

International Organization

Political Science (PSCI) 4173

Fall 2015

Professor Contact Information

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Course Description

This is an upper-division course in international relations focusing on understanding and analyzing why political actors create international institutions and why the effects of these institutions vary. The first-half of the semester will be devoted to conceptual and theoretical understandings of why states create international institutions and why such institutions do or do not produce desired outcomes. In the second-half of the semester, we will survey how international governance has evolved in four different areas—peace and security, the international economy, the environment, and human rights—and what the current challenges are.

Readings, lectures, assignments and assessments will assume at least introductory-level knowledge of the study of international relations (PSCI 2223 or equivalent). I expect students to actively and enthusiastically engage with all the material. The following are the main objectives of the course for students. (I will use the hashtags for each to indicate mark the learning objectives of course requirements and lecture contents.)

- For students to gain knowledge by:
 - *recalling* both the historical evolution of and contemporary challenges in international governance in different issue-areas #knowledge(history);
 - *summarizing* key concepts and explanations from the political science and international relations to world affairs #knowledge(concepts);
- For students to gain skills by:
 - *applying* key concepts and explanations from political science and international relations to *analyze* current events #skills(analysis);
 - *evaluate* political and normative trade-offs involved in international governance #skills(evaluation);
 - *collaborating* effectively with teammates to *create* an original analysis of a current event about international governance #skills(creation).

Course Requirements

1. Reading Quizzes (15%): For many classes, there will be assigned reading from either the textbook or a journal article that students are to complete *prior to* coming to the lecture. For example, for Class 3, the assigned reading is Chapter 1 of the textbook. Students should come to lecture on August 28 having completed this reading assignment. To provide regular incentives for students to complete the readings, there will be quizzes for each reading assignment. The quizzes will be available on the D2L course website until 10am on the day of the class when the reading assignment is due. Accordingly, you should complete the quizzes before coming to class as well. Throughout the semester, there will be 20 reading quizzes. 5 lowest scores will be automatically dropped, so that each of the 15 counted quizzes will constitute 1% of your course grade. Given this policy, I will *not* offer any make-ups for missed quizzes/deadlines. You are welcome to complete the reading assignments early and to complete the quizzes early, should you have other commitments that interfere. #knowledge(history) & #knowledge(concepts)
2. NB Participation: Throughout the semester, we will be using an online collaborative reading system called *NB*. It allows students to annotate readings with comments and questions and for others to respond to such annotations. It is your responsibility to register yourself with the system. There are two ways to do this. 1) I will send out an automatic invitation to join the system to all the students in the course. Using this invitation to register for NB will automatically link you to the class. 2) If, for some reason, you do not receive the invitation, you can go to <http://bit.ly/4173fa15> to create an account and link your account to the class. The NB system does not work well on tablets with only touch-based inputs (e.g., Apple iPads). It is your responsibility to access and use the system in ways that it functions properly. There will be two different uses of NB:
 - a. Journal Articles (10%): Some academic journal article assignments will be posted on NB. For these readings students are to do *both* of the following: 1) make an annotation with a comment or a question and 2) post a response on a classmate's comment or question. Completion of these two tasks on *each of the five journal article reading assignments prior to the class for which the reading is assigned* will contribute equally to the NB journal article grade. Students will receive a zero for completing the tasks after the class begins. #knowledge(history) & #knowledge(concepts)
 - b. News Articles (10%): The second type of NB use will be for current event news articles. For seven Friday classes (refer to the schedule below), I will post a news article on NB along with two prompts for you to address. For these articles students are to address both prompts for every posted article. Completing these tasks for *each of the seven news articles prior to the class for which it is assigned* will contribute equally to the NB news article grade. Students will receive a zero for completing the tasks after the class begins. #skills(analysis) & #skills(evaluation)
3. In-Class Participation (5%): Every class, I will incorporate some clicker questions. While the answers will not be graded, students are expected to answer them consistently. For full credit, you need to answer at least 50% of the questions during at least 30 out of the 41 lectures. Otherwise you will receive *zero* for this portion of your course grade. I will not account for any excused absences or equipment problems, since the required amount of participation more than sufficiently compensates for such scenarios. It is your responsibility to bring your clicker to class and to make sure it functions correctly. Please purchase a CUClicker remote at the CU Bookstore and register it online by following the instructions at: <http://oit.colorado.edu/node/779>. #skills(analysis) & #skills(evaluation)
4. Exams (45%): Three exams will be given during the term, each worth 15%. Exam #1 is scheduled for October 2 (Week 6), Exam #2 for November 6 (Week 11), and Exam #3 for the day of the final exam. Exams #1 and #2 are take-home, open-notes and open-book. I will release the exam on the D2L course site at 11am on each day of the exam. You will have 24 hours to complete the exam and submit the answers online. Exam #3 will be administered in class on Thursday, December 17 between 4:30 and

