

# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH

## Department of Political Science

84-393 – International Organization – Fall 2009

*MWF, 1:50-2:50pm – Clow 111*

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**Office Hours:**      Tuesday, 9:00am-12:00pm or by appointment  
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### Course Overview

How do international organizations facilitate state cooperation? What are the hallmarks of organizational effectiveness? Do states *need* international organizations to work out complex problems? These are among the questions we will tackle in this course as we explore theories of international organization and then look at several organizations and global challenges in detail.

### Course Prerequisites

Although I am willing to sign interested students from any discipline into this course, students who have completed Political Science 115 (Introduction to International Relations) may find that it provides a useful foundation for concepts and issues addressed in this course. *It is my strong preference that political science majors complete their introductory courses before enrolling in upper-division courses I teach.*

### Textbooks

The following textbook is available for purchase at the university bookstore:

**Pease, Kelly-Kate. 2010. *International Organization: Perspectives on Global Governance*. New York: Pearson.**

The textbook will serve as a basic course outline. The bulk of our readings for the course will be available to you via Polk Library's online databases, D2L or e-reserve.

### A Note on Course Format and Reading

This is an upper-division course in political science, and as such it will be taught in a seminar style as much as is practical. This means that lecturing will be minimal and that student input is required for the course to be successful (and fun). As such, I expect that students will attend class each week prepared to discuss the readings – this means that completing the readings ahead of time is essential.

### Academic Dishonesty

I will not tolerate plagiarism of any kind. All students should familiarize themselves with the University's policies on academic dishonesty and know the consequences of plagiarism or cheating. In this course, plagiarism on any assignment will result in a grade of F for the course.

### A Note to Political Science Majors

If you are currently a political science major or if you think you will be one of our majors in the future, it is important that you save your graded coursework from this class. Our Department Associate, Angelee Hammond, has a file for each major in Clow Faculty 427; you should deposit copies of your work with her. Seniors in our department are required to take Political Science 401, a seminar in which students' progress

through the major is surveyed and a portfolio of their work is created. If you have questions, please see me after class.

### Course Requirements and Grading

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh has recently converted to a +/- grading scale with the following cutpoints:

A	94-100	C	74-76
A-	90-93	C-	70-73
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	84-86	D	65-66
B-	80-83	F	0-64
C+	77-79		

Your grade will be determined as follows:

- ✓ **Participation (15%):** In an upper-division course, there's nothing worse than a roomful of students who won't say a word. You can participate by making quality contributions in class, injecting yourself into class discussions, asking questions, and stopping by office hours. If you show up for class every session but never say a word, you can expect, at maximum, a C for this portion of your grade.
- ✓ **Research Presentation and Discussion (20%):** We will read a lot of published research on international organizations this semester, and each student will be responsible for presenting a research article to the class and leading a discussion of it. Each presentation will last approximately 20 minutes; students presenting on the same day are encouraged to work together to develop a coherent presentation for the class. These presentations will usually take place on Fridays. Presenters will hand in a summary of the article they present as well as a list of discussion questions and any other presentation materials (e.g., PowerPoint slides, handouts) they create.
- ✓ **Midterm Examination (20%):** I will distribute three possible essay questions in class one week before the scheduled midterm. One of those questions will appear on the midterm examination. Because you will have the question in advance, I will expect a well-organized and well-written answer.
- ✓ **Research Design (25%):** This assignment is like writing a research paper without finishing it. You will come up with a research question, write a complete literature review, and then write a detailed plan of how you would conduct the research. The research design should be 10-12 pages in length; complete details will be provided in class. LATE PAPERS will be docked ½ grade (e.g., an A paper goes down to an AB) for each day late, including weekends.
- ✓ **Final Examination (20%):** This exam is comprehensive, and will consist of short identification and essay questions. I will provide a study guide that includes several essay questions; two of these questions will appear on the final exam.

### Changes

I reserve the right to change any part of this syllabus at any time in order to accommodate the needs, interests, and pace of this particular group.

## Schedule of Topics and Readings

- September 9      **Introduction to Course and Assignments**  
**Think:** about the Prisoner's Dilemma. What is it? Is there a way out?
- September 11      **A World Government?**  
**Think:** What is world government? What is "global governance?" Can today's global problems be managed by international organizations, or are solutions still ultimately in the hands of states?  
**Read:** Weiss, Thomas. 2009. "What Happened to the Idea of World Government?" *International Studies Quarterly* 53: 253-271. [D2L]
- September 14      **IR Theory and International Organization: An Overview**  
Pease, Chapter 1
- September 16      **IR Theory and International Organization: The Big Two**  
Pease, Chapter 3
- September 18      **IR Theory and International Organization**  
**Think:** Do international organizations help, or are they just another way for states to express their rational self-interest?  
**Read:** Mearsheimer, John. 1993. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security* 19: 5-49.
- September 21      **IR Theory and International Organization: The "Others"**  
Pease, Chapter 4
- September 23      **IR Theory and International Organization**  
**Think:** Can constructivism and feminism play nicely together?  
**Read:** Locher, Birgit and Elisabeth Prügl. 2001. "Feminism and Constructivism: Worlds Apart or Sharing the Middle Ground?" *International Studies Quarterly* 45: 111-129.
- September 25      **Why Comply with International Rules?**  
**Think:** If states are sovereign and anarchy is the name of the game, why would states ever agree to comply with international rules?  
**Read:** Simmons, Beth. 1998. "Compliance with International Agreements." *Annual Review of Political Science* 1: 75-93.  
**Read:** Chayes, Abram and Antonia Handler Chayes. 1993. "On Compliance." *International Organization* 47: 175-205.
- September 28      **A Whirlwind Tour of International Organizations**  
Pease, Chapter 2
- September 30      **The United Nations**  
Pease, Chapter 5 (pp. 105-133 only)  
👑 **Research Design Questions DUE!**  
**Attendance is mandatory today**  
Determine writing partners for revision process

