Memorial University

Political Science 3220

International Organizations

Jeff Loder

Office: 2034

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 1:00-2:00

***Please note that I will not use email to discuss course related questions. You can come and talk to me during my office hours or set up an appointment at the end of class.

Course Description

Although the world lacks a central political authority, this does not mean that the world is completely anarchic. There is no central government but there is a degree of governance. This course examines the extent and limits of international governance focusing in particular on the origins, developments, and functions of international organizations - which are major tools of international governance - from ‘realist’ and ‘liberal’ perspectives. It asks questions such as: why are international governmental organizations formed? What is their relationship with sovereign states? Do they help states achieve their objectives or do they represent a constraint on the action of states? What are their roles and functions in the world of international politics? The course will also examine the working of a number of international organizations, including the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organizations. The textbook for this course is:


The main academic journals devoted to this area of study are:


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Final Exam 30%
2 Multiple Choice Tests (10% each, Oct 3, Nov 9) 20%
Research paper (3500 words – Proposal due Sept 19, Final due Nov 16) 40%
Participation 10%

**Participation**: This is not a web-based or correspondence course, hence students are expected to attend classes regularly and 10 per cent of the final grade will be based on the evaluation of class participation. Participation is measured in terms of attendance as well as frequency and depth of
contributions to class discussion. The best form of contribution is one that demonstrates familiarity with the topic being discussed based at least on the assigned readings. Attendance will be taken by means of having students sign an attendance sheet. In order to participate effectively, you should do all your readings before coming to class and should also follow current international political events. The best newspaper to follow current international political event is perhaps the Financial Times, which can be consulted at http://news.ft.com/world

**Final exam:** The final exam will consist of a combination of 1. Define and explain the significance questions. 2. Essays question. A good exam is not one that reports as much information about the topics treated in the course as a student can remember. A good exam addresses the question(s) asked in a direct manner and provides a logical, coherent, and well-organized answer.

**Multiple Choice Tests:** This test will be based on the readings assigned up to the day the test is held.

****If you miss an exam you will have to make it up by writing a comprehensive final, no makeup tests will be given during the semester. If you miss a test you must provide the proper documentation justifying your absence which is only acceptable in cases of illness, bereavement or other acceptable cause, duly authenticated.

**Research Paper**

**Proposal:** You must submit a proposal by Sept 19. Your topic must deal with a international organization. It could be an examination of a Country’s behaviour at the UN, a position taken by a country during UN debates and resolutions on Iraq, Kosovo, Iran, etc. (Pick from the following countries: China, US, UK, France, Canada, Germany, or the EU if it is appropriate) Or you could discuss NAFO, NATO, WTO, etc. In your proposal you must include a preliminary outline, bibliography, and thesis. All proposals must be approved.

**Length:** you must respect the required length of about 3500 words (excluding footnotes and references), because this is part of the exercise. If your initial draft is longer, you must cut it down and condense it. Use a spell checker (English UK, Canadian, or US). Choose an established style for the footnotes. It is important that you be consistent. Avoid plagiarism: when you quote material or paraphrase it, be if you refer to an idea you have from somewhere else, you MUST indicate the source. When you quote from the internet try to identify an author, not just the site. Note that Internet sources are subject to the same copyright laws as printed sources and demand the same documentation.

**Hand in your essay in time:** When there are unexpected difficulties, contact me BEFORE the deadline. Essays handed in late will NOT be accepted.

A research essay begins with an introduction that indicates the questions the essay is addressing. It continues with a number of subsections in which the questions raised are explored and an answer provided. It ends with a conclusion that summarizes the results. Everything you write in your essay should have a function; do not just collect information that is not clearly related to the questions asked in order to fill the page. A research essay is a test of whether you can explore a question by collecting material, analyze it, and communicate its results in a clear and logical manner. Your ability to relate the answers to the questions posed to theoretical debates in the field is also very important and will be taken into consideration.

Your paper will be evaluated according to the following criteria: 1) depth of research; 2) ability to develop and support a thesis; 3) ability to use, and build on, existing literature; 4) organization; 5) clarity of presentation.
Papers will be graded as follows:

**85-100** An excellent paper that shows a thorough and superior understanding of the subject under discussion and displays significant insights and a high degree of originality. It makes precise and clear arguments and is thoroughly researched. Its organization is very logical and coherent. It makes all relevant connections to relevant literature and theory. It is written in perfect scholarly fashion, has no spelling, grammatical, or syntactic mistakes, and reads very smoothly.

**80-84** A very good paper that shows a very good understanding of the subject under discussion and displays insights and originality. It makes precise and clear arguments and is well researched. Its organization is generally logical and coherent. It makes all necessary connections to relevant literature and theory. It is written in scholarly fashion, has no spelling, grammatical, or syntactic mistakes, and reads smoothly.

**70-79** A good paper that shows a good understanding of the subject under discussion and displays at least some insights and originality. It makes fairly clear and precise arguments and is adequately researched. Its organization is, for the most part, logical and coherent. It makes at least some connections to relevant literature and theory. It is written in less than perfect scholarly fashion, has no major or consistent spelling, grammatical, or syntactic mistakes, but does not always read very smoothly.