7:00pm. The exams will test students' understanding of the material covered by applying the concepts and ideas learned to current events. Each exam will be cumulative. For each exam, I will provide two relatively recent news articles ahead of time. Exam questions will ask students to use ideas, concepts and tools from the class to analyze the articles. Sample exams and news articles from different classes I previously taught will be available for your reference. #knowledge(history), #knowledge(concepts) & #skills(analysis)

5. Current Event Analysis Project (15%): During Part IV of the course, students will work in groups of three to create an analytical post in the discussion forum about a current event regarding international governance. Each team will pick a relatively recent news article from a reputable source and systematically analyze the event using the information in the article and the concepts and explanations from the course. Students will also obtain social and political data relevant to the event discussed in the article and create charts. While I will provide more detailed information for the assignment in a separate write-up, the following will constitute the components of the grade: instructor evaluation of the post and follow-up Q&A (50%); classmate evaluation of the post and follow-up Q&A (25%); teammate peer evaluation of your collaboration (25%). #skills(creation)

Communication Policies

- All official communication from me to the class will be done through the University e-mail list. Please make sure you that you regularly check the e-mail account that is on the record with the university—it is usually your colorado.edu address, unless you explicitly changed it—if it is not the account that you use primarily.
- For informal communication, we will utilize Twitter. Follow the account psci4173 and use the hashtag #psci4173 when you would like to share something with the class. Feel free to post links to news stories, data sources, commentaries, etc. that you think is relevant to the course. From time to time, we will discuss online some of the items posted on Twitter.

Grading and Plagiarism Policies

- You *must complete all* course requirements laid out above to receive a non-failing grade in the course.
- There are no extra credit assignments in the course. Your course grade will be calculated based solely on the four assessments/assignments described above.
- Your final course grade will be automatically rounded up to the nearest units digit. The mapping between your percentage grade and the letter grade is as follows:
 - A: 94-100%
 - A-: 90-93%
 - B+: 87-89%
 - B: 83-86%
 - B-: 80-82%
 - C+: 77-79%
 - C: 73-76%
 - C-: 70-72%
 - D+: 67-69%
 - D: 63-66%
 - D-: 60-62%
 - F: 59 and lower
- While I will accept late submissions for assignments and assessments, they will be penalized at the rate of 10% per each hour of delay. E.g., if an assignment is due at 11am MDT, but I receive it between 11:01am MDT and 12:00pm MDT, then the highest grade it can earn is 90%.

- If I suspect plagiarism on an assignment or an assessment, I will turn the matter over to the CU Honors Council. Should you be found to have plagiarized, you will receive a zero on that assignment or assessment, in addition to whatever penalty that the Honors Council imposes.

Campus Syllabus Requirements

University and Campus Policies:

1. Special Accommodations:

I will—whenever possible—accommodate students' special needs. Please note, however, that requests for special accommodations need to be presented in a timely manner, as early as possible.

2. Disability Accommodations:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries guidelines under the Quick Links at the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

3. Campus policy Regarding Religious Observances:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that I make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please follow the special accommodations procedure stated above. See campus policy regarding religious observances for full details.

4. Campus "Classroom Behavior" Policy:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the student code.

5. Discrimination and Sexual Harassment:

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be found at the OIEC website. The full policy on discrimination and harassment contains additional information.

6. Honor Code:

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information regarding the Honor Code policy can be found online and at the Honor Code Office.

Required Textbook

The following book is the main textbook for the course:

Karns, Margaret P., Karen A. Mingst, and Kendall W. Stiles. *International Organizations*, Third Edition. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

On the schedule below, the book is denoted as **KMS**. This book is available at the CU Bookstore. You may wish to check other vendors for prices. The first and second editions of this textbook—without the third author—is substantially different from the one used in this course, so it is *not okay* to use.