- October 2                   **The United Nations: Peacekeeping**  
**Think:** Should the way the UN undertakes peacekeeping operations change? If so, how? Does peacekeeping work in today's world? Under what circumstances?  
**Read:** Fortna, Virginia Page. 2004. "Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War." *International Studies Quarterly* 48: 269-292.  
**Read:** Greig, J. Michael and Paul F. Diehl. 2005. "The Peacekeeping-Peacemaking Dilemma." *International Studies Quarterly* 49: 621-645.
- October 5                   **The United Nations: Rwanda**  
**Think:** Will the UN ever recover from its worst failure? Or was Rwanda such a unique case that it was beyond the reach of any international organization?  
**Read:** Vaccaro, J. Matthew. 1996. "The Politics of Genocide: Peacekeeping and Disaster Relief in Rwanda." Chapter 9 in William J. Durch, ed., *UN Peacekeeping, American Policy, and the Uncivil Wars of the 1990s*. New York: St. Martin's Press. (E-reserve)  
**Read:** Fein, Helen. 2009. "The Three P's of Genocide Prevention, with Application to a Genocide Foretold – Rwanda." Chapter 8.2 in Totten and Bartrop, eds., *The Genocide Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge.
- October 7                   **The United Nations: To Intervene or Not to Intervene?**  
**Think:** What are the pros and cons of international intervention? Who should do the intervening, and when? Is the doctrine of "R2P" realistic? Is it fair?  
**Read:** Thomas, et.al. 2007. "The Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Chapter 4 in Weiss, et al., *The United Nations and Changing World Politics*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Boulder, CO: Westview Press. (E-reserve)  
**Read:** International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty. 2001. *The Responsibility to Protect*. Available at <http://www.iciss.ca> . Download the PDF and read Chapter 2 (pgs. 11-18) and Chapter 6 (pgs. 47-56).
- October 9                   **The United Nations: The Future?**  
**Think:** What types of reforms must the UN make in order to meet the challenges of today's world? What are impediments to reform?  
**Read:** Weiss, Thomas. 2007. "Learning from Change." Conclusion in *The United Nations and Changing World Politics*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.
- October 12                   **Regional (Collective) Security Arrangements**  
Pease, Chapter 5 (pp. 133-152)
- October 14                   **Regional (Collective) Security Arrangements**  
**Think:** Has NATO overstayed its welcome? Is there still a need for regional security arrangements like NATO, or are they old-fashioned?  
**Read:** Daalder, Ivo and James Goldgeier. 2006. "Global NATO." *Foreign Affairs* 85: 105-113.  
**Read:** Suhrke, Astri. 2008. "A Contradictory Mission? NATO From Stabilization to Combat in Afghanistan." *International Peacekeeping* 15: 214-236.
- October 16                   **The European Union: An Example... of What?**  
**Reread:** Pease, Chapter 2 (section on EU)  
**Read:** TBA

- October 19           **The European Union**  
**Think:** How does the EU ensure compliance with its dictate among its many member states? Is it a model for other organizations?  
**Read:** Tallberg, Jonas. 2002. "Paths to Compliance: Enforcement, Management, and the European Union." *International Organization* 56: 609-643.
- October 21           **International Trade**  
Pease, Chapter 6
- October 23           **International Trade**  
**Read:** Steinberg, Richard H. 2002. "In the Shadow of Law or Power? Consensus-Based Bargaining and Outcomes in the GATT/WTO." *International Organization* 56: 339-374.
- October 26           **International Development**  
🐾 **Midterm Examinations DUE!**  
Pease, Chapter 7  
Film: *Frontline: The Crash* (1999)
- October 28           **International Development and the IMF**  
**Read:** Stiglitz, Joseph. *Globalization and its Discontents*. Chapters 2 ("Broken Promises") and 4 ("The East Asia Crisis"). (E-reserve)  
**Read:** Hall, Rodney Bruce. 2003. "The Discursive Demolition of the Asian Development Model." *International Studies Quarterly* 47: 71-99.
- October 30           **International Development: the MDGs**  
**Read:** get to know the MDGs at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>  
**Read:** Newell, Peter and Jędrzej George Frynas. 2007. "Beyond CSR? Business, Poverty and Social Justice: An Introduction." *Third World Quarterly* 28: 669-681.  
🐾 **Research Design Literature Reviews DUE!**  
**Attendance is mandatory today**
- November 2           **Environmental Issues**  
Pease, Chapter 8
- November 4           **Environmental Issues: Higher Standards?**  
**Think:** How can international organizations (and the states that create them) ensure there isn't a "race to the bottom" when it comes to environmental protection? How is environmental protection linked to other major issues international organizations pursue?  
**Read:** Schreurs, Miranda and Yves Tiberghien. 2007. "Multi-level Reinforcement: Explaining EU Leadership in Climate Change Mitigation." *Global Environmental Politics* 7: 19-46.  
**Read:** Haas, Peter. 1989. "Do regimes matter? Epistemic communities and Mediterranean pollution control." *International Organization* 43: 377-403.
- November 6           **Environmental Issues: Post-Copenhagen Kyoto**  
**Think:** What are the biggest impediments to agreement on a successor to the Kyoto Protocol? How can cooperation be secured/incentivized when defection is so much easier (and more profitable)?  
**Read:** TBA (wait until the Copenhagen Conference draws nearer)

