

# INTL 4320: International Organizations

University of Georgia

Fall 2019, MWF 10:10 - 11:00 or 1:25 - 2:15

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Instructor:	Jeff Auerbach
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Office:	Hunter Holmes 320C
Office Hours:	M & W: 2:30 - 4:00
Classroom:	Baldwin 322 or Psychology 111

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## Welcome!

The central goal of this course is to understand why international organizations exist, what they do, how they work, and how they do not work. In this course we will seek to understand three specific subsets of international organizations: traditional IOs (UN, WTO, IMF), international agreements and non-governmental organizations, and finally multinational corporations. This course will heavily focus on the political economy of international organizations with the remainder being devoted to human rights.

This course is going to be in many way structured differently from most other courses you have taken. This is course is heavily based on discussion and is also strongly tangent based. What I mean by this is that time is built into every class to explore the part of the day's material that you find most interesting. You are encouraged to ask questions and question how things relate to each other and to things you have noticed in the outside world.

## Required Materials

- Gutner, Tamar. International Organizations in World Politics
- Vreeland, James. The IMF and Economic Development
- Yaziji & Doh. NGOs and Corporations: Conflict and Collaboration
- Reading on eLC

**Make-up policy:** It is your responsibility to attend all scheduled class meetings, including the times when exams are offered. I will offer make-up exams only in extreme cases.

## How will you be graded?

Table 1: Components of Final Grade

Component	Prop. of grade
Midterm	30%
Final Exam	30%
Case Studies	20%
Participation	20%

This class does use the +/– system.

## Ground rules

You are responsible for being self-motivated, self-directed, active learners. I expect you to comply with university policy and use common sense. You should complete all of the course assignments and participate fully in all of our activities. In this class we will be discussing politics which can be a sensitive topic. Offensive language, personal attacks, and harassment WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. On a technical note, close of business is 5pm; when something is due by close of business, that is what is expected.

## Goals and teaching philosophy

When this course is finished, you should:

- Understand the basic workings of the economy
- Understand how politics and the economy interact within and across states
- Understand the varieties of economies and capitalism

My goal in this class is to foster an environment where learning and discussion can be carried out. <sup>1</sup>

## Case Studies

There will be one written and one oral presentation of a case study over the course of the semester (for a total of two case studies). The goal of these case studies is for you to be able to connect the actions and activities of international organizations to real world events and issues. You will be expected to identify some action by an international organizations (either discussed in this class or not covered) and tell how it worked - or did not work. What was the issues they were trying to solve? Did it work? What would have happened if they had not stepped in? How the the IO action effect the people/country/industry effected by the problem?

In both the written and oral presentations you will be expected to provide not simply a history of what happened, but an analysis. Some level of subjectivity is not just acceptable, but necessary. The written case study should be between two and three pages and include what lessons there are to be taken away from this. Similarly, the oral presentations should eb 8 to 10 minutes long, cover the same information, and may - but are not required to - use PowerPoint. Being able to succinctly analyze the case and pass along the information is part of the goal of this exercise. Failure to adhere to the time/page restrictions will be penalized.

## Exams

There will be a midterm and a final exam that both consist of a combination of multiple choice and fill in the blank. The goal of the exams is for there to not be any surprises. These exams will be designed to be taken during a standard class period. There will be no make up tests except in extreme circumstances.

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<sup>1</sup>A note about my name: Feel free to call me Jeff or Mr. Auerbach.

# Course Schedule

## Week 1

Week of August 14: Start at the Beginning

- Wednesday: Syllabus
- Friday: Gutner - Chapters 1 & 2

## Week 2

Week of August 19: The United Nations

- Gutner Chapters 3 & 4

## Week 3

Week of August 26: The World Bank

- Gutner Chapters 5 & 6

## Week 4

Week of September 2: The IMF

- Monday: No Class - Labor Day
- Wednesday and Friday: Gutner Chapter 7

## Week 5

Week of September 9: The IMF Continued

- Gutner Chapter 8 and Overflow
- Friday: No Class - Jeff Travels

## Week 6

Week of September 16: The IMF Continued

- Vreeland - Whole book (skim the empirical parts)

## **Week 7**

Week of September 23:

- Monday & Wednesday: No Class - Jeff Travels
- Friday: Chapters 9 & 10

## **Week 8**

Week of September 30: The WTO

- Monday: No Class
- Chapters 9 & 10

## **Week 8**

Week of October 7: Regional Organizations

- Monday: Gutner Chapters 11
- Wednesday: No Class
- Friday: Chapter 12

## **Week 9**

Week of October 14: Midterm Week

- Monday: Review Session
- Wednesday: Midterm Exam
- Friday: No Class

## **Week 10**

October 21: Understanding NGOs

- Yaziji & Doh Part I

## **Week 11**

Week of October 28: NGOs and Advocacy

- Yaziji & Doh Part II
- Friday: No Class - Fall Break

## **Week 12**

Week of November 4: NGO Corporate Relations

- Yaziji & Doh Part III

## **Week 13**

Week of November 11: The EU & Regional Trade Agreements

- Readings on ELC

## **Week 14**

Week of November 18: Human Rights Agreements & Case Studies

- Readings on ELC

## **Week 15**

Week of November 25

- Monday: Overflow
- Wednesday & Friday: No Class - Thanksgiving

## **Week 16ish**

Week of December 2

- Monday: Final Exam Review
- Wednesday: Final Exam