The textbook will be complemented by a set of journal articles. They will come from academic research journals. Some of these articles will be posted on NB to facilitate collaborative reading and will be preceded by **NB** on the schedule below. Others will be on the course D2L site, indicated by **D2L**.

Course Schedule and Student Responsibilities

Part I: Introduction

- Week 1: Introduction and Overview
 - Class 1 (August 24)
 - * Introductory Lecture
 - Class 2 (August 26)
 - * Introductory Lecture (continued)
 - Class 3 (August 28)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 1
 - * Reading Quiz #1 (closes at 10am)
- Week 2: What are International Organizations?
 - Class 4 (August 31)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 4
 - * Reading Quiz #2 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 5 (September 2)
 - **No Class** (September 4)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 6
 - * Reading Quiz #3 (closes at 10am)

Part II: Why Do States Pursue International Governance?

- Week 3: Cooperation vs. Coordination
 - **Labor Day Holiday: No Class** (September 7)
 - Class 6 (September 9)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 2
 - * Reading Quiz #4 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 7 (September 11)
 - * **D2L**: Coglianesse (2000)
 - * Reading Quiz #5 (closes at 10am)
- Week 4: Power and Hegemony
 - Class 8 (September 14)
 - * **NB**: Gruber (2001)
 - * Reading Quiz #6 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 9 (September 16)
 - Class 10 (September 18)
 - * **NB**: News article
- Week 5: Domestic Political Causes
 - Class 11 (September 21)
 - * **NB**: Putnam (1988)
 - * Reading Quiz #7 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 12 (September 23)
 - Class 13 (September 25)
 - * **NB**: News article

Part III: What are the Effects of International Governance?

- Week 6: Outcomes and Effects
 - Class 14 (September 28)
 - * **D2L**: Drezner (2014)
 - * Reading Quiz #8 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 15 (September 30)
 - * **NB**: Downs, Rocke, and Barsoom (1996)
 - * Reading Quiz #9 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 16 (October 2)
 - * **Exam #1** (open for 24 hours starting at 11am on October 2; response submission deadline 11am on October 3)
- Week 7: Commitment and Sanctioning
 - Class 17 (October 5)
 - * **NB**: Sattler, Spilker and Bernauer (2014)
 - * Reading Quiz #10 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 18 (October 7)
 - * **D2L**: Murdie and Davis (2012)

- * Reading Quiz #11 (closes at 10am)
- Class 19 (October 9)
 - * **NB**: News article
- Week 8: Information and Monitoring
 - Class 20 (October 12)
 - * **D2L**: Dai (2002)
 - * Reading Quiz #12 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 21 (October 14)
 - * **NB**: Thompson (2006)
 - * Reading Quiz #13 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 22 (October 16)

Part IV: How Has International Governance Evolved?

- Week 9: Peace and Security
 - Class 23 (October 19)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 7 (pp. 279–317)
 - * Reading Quiz #14 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 24 (October 21)
 - Class 25 (October 23)
 - * **NB**: News article
- Week 10: Peace and Security (continued)
 - Class 26 (October 26)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 7 (pp. 317–378)
 - * Reading Quiz #15 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 27 (October 28)
 - Class 28 (October 30)
 - * **NB**: News article
- Week 11: The International Economy
 - Class 29 (November 2)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 8
 - * Reading Quiz #16 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 30 (November 4)
 - Class 31 (November 6)
 - * **Exam #2** (open for 24 hours starting at 11am on November 6; response submission deadline 11am on November 7)
- Week 12: The International Economy (continued)
 - Class 32 (November 9)

- * **KMS**: Chapter 8
 - * Reading Quiz #17 (closes at 10am)
- Class 33 (November 11)
- Class 34 (November 13)
- * **NB**: News article
- Week 13: The Environment
 - Class 35 (November 16)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 11
 - * Reading Quiz #18 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 36 (November 18)
 - Class 37 (November 20)
 - * **NB**: News article
- Fall Break (November 23 – November 27)
- Week 14: Human Rights
 - Class 38 (November 30)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 10
 - * Reading Quiz #19 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 39 (December 2)
 - Class 40 (December 4)

Part IV: Conclusion

- Week 15: The Future of the World Economy
 - Class 41 (December 7)
 - * **KMS**: Chapter 12
 - * Reading Quiz #20 (closes at 10am)
 - Class 42 (December 9)
 - Class 43 (December 11)
- **Exam #3** (December 17): 4:30pm–7:00pm