatham House - "[Dispute Settlement in Crises](#)"

January 17, Monday: World Bank

Presenters: Siri, Maya, Luanga

- [Getting to Know the World Bank](#)
- Parks et. al. "[What Makes the World Bank So Influential?](#)"
- Knack et.al "[How Does the World Bank Influence the Development Policy Priorities of Low-Income and Lower-Middle Income Countries?](#)" [This is the article referenced in the Parks et. al. commentary. Just skim the Intro and Theory & Hypothesis sections]
- Malik and Stone - "[Corporate Influence in World Bank Lending](#)" (read until the data section)

January 18, Tuesday: African Union

Presenters: Mia, Parker, Elliot

- [AU in a Nutshell](#)
- [African Union - Peace and Security Council](#)
- [The African Continental Free Trade Agreement](#)

- [Agenda 2063](#)
- Byiers and Miyandazi - “[Balancing Power and Consensus: Opportunities and Challenges for Increased African Integration](#)” (skim)

January 19, Wednesday: International Criminal Court

Presenters: Louise, Alex, Ian

- Felter - “[ICC Background](#)”
- Jo and Simmons - “[Can the International Criminal Court Deter Atrocity](#)” (skip the data/results section)
- Simmons and Danner - “[Credible Commitments and the International Criminal Court](#)” (skip the data/results section)
- Campbell - “[Misaligned Incentives Handcuff the ICC](#)”

January 20, Thursday: World Health Organization

Presenters: Forrest, Sandra, Meleah

- CFR Backgrounder - “[What Does the World Health Organization Do?](#)”
- Pew Research Center - “[How People around the World see the WHO’s Initial Coronavirus Response](#)”

January 21, Friday: Asian Infrastructure Bank & Asian Development Bank

Presenters: Grace, Maddie, Ansel

- Gutner - “[AIIB: Is the Chinese-led Development Bank a Role Model?](#)”
- Subacchi- “[The AIIB is a Threat to Global Economic Governance](#)”
- Lipsy - “[Who’s Afraid of the AIIB: Why the United States Should Support China’s Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank](#)”

January 24, Monday: Alumni Career Panel

Panelists: [Alexis Legigand](#), [Ezqisu Biber](#), [Talip Kilic](#)

January 25, Tuesday: Alumni Career Panel

Panelists: [John Breckenridge](#), [Ross Bidlingmaier](#)

January 26, Wednesday: Global Governance Project Day 1

January 27, Thursday: Global Governance Project Day 2

January 28, Friday: Peer Reviews are due.