**60-69** A satisfactory paper that shows an understanding of some of the issues related to the subject under discussion but displays few insights and little originality. It attempts to make some arguments but they are not always too clear or precise and not entirely well researched. Its organization is not always logical or coherent. It makes few connections to relevant literature and theory. It is written in a rather informal manner and does not always read very smoothly. It does not, however, have any major or consistent spelling, grammatical, or syntactic mistakes.

**50-59** A less than satisfactory paper that shows a poor understanding of the issues related to the subject under discussion and displays no insights or originality. It attempts to make some arguments but they are not clear or precise and are poorly researched. Its organization lacks logic and coherence. It hardly makes any connection to relevant literature and theory. It is written in an informal manner and may not read very smoothly, and may contain major or consistent spelling, grammatical, or syntactic mistakes.

**30-49** An unsatisfactory paper: Paper at best represents a summary or description. There are no arguments or they are either unclear or very poorly developed. It is written in a rather informal manner and may present major or consistent spelling, grammatical, or syntactic mistakes.

**0-29** An unacceptable paper: Paper not written on the topic.

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

Sept 7: **Introduction: what is international organization (governance)?**

Sept 12: **Introduction: what is international organization (governance)?**
   - What are international (governmental) organizations?
   - Karns, pp. 3-35

Sept 14: **The Realist approach to international organization and organizations**
   - Karns, pp. 45-50

*Suggested Readings*

Sept 19: The Liberal approach to international organization and organizations
   Karns, pp. 35-45
   Kenneth W. Abbot and Duncan Snidal “Why states act through formal international organizations” (photocopy on reserve)

   Paper Proposal Due

Sept 21: Other approaches to international organization and organizations
   Karns, pp. 50-59

Sept 26 The Pieces of Global Governance: The Role Of States
   Karns, pp. 63-97
   Karns, pp. 49-277

Sept 28 Non-State Actors
   Karns, pp. 249-211

October 3 Multiple Choice Test 1

   Karns, pp. 97-145
   http://www.un.org/
   Ruben P. Mendez, “Financing the United Nations and the International Public Sector: problems and reform” (photocopy on reserve)
   Lynn H. Miller, “The idea and the reality of collective security” (photocopy on reserve)
   John L. Washburn, “United Nations relations with the United States: The UN must look out for itself” (photocopy on reserve)

Suggested:
   Barry O’Neill, “Power and Satisfaction in the Security Council” (photocopy on reserve)
Paul F. Diehl, “Forks in the road: theoretical concerns for the 21st century peacekeeping” (photocopy on reserve).


October 24, 26: International law and the problem of compliance: the case of the North Atlantic fisheries


- FAO-Agreement to promote compliance with international conservation and management measures by fishing vessels on the high seas
  http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/MEETING/003/X3130m/X3130E00.HTM#Top%20Of%20Page

- FAO-Code of conduct for responsible fisheries

- North-Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) and its convention
  http://www.oceanlaw.net/orgs/nafo.htm
  http://www.nafo.ca/

- Rosemary Rayfuse “To our children’s children: children’s children: from promoting to achieving compliance in high seas fisheries” Paper presented at the ‘Conference on the Governance of High Seas Fisheries and the UN Fish Agreement – Moving from Words to Action, St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, May 1-5, 2005
  http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fgc-cgp/documents/rayfuse_e.htm

October 31: The UN and Iraq


  http://www.newyorker.com/fact/content/?020916fa_fact (also on reserve)

Ed Morgan, “International law is not up to the task” National Post, September 27, 2001 (photocopy in my office)

November 2 and 7: Regional Organizations and Regional Security: EU/NATO

Karns, pp. 145-211
  http://www.nato.int/

Bache and George, Politics in the European Union, Chapter 18 (on reserve)
Nov 9: **Trade: From GATT to the WTO**

Multiple Choice Test 2
Karns, 355-392
http://www.wto.org/

Nov 14 and 16: **Credit and Development: The IMF, World Bank, UNCTAD and UNDP**

Paper due- Nov 16
Karns, 392-413
http://www.imf.org/
http://www.worldbank.org/
http://www.unctad.org/Templates/StartPage.asp?intItemID=2068
http://www.undp.org/

Nov 21: **The Environment**
Karns, 459-499
http://www.unclos.com/

Nov 23 and Nov 28: **Social and Humanitarian Issues**
Karns, pp. 413-459
“Sins of the secular missionaries,” *The Economist*, January 29, 2000 (On reserve)
Andrew Caddell, “Fights in the aid trenches”, *Globe and Mail*, 7 May 2003 (photocopy in my office)
Edward Luttwak, “Aid is a weapon, let’s use it”, *The Globe and Mail*, 22 November 2001. (Photocopy in my office)

Suggested:
Andrew S. Natsios, “NGOs and the UN System in complex humanitarian emergencies: conflict or cooperation?” (Photocopy on reserve)

Nov 30: **The future of Global Governance**
Karns, 499-517
Chadwick Alger, “Thinking about the future of the UN system” (Photocopy on reserve).