



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

IRL 2010: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
CREDIT UNITS: 3 UNITS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

What role do International Organizations (IOs) play in global politics? Some think their role is trivial. Others argue that they fulfill their important stated purposes. Still others argue that governments use them to pursue their own private goals. International organizations, both governmental and nongovernmental, play an increasingly prominent role in efforts to resolve a wide range of global problems and are important elements in the current system of global governance. The world today is driven by international organizations which determine international order.

This course explores the institutional structures, political processes, and impact of international organizations within the larger context of world politics. The course is designed not just to familiarize students with IOs, but also to stimulate their curiosity about questions that really have yet to be answered satisfactorily. An important goal of the course is also to equip students with the analytical tools required to address such questions.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course the learner should be able to:

- Explain concepts and theories in International Relations
- Explain and use research methodology in IR
- Collect, collate, analyze and respond critically to information
- Critically analyze the dynamics of world politics
- Identify threats and opportunities to national strategic interests and formulate responses
- Apply understanding of global, multi-cultural and complex interconnected world to explain and predict issues in IR
- Demonstrate diplomatic etiquette in the International context

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To expose students to theoretical conceptualization in International Organization
- To design and provide a balanced and realistic view of International Organization
- Identify the various types of international and transnational organizations and discuss the important characteristics of each

- Evaluate the past and present performance and future prospects of international organizations in the world community

COURSE CONTENT

Week 1

Organization of work
 Introduction definition of IO and related terms
 Origin of international organizations; a historical view

Learning Outcomes

Define and distinguish between different IOs
 Understand and trace the development of IOs

Assignments:

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992 Ch 1

Week 2

Post World War Organizations
 Foundations of the League of Nations
 Success and failures of the League of Nations

Learning Outcomes

Complete understanding of the League of Nations, challenges, successes and failures

Assignments:

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992 Ch 1
 David Armstrong *International Organisations*

Week 3

Approaches to the modern study of international organizations
 Ideological roots- Theoretical background to the study of IOs

Learning Outcomes

Identify and apply the different approaches to studying international organizations.

Assignment

Idealism – Jeremy Bentham, Emmanuel Kant
 Rationalism – Hugo Grotius, Benkechok

Week 4

Functionalism – David Mitrany, Ernst Haas, Joseph Nye & Robert Keohane
 Structuralism
 Paradoxes

Learning Outcomes

Explain the tenets of the various theories and distinguish
 Understand and explain operations of IOs using the theories

Assignments

Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, *Power and Interdependence* (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1989)
 Martin Griffiths (Ed) *International Relations Theory for the Twenty-First Century*—
 Kenneth Waltz *Theory of International Politics*

Week 5

Classification of International Organizations

-Membership

-Regionalism vs Universalism

-Aims & Activities of IOs

Learning Outcomes

Classify various IOs

Understand and explain the activities of the IOs

Assignments:

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992 Ch 2

David Armstrong *International Organisations*

Week 6

The role of international organizations in today's world

Functions of IOs

Learning Outcomes

Understand and explain the roles and functions of the IOs

Assignments:

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992 Ch 3

A.J.R. Groom and Paul Taylor (ed.), *International Institutions at Work* (London: Pinter, 1998)

Week 7

MID-SEMESTER EXAM

Week 8

Basic principles and organizations of the U.N

Principal organs of the U.N

Membership & Representation

Voting rules and practices/ Concept of collective security

The International Monetary Fund and World Bank

Learning Outcomes

Understand and explain the roles and functions/ operations of the UN

Critically assess whether the UN has succeeded in its core role and responding to global problems

Assignments:

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992 Ch

Paul Taylor, "The United Nations and International Organisation", in Baylis and Smith (ed.), *The Globalisation of World Politics*,

Hacche, Graham. 2007. A review article. *World Economics* 8 (2):97-118. *A Non-Definitive Guide to the IMF*:

Vreeland, James Raymond. *World Economics* 8(3):185-93 *The Politics of IMF Conditional Lending*. 2007

Week 9

Future of International Organizations; North-South dialogue & South-South-Cooperation

Towards Global Governance

International Economic Order
Human Rights, Terrorism & Environmental Issues

Learning Outcomes

Critically analyze the impact of emerging issues on International organization

Assignment

Mohammad Hamad Al-Katatsheh *Journal of Politics and Law* Vol. 4, No. 2; September 2011 *The Future of North-South Dialogue in the Context of Globalization*

Week 10-13 Group presentations/discussions

Case studies of International Organizations

1. The European Union (EU)
2. Organization of American States (OAS)
3. Organization of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)
4. The Organization of African Unity/African Union OAU/AU
5. The East African Community (EAC)
6. MAGHREB union
7. Arab League
8. NATO

Learning Outcomes

Understand and explain the roles and functions/ operations of the various regional and sub-regional organizations

Outline their achievements and discuss the relevance within the current International System

Assignments:

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992

The Politics of Global Governance: International Organisations in an Interdependent World (Boulder, col.: Lynne Rienner, 1997).

