**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Political Science 3382  
Southern Methodist University  
Spring 2016

Class time and location: TTh, 11 a.m.–12:20 p.m., Fondren Science Building 152

Professor Karisa Cloward, Department of Political Science  
**Office:** 201 Carr Collins Hall  
**Office Hours:** T 3:30–5 p.m., W 2:30–4 p.m., and by appointment  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to the field of international organizations and global governance. It explores the wide range of actors involved in the international system, including both intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and considers major global issue areas around which these actors organize, including peace and security, trade, finance, development, human rights, and the environment. The course also poses and investigates broader theory-driven questions: Why do states create and join international institutions, and under what conditions do they comply with their international commitments? Do international organizations have any real power, and if so, what form does it take? Do international organizations have authority, and can they act autonomously? To whom are international organizations accountable? Are international organizations effective in achieving their goals?

**REQUIRED TEXTS**


Additional required readings will be posted or linked on Canvas. If you are not using a campus computer, you can access the linked readings by searching for them through the SMU Library website or Google Scholar and then entering your SMU ID and password when prompted for authentication of your SMU status.

Because this course will make reference to current events, and because being an informed citizen of the world is valuable in its own right, you should make a habit of reading a respectable major news publication on a regular basis (e.g., *The New York Times, The Washington Post, BBC World News*).
**Course Requirements and Grading**

**Grading**

- Attendance & Participation 10%
- Annotated Bibliography 10%
- Simulation
  - Position Paper 5%
  - Participation 5%
  - Debriefing Paper 5%
- Final Paper 30%
- Midterm Exam 15%
- Final Exam 20%

**Attendance and Participation**

Attendance at lecture and participation in discussion are expected. If you need to miss class for a family emergency, illness, or University-sponsored event, you must notify me in advance via email and provide appropriate documentation. Unexcused absences will adversely affect your participation grade. **Upon your fourth unexcused absence, you will be either administratively dropped from the course or receive a final grade of F.**

If you must miss a class, please obtain lecture notes from another student. I will not distribute PowerPoint slides or my own personal notes, nor will I provide a private tutorial. If you have spoken to a classmate and still have questions, I am available to fill in the gaps.

Required readings are, in fact, required—you should complete them prior to the beginning of the class for which they’re assigned and come to class prepared and ready to discuss them. You are advised to complete the assigned readings in the order in which they are listed in the syllabus, and you are expected to bring all of the day’s readings with you to class.

I expect you to be courteous and respectful to me and to your classmates. This means arriving on time, staying in your seat and awake until the end of the period, and refraining from texting or other distracting activities.

I strongly discourage the use of laptops in class. Students who feel they must use a laptop are required to sit in the first row and to make a commitment to using them only for the purpose of note taking. If I find that laptops are being used for other purposes, the privilege will be revoked.

Late arrivals and early departures, being present but unprepared to participate, participating without being prepared, and engaging in distracting or disrespectful behavior will all adversely affect your participation grade.
Assignment Details

Annotated Bibliography: You will select a major theory-driven question in the study of international organizations, and prepare short summaries of ten scholarly books or articles relevant to that question. The bibliography is due February 16th.

Simulation: The class will participate in a UN Security Council simulation addressing the crisis in Syria. Students will be assigned to small groups, each of which will represent a different member of the UNSC. Prior to the simulation, the country delegations will write a 2–3 page position paper detailing their country’s proposal for UNSC action (due March 29th). The simulation day itself (March 31st) will focus on negotiations among the delegations, formulation of draft resolutions, and a final roll-call vote. You must attend class on the simulation day, or you will sacrifice 10% of your final grade. Following the simulation, you will each individually write a 2–3 page debriefing paper reflecting on your delegation’s expectations and goals, and on the process and outcomes of the negotiation (due April 5th).

Final Paper: You will write a 10–12 page paper in which you select a specific global problem (approved by me) and either design or reform an international institution to tackle it. Papers will be rewarded for original thinking, clarity of argumentation, appreciation of the challenges inherent in global governance, and effective integration of scholarly and non-scholarly sources. The paper is due April 26th.

Exams: Both the midterm and final exams will consist of IDs and essay questions. You will need to draw on information from both lectures and readings in order to successfully answer all of the exam questions. The final exam will be comprehensive.

Paper Submission and Help

All papers should be double-spaced, with 1-inch margins, 12-point Times New Roman font, and standard character spacing. Each paper must be submitted in hard-copy format prior to the beginning of class on the day it is due. Failure to meet this deadline will result in a half letter grade deduction for each 24-hour period after the due date and time, beginning at 11:01 a.m. Late position papers for the simulation assignment will not be accepted. It is your responsibility to complete all assignments such that sufficient time remains to deal with any technical difficulties you might encounter. I will not be sympathetic to claims of malfunctioning printers.

Each paper must also be submitted to Canvas as a Word document (not a PDF or text file). In the absence of electronic submission, your paper will not be graded.

The SMU Writing Center can assist you with your writing. Call 214-768-3648 for an appointment.

