

PSC 752: International Law & Organizations

Spring 2023

Tu 9:30-12:15, Maxwell 402

Professor Lamis Abdelaaty

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Virtual Office Hours: Th 9:30-11:30

Course Description Global governance, from formal organizations to soft law, establishes the “rules of the game” in international affairs. This course surveys the varying character and density of these rules across issues. Topics may include war, intervention, human rights, trade, development, self-determination, migration, and environment. Students will delve deeper through research papers.

Course Requirements

Participation (30%) Students should arrive at every class session having carefully read the assigned texts and ready to discuss them. To prepare for this discussion, students should familiarize themselves with the concepts, argument, methodology, and findings of each reading. At a minimum, every student should be able to offer an assessment and/or pose questions of each reading.

Discussion Papers & Comments (30%) Each student will write two short analytical discussion papers (5-6 pages each) for circulation to the whole class and will serve as a commentator on two occasions. Students must circulate their discussion papers to the class no later than noon on the Friday preceding the relevant session.

Research Paper or Policy Report & Comments (40%) Each student will write a 15-25 page research paper or policy report. I expect that most of these papers will address a substantive puzzle or problem involving international law and organizations, and will use concepts discussed in the course to analyze the relevant set of issues. Students are to consult with the instructor about a paper topic before March 12, and are to submit a one-page statement of topic by March 21.

Policies

- *Faith Tradition Observances:* Syracuse University’s [Religious Observances Policy](#) recognizes the diversity of faiths represented in the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holy days according to their traditions. Under the policy, students are given an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance,

provided they notify their instructors no later than the academic drop deadline. For observances occurring before the drop deadline, notification is required at least two academic days in advance. Students may enter their observances in MySlice under Student Services/Enrollment/My Religious Observances/Add a Notification.

- *Disability Statement:* Syracuse University values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. There may be aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion and full participation in this course. I invite any student to contact me to discuss strategies and/or accommodations (academic adjustments) that may be essential to your success and to collaborate with the Center for Disability Resources (CDR) in this process. If you would like to discuss disability-accommodations or register with CDR, please visit [Center for Disability Resources](#). Please call (315) 443-4498 or email disabilityresources@syr.edu for more detailed information. The CDR is responsible for coordinating disability-related academic accommodations and will work with the student to develop an access plan. Since academic accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact CDR as soon as possible to begin this process.
- *Academic Integrity:* Syracuse University's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) reflects the high value that we, as a university community, place on honesty in academic work. The policy holds students accountable for the integrity of all work they submit and for upholding course-specific, as well as university-wide, academic integrity expectations. The policy governs citation and use of sources, the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments, and truthfulness in all academic matters, including course attendance and participation. The policy also prohibits students from: 1) submitting the same work in more than one class without receiving advance written authorization from both instructors and, 2) using websites that charge fees or require uploading of course materials to obtain exam solutions or assignments completed by others and presenting the work as their own. Under the policy, instructors who seek to penalize a student for a suspected violation must first report the violation to the Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS). Students may not drop or withdraw from courses in which they face a suspected violation. Instructors must wait to assign a final course grade until a suspected violation is reviewed and upheld or overturned. Upholding Academic Integrity includes abiding by instructors' individual course expectations, which may include the protection of their intellectual property. Students should not upload, distribute, or otherwise share instructors' course materials without permission. Students found in violation of the policy are subject to grade sanctions determined by the course instructor and non-grade sanctions determined by the School or College where the course is offered, as outlined in the Violation and Sanction Classification Rubric. Students are required to read an online summary of the University's academic integrity expectations and provide an electronic signature agreeing to abide by them twice a year during pre-term check-in on MySlice. The Violation and Sanction Classification Rubric establishes recommended guidelines for the determination of grade penalties by faculty and instructors, while also giving them discretion to select the grade penalty they believe most suitable, including course failure, regardless of

violation level. Any established violation in this course may result in course failure regardless of violation level.

Required Texts None. All readings are available electronically via Blackboard.

Course Outline

Jan 17 – Introduction

Jan 24 – Cooperation & Anarchy

- Robert O. Keohane, “A Functional Theory of International Regimes,” in *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984), p. 85–109.
- John J. Mearsheimer, “The False Promise of International Institutions,” *International Security* 19, no. 3 (1994-1995): 5–49.
- Robert O. Keohane and Lisa L. Martin, “The Promise of Institutional Theory,” *International Security* 20, no. 1 (1995): 39–51.
- Kenneth W. Abbott et al., “The Concept of Legalization,” *International Organization* 54, no. 3 (2000): 401–419.
- Martha Finnemore and Stephen J. Toope, “Alternatives to ‘Legalization’: Richer Views of Law and Politics,” *International Organization* 55, no. 3 (2001): 743–758.

