

POLS 286
International Organizations in the Contemporary World

Spring 2012
BSB Room 369
Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 - 3:15pm

Professor Yoram Z. Haftel

Office: 1108 C BSB

Office Phone: (312) 996 8778

Email: yhaftel@uic.edu

Office Hours: T TH 1:00-2:00 **and by appointment**

Personal Webpage: <http://tigger.uic.edu/~yhaftel>

Course Description

This course introduces students to the politics of international organizations. In this course, students will become familiar with several theoretical lenses through which we can understand the evolution of international organizations as well as their roles, processes, and functions in the contemporary world. We will examine a number of important organizations in greater depth. These will include global and regional organizations in the areas of international security, trade and finance, development, the environment, and human rights. We will analyze how these bodies are meeting the challenges posed by globalization and changing global power alignments and ponder their contribution to international order.

Required Readings

Pease, Kelly-Kate S. 2012. *International Organizations*. 5th Edition, New York: Pearson Longman.

- The book is available at the UIC Bookstore as a “custom” book for a lower price as well as in an Ebook format through Course Smart: www.coursesmart.com for an even lower price.

Diehl, Paul F., and Brian Frederking. 2010. *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Interdependent World*. 4th Edition. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

- Additional readings may be posted on Blackboard.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to do the assigned readings by the date listed and participate in class discussions. Class participation will be evaluated according to the quality and frequency with which students engage in class discussion. If you miss class, you are responsible for getting the information covered in class from another student, not the instructor.

Exams: there will be two exams given during the semester: a mid-term and a final. These exams will test your knowledge of course readings, class lectures, and class discussions. There will be absolutely **NO** make-up exams given without **documented** instances of emergencies.

Presentation: each week (starting January 26) 2-3 students will present a five-minute summary and analysis of one piece from the week's assigned chapter from *Global Governance*. Students should *briefly* capture the basic argument made by the author(s) and point to issues raised by the reading. Class discussion will follow the presentations. The presenters will submit a two-page (typed, double-spaced) summary of the presentation by the end of class. The grade on this assignment will reflect the quality of the presentation and the written summary.

The schedule of the presentation assignments will be determined in the second week of classes. Students may not alter presentation dates without my approval. Failure to present at one's appointed time will result in a grade of zero except in cases of satisfactory documentation.

Research Paper: each student will write a research paper that analyzes a current international organization. Specifically, you should select an international organization as well as a country or group of countries that are members of this organization. Then, write a proposal on how to reform the organization from the perspective of the country or group of countries you have chosen. The paper should be about 5-7 pages-long (typed, double-spaced) and is due on Tuesday, April 24 at noon. A one-page paper proposal is due on Thursday, March 15 at noon. More information and guidelines on both the paper and the proposal will be provided separately.

Course Evaluation

Mid-Term (February 28)	25%
Class Presentation	10%
Final Exam (May 2)	25%
Research proposal (March 15)	5%
Paper (April 24)	25%
Class Participation	10%
-----	----
Total	100%

The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100); B (80-90); C (70-80); D (60-70); F (<60)

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, included 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>

Special Accommodations

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).

COURSE OUTLINE*

January 10, 12	Introduction: The Landscape of IOs Read: Pease, Chapter 1 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 2
January 17, 19	IR Theory and IOs I Read: Pease, Chapter 3
January 24, 26	IR Theory and IOs II Read: Diehl and Frederking Chapter 3
January 31; February 2	The United Nations: Nuts and Bolts I Read: Pease, Chapter 2, pp. 15-25 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 4
February 7, 9	The United Nations: Nuts and Bolts Read: Diehl and Frederking Chapter 5
February 14, 16	IOs and International Security Read: Pease, Chapter 5 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 9
February 21, 23	Peacekeeping Read: Diehl and Frederking Chapter 7

February 28	*Midterm Exam*
March 1	TBA; No Readings
March 6, 8	IOs and International Trade: the WTO I Read: Pease, Chapter 6 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 11
March 13, 15	IOs and International Trade: the WTO II Read: Diehl and Frederking Chapter 10
* Research proposal is due March 15*	
March 27, 29	IOs and Economic Development Read: Pease, Chapter 7 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 14
April 3, 5	IOs and the Environment Read: Pease, Chapter 8 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 15
April 10, 12	IOs and Human Rights I Read: Pease, Chapter 9 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 13
April 17, 19	IOs and Human Rights II Read: Diehl and Frederking Chapter 16
April 24, 26	IOs and the Future Read: Pease, Chapter 10 Diehl and Frederking Chapter 19
* Paper is due April 24*	
Final Exam	May 2 (Wednesday), 3:30-5:30pm

*** Note that the course outline may be altered. Any Changes will be announced in class.**