Contacting Me

For very quick questions (questions you think I can answer in about three sentences or less) or to schedule an appointment, the best way to contact me is via email at kcloward@smu.edu.
My office hours, listed at the beginning of the syllabus, are your time. I am here to help you, but in order for me to do that you must first let me know that you are having a problem. If you cannot attend my regular office hours, I am happy to schedule another time.

**Religious and Disability Accommodation**

Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first contact Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS) at 214-768-1470 or [http://smu.edu/Provost/ALEG/DASS](http://smu.edu/Provost/ALEG/DASS) to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. You should then schedule an appointment with me to make appropriate arrangements. It is essential that you address your needs early in the semester, **before** assignments are due.

Students who need to miss class for religious reasons should provide me with an explanation, in writing, no later than February 2nd.

**Honor Code**

I take **plagiarism** and other forms of **cheating** very seriously. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's work, words, or ideas as if they were your own. When in doubt, cite. In addition, you may not recycle work you have submitted in this or another course.

The SMU Honor Code governs all student work in this course, both in class and outside of the classroom. Honor code violations are punishable not only by a failing grade for the course, but also by referral to the University Honor Council. Ignorance of the Honor Code and its provisions is not an excuse. Any questions about specific applications of the Honor Code should be addressed to me.

**Personal Responsibility**

I am committed to being accessible to students, and I want you to succeed in the course, but you should not mistake this attitude for lax standards or low expectations. I am absolutely serious about this course. If you do not intend to be equally serious, this may not be the course for you. If you choose to take the course, **the onus is on you** to do the things necessary to achieve the goals you’ve set for yourself, or to accept responsibility if you do not. You will get out of the class what you put into it. Students who demonstrate their commitment to the course and to putting in the necessary work will find that I am ready and willing to help and advise them whenever possible. But I will not pick up the slack for students who are just looking to skate by, and I won’t do your work for you. Moreover, I will enforce all of the rules set out for this course—I will not make exceptions simply because you forget what the rules are or think they shouldn’t apply to you for whatever reason.
LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE

I. FOUNDATIONS

January 19: Introduction to International Organizations
- KMS. Chapter 1 (pp. 1–7).

January 21: Actors, Processes, and Forms of Global Governance
- KMS. Chapter 1 (pp. 8–41).

Recommended:

January 26: International Institutions in IR Theory—Liberalism and Realism
- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 43–59).

Recommended:

January 28: International Institutions in IR Theory—Constructivism and Critical Theories
- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 59–67).
- The Chicago Manual of Style. “Citation Quick Guide.”
  http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html
- University of Wisconsin Writer’s Handbook. “Acknowledging, Paraphrasing, and Quoting Sources” handout.
Recommended:


**February 2: International Organizations as Actors—Institutionalism**

- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 67–70).

**February 4: International Organizations as Actors—Constructivism**

- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 70–73).
- Barnett and Finnemore. Chapters 1 and 2.

**February 9: Historical Evolution of International Organizations**

- KMS. Chapter 3.

II. INTERNATIONAL ACTORS

**February 11: The UN System**

- KMS. Chapter 4.

Recommended:


**February 16: Regional Organizations in Europe**

- KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 161–195).

Annotated Bibliography due in class
February 18: Class Cancelled

February 23: Other Regional Organizations
- KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 195–238).

Recommended:

February 25: Non-State Actors
- KMS. Chapter 6.

Recommended:

III. INTERNATIONAL REGIMES

March 1: The Global Security Regime
- KMS. Chapter 7 (pp. 279–303).

March 3: Collective Security, Arms Control, and Counterterrorism
- Review: KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 170–75).
- KMS. Chapter 7 (pp. 303–17, 353–78).

Recommended:

Spring Break
March 15: Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding
- KMS. Chapter 7 (pp. 317–53).

March 17: Midterm Exam

March 22: The Global Human Rights Regime
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 467–510).
- Farrell, Henry. 2010. “Good Writing in Political Science: An Undergraduate Student’s Short Illustrated Primer.” [http://www.henryfarrell.net/pol_sci_essay.html](http://www.henryfarrell.net/pol_sci_essay.html).

Recommended:

March 24: Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 511–15).

March 29: Refugees
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 521–25).
- Barnett and Finnemore. Chapter 4.

Recommended:

Simulation Position Paper due in class

March 31: Simulation Day
- Read other delegations’ position papers

You must attend class today
April 5: Women’s Rights and LGBT Rights
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 515–21).

Recommended:

Simulation Debriefing Paper due in class

April 7: The Global Financial Regime
- KMS. Chapter 8 (pp. 379–96, 404–08, 420–21).

Recommended:

April 12: The Global Trade Regime
- KMS. Chapter 8 (pp. 396–403, 408–20, 421–23).

April 14: The Global Development Regime
- KMS. Chapter 9.

April 19: Evaluating Aid Agencies
April 21: The Global Environmental Regime
- KMS. Chapter 11 (pp. 535–72).

Recommended:

April 26: Climate Change
- KMS. Chapter 11 (pp. 529–35).

Final Paper due in class

April 28: Course Wrap-Up
- KMS. Chapter 12.

May 6, 8–11 a.m.: Final Exam