

**POL 361: International Organizations
Chavez 400**

Instructor: Patrick Rhamey, prhamey@email.arizona.edu

Office: Social Sciences 328-B

Hours: Wednesday 2:00-5:00 and by appointment

Website: <http://www.u.arizona.edu/~prhamey/teaching.php>

Required Texts:

International Organization and Global Governance - Friedrich Kratochwil and Edward D. Mansfield

Course Description and Expectations:

This is an upper division course for political science majors. It assumes some knowledge and background of both political science generally and the field of international politics. The course is designed to allow us to discuss and engage the purpose and mechanics of international organizations rather than for the instructor to lecture throughout the semester. Therefore, the course has been structured to emphasize student discussion and activities.

Learning is best accomplished by application; the syllabus reflects that approach. Each subject is addressed so that we learn what it is, critique it, and then discuss it further by applying the material through classroom scenarios.

Additional course material, such as simulation instructions and additional readings, will be posted on the instructor's website. The primary means of communication outside the classroom will be through e-mail. Students are expected to regularly check both the website and their e-mail.

Objectives for this course are that the student will:

- Apply the competing explanations of international relations to the reality of international organizations
- Learn to evaluate abstract theories and apply them to major events that shape international organizations
- Develop the ability to apply abstract theories to observed international political phenomenon and understand the structural mechanics of institutions
- Improve upon basic research skills, developing a written theoretical argument and providing evidence in defense

Assignments and Grading

Course requirements will be weighted in the following manner:

Participation and Attendance-----	10%
Simulations-----	40%
Organization Reports-----	20%
Final Paper-----	30%

It is extremely difficult to discuss theories of international organizations without having some common ground for understanding and comparing institutional frameworks. As a part of

this course, you will evaluate existing organizations through **organization reports** drawn from real world institutions accounting for 20% of your grade (10% each).

Students will also be asked to write a **final paper** "synthesizing" their experience with the course worth 30%. Students should use the research tools available to them online through Pearson publishing while researching their topics (www.mypearsoncafe.com). Building on the substantive cases and the simulation done throughout the semester, students will select an international organization of their choosing. The student is expected to describe the organization's formation, purpose, and salience, and evaluate the institution's effectiveness in light of the course's theoretical discussion. The student should provide both empirical and descriptive evidence for or against the institution's relevance, in addition to a well-constructed counterfactual discussion of international politics without that institution. Further details will be provided later in the semester.

Students will also participate in a **series of simulations**. Each simulation is designed to demonstrate different facets of international institutions, ranging from formal intergovernmental organizations to multinational corporations. More information, including simulation assignments and instructions, will be distributed throughout the semester.

Participation and Attendance accounts for 10% of the final grade. Students are expected to participate in class discussions. In order to participate effectively, students will need to complete the readings before their assigned class sessions. Since the topics are generally controversial and multi-faceted the classroom will be an arena of toleration for conflicting viewpoints. I will randomly call on students in class to answer questions about the readings. If I notice that students are not doing the readings, then I will begin to do random quizzes which will be then considered part of the participation grade.

Attendance will be taken every session. If you miss a class period for any reason, you receive a failing grade for participation for that class period. You will also be responsible for any material that was covered.

A Note on Academic Integrity: Any acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating on exams, turning in work completed by others as your own, or plagiarizing assignments will lead to a failing grade for the entire course and further academic disciplinary actions will be taken.

Grade Appeals

You will be graded solely on your academic performance. This includes clarity of thought, knowledge of the material, spelling, and grammar. If you receive a grade on an assignment that you think is inappropriate, you may request, **within a week of when I hand it back**, that it be re-graded. You must include a written explanation of why you believe your grade is inappropriate. Please note that the grade may be adjusted both up as well as down.

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

January 11

- Institutions, Structure, and Order: What is International Organization?

Anarchy vs. Order

January 18

- "Rise and Demise of the Territorial State." - John Herz, *World Politics* 9
- *The Retreat of the State*, Chapter 12 - Susan Strange

January 25

- **Scenario: The United Nations Security Council**
- The Assumption of Anarchy: Chapter 1 K&M

February 1

- "Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions" - Robert Axelrod and Robert Keohane, *World Politics* 38(1)
- "Anarchy in International Relations Theory: the Neorealist-Neoliberal Debate" - Robert Powell, *International Organization* 48(2)

International Institutions

February 8

- Chapter 2 K&M, Keohane (56-72) & Krasner (73-84)

February 15

- **Scenario: The World Trade Organization**
- Chapter 2 K&M, Haas (85-105) & Kratochwil (106-123)

February 22

- **Organization Report 1 Due**
- "Why States Act through Formal International Organizations" - Kenneth Abbot & Duncan Snidal, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42(1)
- "The False Promise of International Institutions" - John J. Mearsheimer, *International Security* 19(3)

Regimes & Norms

February 29

- Chapter 3 K&M, Slaughter (124-140) & Mitchell (141-161)

March 7

- **Scenario: The Coca-Cola Company**
- Chapter 3 K&M, Keck and Sikkink (162-176) & Barnett and Finnemore (177-201)

March 21

- Chapter 4 K&M, Claude (205-214) & Drezner (224-248)

Institutional Function

March 28

- Chapter 5 K&M, Lidskog and Sundqvist (269-287) & Risse-Kappen (288-300)

April 4

- **Organization Report 2 Due**
- Chapter 5 K&M Damian and Graz (301-312) & Stiglitz (313-325)

Regional Order, Security, and Cooperation

April 11

- Chapter 5 K&M, Mansfield and Milner (326-354) & Jessop (355-367)

April 18

- **Scenario: The European Union**
- "Regional Security Complexes: A System Approach" - David Lake, *Regional Orders: Building Security in a New World*
- "The Economic-Institutional Construction of Regions: Conceptualization and Operationalization" - Gary Goertz and Kathy L. Powers

International Hierarchy

April 25

- *Great Powers and Global Struggle* - Karen Rasler and Bill Thompson, Chapters 2 & 3
- "Which States Are Next: Seeking Entrance to the Club of Major Powers" - Thomas J. Volgy, Renato Corbetta, J. Patrick Rhamey, Ryan G. Baird, and Keith A. Grant

Conclusions

May 2

- Chapter 7 K&M, Sassen (124-140) & Higgott (141-162)

Final Papers due Wednesday May 9 by 5:00pm