- November 9                   **No class: Berlin Wall Event in Reeve!**
- November 11                 **Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention**  
Pease, Chapter 9 (through p. 277)
- November 13                 **Human Rights: DRC Case Study**  
**Think:** How might we connect the findings here to the “R2P” doctrine we discussed earlier in the semester?  
**Read:** Tull, Denis M. 2009. “Peacekeeping in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Waging Peace and Fighting War.” *International Peacekeeping* 16: 215-230. (D2L)  
**Read:** Baaz, Maria Erikson and Maria Stern. 2009. “Why Do Soldiers Rape? Masculinity, Violence, and Sexuality in the Armed Forces in the Congo.” *International Studies Quarterly* 53: 495-518. (D2L)
- November 16                 **Human Rights: Punishing War Crimes**  
**Think:** How can those who commit unthinkable crimes be punished? Who decides? Is the ICC a good idea, or too large of a threat to sovereignty?  
**Read:** Pease, Chapter 9 (Case Study 10)  
**Read:** Ladley, Andrew. 2005. “Peacekeeper Abuse, Immunity and Impunity: The Need for Effective Criminal and Civil Accountability on International Peace Operations.” *Politics and Ethics Review* 1: 81-90.  
**Read:** Johansen, Robert C. 2006. “The Impact of U.S. Policy toward the International Criminal Court on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 28: 301-331.
- November 18                 **Human Rights: Regional Solutions? The ECtHR**  
**Read:** Helfer, Laurence and Anne-Marie Slaughter. 1997. “Toward a Theory of Effective Supranational Adjudication.” *Yale Law Journal* 107 (2).
- November 20                 **Human Rights: Regional Solutions? The IACtHR**  
**Read:** Cavallaro, James and Stephanie Brewer. 2008. “Reevaluating Regional Human Rights Litigation in the Twenty-first Century: The Case of the Inter-American Court.” *American Journal of International Law* 768. (Also available here under “Representative Publications”:  
<http://www.law.harvard.edu/faculty/directory/index.html?id=481>
- November 23                 👑 **Research Design Drafts DUE!**  
**Attendance is mandatory today**  
Meetings with partners to discuss concrete plans for final revisions
- November 25                 **Thanksgiving Break**
- November 27                 **Thanksgiving Break**

November 30	<p><b>Human Rights: Unusual Findings</b>  <b>Think:</b> Why does the U.S. intervene in some situations and not in others? Is it just national interest, or is it something else? Why would a state sign an agreement it has no intention of actually honoring? (Or does it?)  <b>Read:</b> Gent, Stephen E. 2007. "Strange Bedfellows: the Strategic Dynamics of Major Power Military Interventions." <i>Journal of Politics</i> 69: 1089-1102.  <b>Read:</b> Vreeland, James Raymond. 2008. "Political Institutions and Human Rights: Why Dictatorships Enter into the UN Convention Against Torture." <i>International Organization</i> 62: 65-101.</p>
December 2	<p><b>Human Rights: NGO Activities</b>  <b>Think:</b> Under what circumstances might NGOs be more effective than other organizations like the UN?  <b>Read:</b> Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. <i>Activists Beyond Borders</i>. [E-reserve]  <b>Read:</b> Natsios, Andrew S. 1995. "NGOs and the UN System in Complex Humanitarian Emergencies: Conflict or Cooperation?" <i>Third World Quarterly</i> 16.</p>
December 4	TBA
December 7	TBA
December 9	TBA
December 11	👑 <b>Research Design Final Drafts DUE!</b>
December 14	<p><b>Conclusions</b>  Pease, Chapter 10</p>
December 16	<b>No class: Study Day</b>
December 18	👑 <b>Final Examination</b> in class!

If you liked this course, you'd probably also like these:

- 301: European Union Politics (Slagter; Fall 2010 or Spring 2011)
- 308: International Law (Slagter; Spring 2010)
- 326: Development (Scribner; offered now)
- 322: International Political Economy (Jasinski; offered now)
- 395: Global Environmental Politics (Slagter; Fall 2010 or Spring 2011)