Jan 31 – Negotiation & Information

- Robert Axelrod, “The Problem of Cooperation,” in *The Evolution of Cooperation* (New York: Basic Books, 1984), p. 3–24.
- Robert D. Putnam, “Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games,” *International Organization* 42, no. 3 (1988): 427–460.
- Helen V. Milner, “Introduction,” in *Interests, Institutions, and Information: Domestic Politics and International Relations* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997), 3–29.
- James D. Morrow, “The Strategic Setting of Choices: Signaling, Commitment, and Negotiation in International Politics,” in *Strategic Choice and International Relations*, ed. David A. Lake and Robert Powell (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999), p. 77–114.
- Michael J. Gilligan and Leslie Johns, “Formal Models of International Institutions,” *Annual Review of Political Science* 15, no. 1 (2012): 221–243.

Feb 7 – Design & Evolution

- Barbara Koremenos, Charles Lipson, and Duncan Snidal, “The Rational Design of International Institutions,” *International Organization* 55, no. 4 (2001): 761–799.
- Amitav Acharya and Alastair Iain Johnston, “Comparing Regional Institutions: An Introduction,” in *Crafting Cooperation: Regional International Institutions in Comparative Perspective*, ed. Amitav Acharya and Alastair Iain Johnston (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), p. 1–31.
- Karen J. Alter and Sophie Meunier, “The Politics of International Regime Complexity,” *Perspectives on Politics* 7, no. 1 (2009): 13–24.
- Xinyuan Dai, “Information Systems in Treaty Regimes,” *World Politics* 54, no. 4 (2011): 405–436.
- Judith G. Kelley and Beth A. Simmons, “Politics by Number: Indicators as Social Pressure in International Relations,” *American Journal of Political Science* 59, no. 1 (2015): 55–70.

Feb 14 – Delegation & Agency

- Gayl D. Ness and Steven R. Brechin, “Bridging the Gap: International Organizations as Organizations,” *International Organization* 42, no. 2 (1988): 245–273.
- Darren G. Hawkins et al., “Delegation Under Anarchy: International Organizations and Principal-Agent Theory,” in *Delegation and Agency in International Organizations*, ed. Darren G. Hawkins et al. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), p. 3–38.
- Michael N. Barnett and Martha Finnemore, “The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations,” *International Organization* 53, no. 4 (1999): 699–732.
- Tana Johnson, “Institutional Design and Bureaucrats’ Impact on Political Control,” *Journal of Politics* 75, no. 1 (2013): 183–197.
- José E. Alvarez, “International Organizations as Treaty-makers,” in *International Organizations as Law-makers* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006), p. 273–291.

Feb 21 – Socialization & Transnational Networks

- Judith Goldstein and Robert O. Keohane, “Ideas and Foreign Policy: An Analytical Framework,” in *Ideas and Foreign Policy: Beliefs, Institutions, and Political Change*, ed. Judith Goldstein and Robert O. Keohane (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1993), p. 3–30.
- Martha Finnemore, “International Organizations as Teachers of Norms: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and Science Policy,” *International Organization* 47, no. 4 (1993): 565–597.
- Alastair Iain Johnston, “Treating International Institutions as Social Environments,” *International Studies Quarterly* 45, no. 4 (2001): 487–515.

- Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics: An Introduction,” in *Activists beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998), p. 1–38.
- Sheryl Lightfoot, “Indigenous Mobilization and Activism in the UN System,” in *Handbook of Indigenous Peoples’ Rights*, ed. Corinne Lennox and Damien Short (New York: Routledge, 2016), p. 253–267.

Feb 28 – Performance & Legitimacy

- Beth Simmons, “Treaty Compliance and Violation,” *Annual Review of Political Science* 13, no. 1 (2010): 273–296.
- Tamar Gutner and Alexander Thompson, “The Politics of IO Performance: A Framework,” *Review of International Organizations* 5, no. 3 (2010): 227–248.
- Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall, “Power in International Politics,” *International Organization* 59, no. 1 (2005): 39–75.
- B. S. Chimni, “International Institutions Today: An Imperial Global State in the Making,” *European Journal of International Law* 15, no. 1 (2004): 1–37.
- Allen Buchanan and Robert O. Keohane, “The Legitimacy of Global Governance Institutions,” *Ethics & International Affairs* 20, no. 4 (2006): 405–437.

