

POLS 286: UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Fall 2015

Monday/Wednesday/Friday 11:00 – 11:50 am
Behavioral Sciences Building (BSB), Room 365

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Katharine M. Floros
BSB 1170B
phone: 312-996-8778
email: kmfloros@uic.edu
office hours: Monday/Wednesday, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

COURSE CONTENT:

In this course students will learn about international governmental organizations (IGO/IO) and regional organizations, including the history of major organizations, what role they play in facilitating international cooperation on a variety of issue areas, the tension between sovereignty and international cooperation, and the future of international cooperation in an increasingly globalized world.

EVALUATION (3 cr):

10% Map Quizzes

- All students studying international relations should be able to identify the countries of the world on a map. Therefore, students will take map quizzes throughout the semester **AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**. Students who are late to class will not be permitted to make up the quiz. Make-up quizzes are reserved for those students who speak to the professor **IN ADVANCE** of an absence and receive permission for a make-up. Permission will only be given for absences caused by travel or due to the activities of a university-*required* event. See professor for additional details.

40% IO Paper

- Students will select an international organization active **AFTER** World War II that was not covered specifically in class (see listed IOs on syllabus, plus the UN, though UN Funds and Programmes/Related Organizations/Specialized Agencies will be permitted). Students will have to describe the IO in one assignment and then analyze an action or treaty that came out of the organization in the second paper.

10% IO Description (Oct. 12)

- Students may present the following information in the form of clearly marked bullet points
 - Full name of IO and any acronym or nickname commonly used
 - Date and purpose of founding (When and why was IO created?)
 - List of members, including a differentiation between founding members and joiners. Date of admission to IO should be included.

- Also list any observer members and/or members who have been suspended or removed, including relevant dates.
 - Requirements for members to join/decisions needed by current membership for new member to join
 - How is the IO funded?
 - Organizational structure (administrative bodies within IO, etc.)
 - Decision-making process (voting rules, etc.)
 - Major action/treaty/agreement/etc. to be discussed in final paper
- Information should be sourced and a bibliography should accompany the description

30% Final Paper (Dec. 7 by 12:00 PM)

- Paper **MUST** be written in essay form, including an introduction (with thesis statement), body, and conclusion. Suggested length: **5-10 pages**
- Relevant information presented in the **IO Description** assignment should be incorporated in to this essay, most likely in the introduction.
- Students must select a major action/treaty/agreement/etc. undertaken by the IO for analysis
 - Describe the context of the action, including background, events leading up to the action, etc.
 - Explain where/when the action took place
 - Explain the process by which the decision was made, including any debate, dissensions, revisions to the plan, etc.
 - Clearly state what action was ultimately taken by the IO
 - What were the *obligations* of members?
 - Describe the consequences of the action/what happened
 - Detail reactions/effects inside the IO
 - How was *compliance* assessed?
 - What were the mechanisms of *enforcement* used by the IO?
 - Detail reactions/effects outside the IO
 - Detail any effect on the development and/or membership of the IO
- Conclude with a restatement of the thesis statement and reiterate the main points of the essay
- Sources should be cited in the paper and a bibliography included.

50% Take Home Exams – NOT comprehensive

25% Midterm (due at beginning of class on Oct. 19)

25% Final (due by Thursday, Dec. 10 at 12:30 PM)

GRADES

90-100: A 80-89: B 70-79: C 60-69: D <60: F

GUIDELINES:

1. Late papers: Late papers will be penalized 1 letter grade (10 pts.) per day including weekends and holidays, except in the case of a verified emergency or documented medical excuse. In order for the penalty for tardiness to be waived, you must contact the instructor **before** the due date. No exceptions! I WILL NOT accept papers via e-mail.

2. Academic Integrity: The University expects students to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. Any of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own and according to university and class rules. Any attempt to gain an advantage not given to all students is considered dishonest whether or not it is successful. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense subject to strong disciplinary actions, including but are not limited to failing this course. For additional information, see the Student Code of Conduct at: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/dos/docs/Student%20Disciplinary%20Policy%202011-12%20Final-1.pdf>

- There is **NO** instance or circumstance in which cutting and pasting from any material into an assignment is acceptable.
- Citations
 - When student is providing a direct quote from a resource, the author, date, and *page number* of the quote should be included in the citation. The direct quote should also be enclosed in parentheses.
 - Paraphrasing involves taking an author's words and putting them into our own words. Using a thesaurus to change a few words is **NOT** paraphrasing but may constitute plagiarism.
 - Class lecture is **NEVER** to be cited. Go back to the readings on which the lecture is based for the citation.

