INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Political Science 3382
Southern Methodist University
Spring 2018

Class Time and Location: TTh 11 a.m.–12:20 p.m., Dallas Hall 115

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


All other 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**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature Review</td>
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<td>Simulation</td>
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<td>Position Paper</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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<td>Debriefing Paper</td>
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<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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**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. If you do miss a class, please obtain lecture notes from another student. If upon doing so you still have questions, I am available to fill in the gaps, but I will not distribute my PowerPoint slides.

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.

Unexcused absences, 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**

**Literature Review:** You will select a major theory-driven question in the study of international organizations, identify a minimum of five scholarly books or articles that address this question, and prepare a 3–4 page critical review of those sources. Papers will be rewarded for appropriateness of sources, effective synthesis of scholarly works, and concision. The essay is due February 15th.

**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 3–4 page position paper detailing their country’s existing positions on the crisis and ideal proposal for UNSC action (due April 3rd). The simulation days themselves (April 10th and 12th) will focus on negotiations among the delegations, formulation of draft resolutions, and a final roll-call vote. You must attend class on the simulation days, or you will sacrifice 10% of your final grade. Following the simulation, you will each individually write a 3–4 page debriefing paper reflecting on your delegation’s expectations and goals, and on the process and outcomes of the negotiation (due April 17th).

**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 big-picture challenges inherent in global governance, and effective integration of scholarly and non-scholarly sources. You must cite a minimum of eight scholarly sources. The paper is due May 3rd.

**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 the exam questions.

**Paper Submission and Help**

All papers should be double-spaced, with 1-inch margins, 12-point Times New Roman font, standard character spacing, and a staple in the upper-left corner. 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 keloward@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/ALEC/DASS](http://smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/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 6th.

**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 23: Introduction to International Organizations**
- KMS. Chapter 1 (pp. 1–7, 35–41).

**January 25: Actors, Processes, and Forms of Global Governance**
- KMS. Chapter 1 (pp. 8–35).

Recommended:
New York: Cambridge University Press.


**January 30: International Institutions in IR Theory—Realism and Liberalism**

- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 43–59).

**Recommended:**


**February 1: International Institutions in IR Theory—Constructivism and Critical Theories**

- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 59–67).
- 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).
- University of Wisconsin Writer’s Handbook. “Acknowledging, Paraphrasing, and Quoting Sources” handout.

**Recommended:**


**February 6: International Organizations as Actors—Institutionalism**

- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 67–70).
February 8: International Organizations as Actors—Constructivism
- KMS. Chapter 2 (pp. 70–73).
- Barnett and Finnemore. Chapters 1 and 2.

February 13: Historical Evolution of International Organizations
- KMS. Chapter 3.

II. INTERNATIONAL ACTORS

February 15: The UN System
- KMS. Chapter 4 (pp. 109–48).

Recommended:

Literature Review due in class

February 20: UN Challenges; Regionalism
- KMS. Chapter 4 (pp. 148–60).
- KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 161–68).

February 22: European Regional Organizations
- KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 169–95).

February 27: Other Regional Organizations
- KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 195–238).

Recommended:
March 1: Non-State Actors
- KMS. Chapter 6.

Recommended:

March 6: Midterm Exam

III. INTERNATIONAL REGIMES

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

Recommended:

Spring Break

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

Guest Lecture by Professor Hiroki Takeuchi

March 22: The Global Security Regime
- KMS. Chapter 7 (pp. 279–303).
March 27: Collective Security, Arms Control, and Counterterrorism
- Review: KMS. Chapter 5 (pp. 170–75).
- KMS. Chapter 7 (pp. 303–17, 353–78).

Recommended:

March 29: Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding
- KMS. Chapter 7 (pp. 317–53).

Recommended:

April 3: The Global Human Rights Regime
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 467–510).

Recommended:

Simulation Position Paper due in class

April 5: Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 511–15).
April 10: Simulation Part I
- Read other delegations’ position papers

**You must attend class today**

April 12: Simulation Part II
- Prepare and circulate draft resolutions prior to class

**You must attend class today**

April 17: Simulation Debriefing; Refugees
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 521–25).
- Barnett and Finnemore. Chapter 4.

Recommended:

**Simulation Debriefing Paper due in class**

April 19: Women’s Rights and LGBT Rights
- KMS. Chapter 10 (pp. 515–21).

Recommended:

April 24: The Global Development Regime
- KMS. Chapter 9.

April 26: Aid Agencies
May 1: The Global Environmental Regime

- KMS. Chapter 11 (pp. 535–72).

Recommended:


May 3: Climate Change & Course Wrap-Up

- KMS. Chapter 11 (pp. 529–55).
- KMS. Chapter 12.

Final Paper due in class

May 11, 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.: Final Exam