

## International Organizations

Political Science 336

Fall 2011 (#16543)

Instructor: Dr. Carolyn Shaw  
Class: T/Th 12:30 - 3:10; HH 219  
Office hours: T/W/Th 10:30 – 12:00 or by appt.  
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\* This course is a *further studies* course in general education. In order to receive general education credit as a further studies course, a political science *introductory* general education course (PS 121, PS 220, or PS 226) is a prerequisite.

### Overview of the Course

This course is an introduction to international organizations, and to the United Nations in particular. The course is structured to examine a variety of international issues and organizations from five different theoretical perspectives. We will examine international organizations in the context of security, trade, development, environment, and humanitarian issues.

There are three primary objectives of this course. The first is to provide students with a basic understanding of the role and functions of international organizations in the international system. The second objective is to encourage theoretical and analytical thinking about the value of international organizations. The third objective is for students to more deeply engage with the moral dilemmas that international policy makers face.

### Requirements

This is an EIGHT WEEK COURSE and we will be covering material very quickly. It is important for students to attend class regularly. Attendance will be taken during each class. Two recorded absences are allowed before points will be deducted from the attendance grade. Students are encouraged, though not required, to participate in class by making comments and asking questions. There will be an opportunity at the beginning of most classes for students to discuss current events in international relations, as well as numerous other chances to present and defend different points of view.

There will be **daily quizzes** over the material covered in the previous class. These will be based on the lecture and discussion materials as well as the assigned readings for each class. It will be important to keep up with the reading assignments. Out of a total of 8 quizzes on the textbook, the top 5 scores will count toward your final grade.

There are **two writing assignments** (3-4 pages each) for the course built into the Role Playing Exercise (more on this below).

The last three weeks of the class are devoted to an in-depth **Role Play Exercise** in which students will explore the events in Rwanda in 1994. One additional quiz will be given over these assigned readings.

### Required Reading

Pease, Kelly-Kate. "International Organizations" (5<sup>th</sup> edition). Pearson Prentice Hall

<http://www.un.org/news/> UN News Service

*The Needs of Others: Human Rights, International Organizations and Intervention in Rwanda, 1994* (Game book and assigned readings for Rwanda Role Play Exercise)

### Supplemental Reading

*The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, or other daily newspaper

### Grading

Quizzes*	50% of total grade	
Best 5 of 8 quiz scores		100 pts each for 500 pts total
Role Play Exercise	45% of total grade	
Paper 1		150 pts
Paper 2		150 pts
Quiz		50 pts
Participation		100 pts for 450 pts total
Attendance	5% of total grade	50 pts
	(full points for 0-2 absences ten points off for each day missed after 2)	
TOTAL		1000 pts

\* Quizzes can ONLY be taken on the day they are scheduled. There will be no make up quizzes.

\*\* Writing assignments are due on the day given in the syllabus. Late papers will receive a maximum of 50% of the total points.

A =	900 - 1000 points
B+ =	850 - 899 points
B =	800 - 849 points
C+ =	750 - 799 points
C =	700 - 749 points
D+ =	650 - 699 points
D =	600 - 649 points
F =	599 or below

### WSU Blackboard

This course is facilitated by Blackboard, an online web aid accessible to all WSU students. The Blackboard page for this course contains a copy of the syllabus, the writing assignments, study guides, lecture outlines, current course grades, and web links to a variety of topics on international organizations and issues. In order to access this site ([www.blackboard.wichita.edu](http://www.blackboard.wichita.edu)) you need your student id number and pin number.

### Study Tips for Reading for the Class

Give yourself time to read, don't try to skim the chapter at the last minute. Stop reading from time to time and ask yourself what you have just read. If you can't answer, stop, refocus and look at the section again.

### Rwanda Role Play Exercise

Students will be assigned a role to play in this exercise, representing either Security Council members, journalists, NGO representatives, or members of the public. Each role will be expected to produce two papers (3-4 pages) during the course of the exercise, which will take place during the last three weeks of the class. These papers will be written as opinion papers within each role's constraints, and supported by outside research efforts.

Students will be expected to fully prepare for their roles by reading background materials. A quiz will be given over these readings prior to the start of the exercise. Attendance and participation is crucial throughout the exercise. Students should seek to play their role as accurately as possible, engaging other characters as appropriate.

### Academic Freedom / Respect for Others

Each student is encouraged to participate in class discussions. In any class that includes discussion of political ideas, there are bound to be many differing points of view. Students may not only disagree with each other, but may also have disparate views from the instructor on sensitive and volatile topics. It is my hope that these differences will enhance class discussion and create an atmosphere where students and instructor alike will be encouraged to think and learn. Therefore, be assured that your grades will not be adversely affected by any beliefs or ideas expressed in class or your assignments. Rather, we will all respect the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions.

### Incompletes

An incomplete grade will only be given in the case of a documented medical or other emergency. To request an incomplete grade, a student must see me in my office and explain their need for an incomplete and fill out the necessary form. In most cases, it is in the student's best interest to complete the assigned course work on schedule.

I will not withdraw students from the class. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their progress in the course and to initiate withdrawal procedures on their own if necessary. To withdraw from a class, students must do it officially through the Registrar, and the Tuition and Fees Office.

### Scholastic Dishonesty

As described in the Student Catalog, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of college rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined in the Catalog. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments without attribution. Collusion is defined as the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. If a student commits any of these actions, I will seek disciplinary action in the form of an academic penalty, including a course grade of 'F'.

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Aug 23 (T)	Introduction	Chapter 1
Aug 25 (Th)	Institutional Structures <b>Quiz Chap 1</b>	Chapter 2
Aug 27 (T)	Realism / Liberalism <b>Quiz Chap 2</b>	Chapter 3
Sept 1 (Th)	Marxism / Feminism <b>Quiz Chap 3</b>	Chapter 4
Sept 6 (T)	International Security <b>Quiz Chap 4</b>	Chapter 5
Sept 8 (Th)	International Security	
Sept 13 (T)	International Trade <b>Quiz Chap 5</b>	Chapter 6
Sept 15 (Th)	Development <b>Quiz Chap 6</b>	Chapter 7
Sept 20 (T)	Environment <b>Quiz Chap 7</b> Rwanda - Overview	Chapter 8
Sept 22 (Th)	<b>Quiz Chap 8</b> Rwanda - Rules / Readings	
Sept 27 (T)	<b>Quiz on Rwanda Readings</b> Security Council Meeting 1	
Sept 29 (Th)	Security Council Meeting 2	
Oct 4 (T)	Security Council Meeting 3	
Oct 6 (Th)	Security Council Meeting 4	
Oct 11 (T)	Security Council Meeting 5	
Oct 13 (Th)	Conclusions	