Week 14

FINAL EXAM

READING LIST

Fredrick Kratochwil and John Gerard Ruggie, "International Organisations: The State of the Art", in Paul F. Diehl (ed.), *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organisations in an Interdependent World* (Boulder, col.: Lynne Rienner, 1997).

Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 1992.

David E. Armstrong, Lorna Lloyd, and John Redmond *International Organisation in World Politics: 3rd Edition* (The Making of the Twentieth Century)

Giulio M. Gallarotti, "The Limits of International Organisation: Systematic Failure in the Management of International Relations", in Paul F. Diehl (ed.), *op. cit.*, pp. 375-414.

Leroy Bennet, *International Organisations: Principles and Issues*, 6th ed. Englewood

Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1995); and Clive Archer, *International Organisations*, 2nd ed. (London: Routledge, 1992).

Inis L. Claude, Jr., *Swords into Plowshares: The Progress of International Organisation* 4th ed. (New York: Random House, 1971) especial chapter One, pp. 3-20 (available in Course Text readings)

A.J.R. Groom and Paul Taylor (ed.), *International Institutions at Work* (London: Pinter, 1998), especially ch. 12. pp. 284-312 (available in Course Text readings)

A.J.S. Bilgrami, *International Organisations*, 3rd ed. (New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House, 1977), especially ch.7 (available in Course Text readings).

Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, *Power and Interdependence* (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1989).

Hans Morgenthau and Kenneth Thompson, *Politics Among Nations*, Brief Edition

Frederick Kratochwil and Edward Mansfield (ed.), *International Organisations* (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1994).

Richard Little, "International Regimes", in John Baylis and Steve Smith (ed.), *The Globalisation of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), pp.231-247.

Karen A Mingst and Margaret P Karns, *The United Nations in the Twenty-First Century* (Dilemmas in World Politics)

Paul Taylor, "The United Nations and International Organisation", in Baylis and Smith (ed.), *The Globalisation of World Politics*, *op. cit.*, pp. 264 – 285.

Peter Willetts, "Transnational Actors and International Organisations", in Baylis and Smith (ed.), *op. cit.*, pp. 287-310.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course will be conducted through lectures, interactive class discussions and group work and presentations and individual research paper.

Class assignments

Students will be divided into groups and are expected to work with their group members on a topic that will be assigned by the instructor. Each presentation will be followed by class discussions and input from instructor. Students will be graded individually on how effectively they have mastered and communicated the subject matter to the class during their presentation.

Individual assignment

Students will individually write a **TERM PAPER** (maximum 7 pages including title page, 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman font size 12). The **due date** for the **Term Paper** is **WEEK TEN** and should be submitted to the instructor personally in hard and soft copy. The essay should be analytical in nature.

TERM PAPER TOPIC: The world today is characterized by new regionalism that has seen state actors coalesce into regional bodies. Write a policy paper on a country and an international organization of choice justifying whether or not the country should enter into a relation with the given organization; or pursue a development project with the organization; or pursue membership in the given organization; or pursue election to the UN Security Council.

ARTICLE REVIEW: Identify and Select an article from peer-reviewed journals (Journal of International Organizations Studies or International Organization) not older than 2010. Have your selected article approved by the lecturer before starting the review. Avail a soft copy of the article for approval. For the article review students will write a review of a selected article (maximum 2 pages including title, summary, critique. 1.5 spacing, Times New Roman font size 12). The **due date** for the **ARTICLE REVIEW** is **WEEK FIVE**

NOTE: *Assignments will not be accepted after final exams*

COURSE EVALUATION

Article review	- 10%
Group work / presentation	- 15%/ 5%
Term paper	- 20%
Mid-Term Examination	- 20%
Final Examination	- 30%
Total	100%

GRADING SYSTEM

A	90 - 100	C	70 - 73
A-	87 - 89	C-	67 - 69
B+	84 - 86	D+	64 - 66
B	80 - 83	D	62 - 63
B-	77 - 79	D-	60 - 61
C+	74 - 76	F	0 - 59

University policy

Students are expected attend all the sessions regularly and complete all the readings in a timely fashion as specified by the class schedule. An attendance roster is kept and students are expected to attend all sessions on time and as scheduled. Prior permission **MUST** be obtained from the instructor if a class is to be missed for circumstances beyond the student's control. **As per the university rules, any student who misses more than seven (7) sessions will receive an F grade.**

NB: Please switch off your mobile phones during class and exam time.