Mar 7 – Security Institutions

- Daina Chiba, Jesse C. Johnson, and Brett Ashley Leeds, “Careful Commitments: Democratic States and Alliance Design,” *Journal of Politics* 77, no. 4 (2015): 968–982.
- Virginia Page Fortna, “Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace,” *International Organization* 57, no. 2 (2003): 337–372.
- Alexander Thompson, “Coercion through IOs: The Security Council and the Logic of Information Transmission,” *International Organization* 60, no. 1 (2006): 1–34.
- James D. Morrow, “When Do States Follow the Laws of War?,” *American Political Science Review* 101, no. 3 (2007): 559–572.
- Nicola Pratt, “Reconceptualizing Gender, Reinscribing Racial–Sexual Boundaries in International Security: The Case of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on ‘Women, Peace and Security’,” *International Studies Quarterly* 57, no. 4 (2014): 772–783.

Mar 21 – No class

Mar 28 – Economic Institutions

- Christina L. Davis, “Overlapping Institutions in Trade Policy,” *Perspectives on Politics* 7, no. 1 (2009): 25–31.

- Beth A. Simmons, “International Law and State Behavior: Commitment and Compliance in International Monetary Affairs,” *American Political Science Review* 94, no. 4 (2000): 819–835.
- David Vogel, “Private Global Business Regulation,” *Annual Review of Political Science* 11, no. 1 (2008): 261–282.
- Layna Mosley, “Workers’ Rights in Open Economies: Global Production and Domestic Institutions in the Developing World,” *Comparative Political Studies* 41, nos. 4-5 (2008): 674–714.
- Catherine Weaver, “The World’s Bank and the Bank’s World,” *Global Governance* 13, no. 4 (2007): 493–512.

Apr 4 – Environmental Institutions

- Elinor Ostrom, “An Institutional Approach to the Study of Self-Organization and Self-Governance in CPR Situations,” in *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), p. 29–57.
- Peter M. Haas, “Do Regimes Matter? Epistemic Communities and Mediterranean Pollution Control,” *International Organization* 43, no. 3 (1989): 377–403.
- Ronald B. Mitchell, “Regime Design Matters: Intentional Oil Pollution and Treaty Compliance,” *International Organization* 48, no. 3 (1994): 425–458.
- Jana von Stein, “The International Law and Politics of Climate Change: Ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 52, no. 2 (2008): 243–268.
- Robert O. Keohane and David G. Victor, “The Regime Complex for Climate Change,” *Perspectives on Politics* 9, no. 1 (2011): 7–23.

Apr 11 – Human Rights Institutions

- Kelly Kollman and Matthew Waites, “The Global Politics of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Human Rights: An Introduction,” *Contemporary Politics* 15, no. 1 (2009): 1–17.
- Amanda Murdie and Dursun Peksen, “The Impact of Human Rights INGO Shaming on Humanitarian Interventions,” *Journal of Politics* 76, no. 1 (2014): 215–228.
- Jay Goodliffe and Darren Hawkins, “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Rome: Explaining International Criminal Court Negotiations,” *Journal of Politics* 71, no. 3 (2009): 977–997.
- Erik Voeten, “The Impartiality of International Judges: Evidence from the European Court of Human Rights,” *American Political Science Review* 102, no. 4 (2008): 417–433.
- Susan D. Hyde, “Catch Us If You Can: Election Monitoring and International Norm Diffusion,” *American Journal of Political Science* 55, no. 2 (2011): 356–369.

Apr 18 – Health Institutions

- Jeremy Youde, “The Evolution of Global Health Governance,” in *Global Health Governance in International Society* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), p. 50–74.
- Kim Yi Dionne, “AIDS in Africa: A Significant Challenge and a Disconnected Response,” in *Doomed Interventions: The Failure of Global Responses to AIDS in Africa* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017), p. 13–38.
- Nitsan Chorev, “Changing Global Norms Through Reactive Diffusion: The Case of Intellectual Property Protection of AIDS Drugs,” *American Sociological Review* 77, no. 5 (2012): 831–853.
- Paul Gronke, “The Politics and Policy of Ebola,” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 25, no. 4 (2015): 688–693.
- Tana Johnson, “Ordinary Patterns in an Extraordinary Crisis: How International Relations Makes Sense of the COVID-19 Pandemic,” *International Organization* 74, no. S1 (2020): E148–E168.

Apr 25 – TBD by students**May 9 – Research paper or policy report due**