3. Special provisions: Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Please contact ODS at 312-413-2183 (voice) or 312-413-0123 (TTY).

4. Grade disputes: Students must wait 24 hours after receiving a grade or graded work before approaching the professor about the grade. If a student cannot understand the comments on a paper or exam, s/he may approach the instructor for clarification; however, if the student desires to challenge the grade, all challenges must be made *in writing* (typed) to the professor more than 24 hours after the grade was received. Students must be able to explain *in writing* why the grade deserves to be adjusted. Students should submit the written grade dispute along with the original graded work to the professor. The professor reserves the right to either raise or lower the grade, based on her re-assessment of the material.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Hurd, Ian. 2014. *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice*, 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- All other readings available on Blackboard

OTHER STUDENTS IN THE CLASS:

If you have any questions about assignments, deadlines, or other matters in the class, you may wish to contact other students before contacting the instructor or teaching assistant. Use the following space to collect information from other students in the class.

(name)	(phone #)	(e-mail)
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(name)	(phone #)	(e-mail)
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READING SCHEDULE:

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments
1	Aug. 24	Introduction		
	Aug. 26	Pre-Cold War IOs	UNaaG, Ch. 1, pp. 1-11 Mingst & Karns, pp. 19-22 Reinalda, Ch. 15	
	Aug. 28	Obligations, Compliance, Enforcement	Hurd, Ch. 1	
2	Aug. 31	IR Theories & IOs	Hurd, Ch. 2, pp. 15-28	
	Sept. 2			
	Sept. 4	What are IOs?	Hurd, Ch. 2, pp. 28-37	
3	Sept. 7	Labor Day – No Class		
	Sept. 9	United Nations: Organization	Hurd, Ch. 5 UNaaG, Ch. 1, pp. 11-20 UNaaG, Ch. 2	
	Sept. 11			
4	Sept. 14	United Nations: Peace and Security	Hurd, Ch. 6 Fasulo, Ch. 9 Weiss, et al., pp. 25-38	
	Sept. 16			
	Sept. 18			MENA Map Quiz
5	Sept. 21	Regional Security Alliances: NATO	Weiss, et al., pp. 38-45 Stiles, Ch. 4	
	Sept. 23			
	Sept. 25			
6	Sept. 28	United Nations: Development/Millennium Development Goals	Fasulo, Ch. 14 Mingst & Karns, Ch. 5	
	Sept. 30			
	Oct. 2			Asia Map Quiz
7	Oct. 5	Human Rights	Fasulo, Ch. 11 Mingst & Karns, Ch. 6	
	Oct. 7			

	Oct. 9		Mertus, Ch. 2	
8	Oct. 12	Humanitarian Crises	Fasulo, Ch. 13 Weiss, et al., Ch 4 Mathiason, Ch. 8	IO Description Due
	Oct. 14			
	Oct. 16			Africa Map Quiz
9	Oct. 19	International Courts: ICJ & ICC	Hurd, Chs. 8-9	Mid-term due at beginning of class
	Oct. 21			
	Oct. 23			
10	Oct. 26	Regional Organizations: European and African Unions	Hurd, Ch. 10 Okumu (2009)	
	Oct. 28			
	Oct. 30			Central Asia Map Quiz
11	Nov. 2	World Trade Organization	Hurd, Ch. 3 Snow, Ch. 9	
	Nov. 4			
	Nov. 6			
12	Nov. 9	IMF/World Bank	Hurd, Ch. 4	
	Nov. 11			
	Nov. 13			Europe Map Quiz
13	Nov. 16	Other Economic IOs: ILO, OPEC, G-20	Hurd, Ch. 7 Braveboy-Wagner, Ch. 3 Snow, Ch. 12	
	Nov. 18			
	Nov. 20			
14	Nov. 23	Global Environment/ Human Security	Fasulo, Ch. 16 Mingst & Karns, Ch. 7	
	Nov. 25			Latin America Map Quiz
	Nov. 27			Thanksgiving Holiday – No class
15	Nov. 30	UN Reform	Fasulo, Ch. 18 Mingst & Karns, pp. 49-60	
	Dec. 2	IOs in the News: Iran		
	Dec. 4	IOs in the News: Arctic		
	Monday, Dec. 7 12:00 PM			IO Paper Due
	Thursday, Dec. 10 12:30 PM			Final Exam due