

MC 363 – Global Governance
James Madison College
Michigan State University
Spring 2006

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Hours: Mon and Wed 1:30-3,
and by appointment

Class meetings: Mon and Wed, 10:20-11:40 A.M.
Class location: 334a Case Hall

Course Description

This course is designed to allow you to explore the architecture, process, and consequences of global governance. In earlier years, this course may have been referred to as International Organizations or even more simply as the United Nations and World Politics. While international governmental organizations (IGOs), and especially the United Nations, are the major focuses of this course, the course's title reflects the broader conceptual issues that you will be faced with this semester. To use an expression from another scholar in a different way, one of the major points of emphasis this semester is to see how the world "hangs together". While we will be learning a lot about the structure of an array of IGOs, we also want to ask how they matter for world politics. Yet we also want to recognize that the global governance system is about more than just IGOs. To that end we will be examining NGOs and social movements to understand the logic and significance of these institutions. The biggest challenge for us, however, will be trying to put all of the pieces together to understand this feature of international relations that is gaining in importance as an analytical tool to understanding contemporary international politics.

The course begins with a theoretical exploration of global governance. We begin by discussing the logic of the term "global governance" itself before looking at how various IR theories – which you should probably remember from MC 220 classes – understand global governance and international cooperation more generally. In so doing, we also want to consider what international institutions are and how we can theorize about how they might matter in international politics. Part II of the course focuses on understanding the structure and behavior of the various actors or agents of global governance with a special emphasis on the UN. Before we can see how these actors matter and judge their behavior, we first need a good grasp of how they are structured and what they were designed to accomplish. Part III focuses on the influence of global governance over a range of issues in contemporary international affairs: security, economic, social, and environmental. Throughout we want to see why and how states use international institutions to make policy, how those policies are developed and operate, and then see how these institutions in turn influence how states behave.

The reading is designed to provide a variety of theoretical approaches/perspectives and empirical examples to help you make sense of the richness of the field of global governance. The exams and paper assignments are designed to improve your research, critical thinking, and writing abilities. I hope that class discussions will help you improve your oral communication skills.

Required Readings (please obtain the appropriate editions)

Make sure to do the reading for the session for which it is assigned. While I know that the reading load is heavy at times, it is very important to keep on track with it.

1. Paul F. Diehl (ed.). 2005. *The Politics of Global Governance*. 3rd edition. Lynne Rienner Publishers.
2. Margaret P. Karns and Karen A. Mingst. 2004. *International Organizations*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.
3. Richard M. Price and Mark W. Zacher (eds.). 2004. *The United Nations and Global Security*. Palgrave Macmillan.
4. Jackie Smith and Hank Johnston (eds.). 2002. *Globalization and Resistance*. Rowman and Littlefield.
5. Rorden Wilkinson (ed.). 2005. *The Global Governance Reader*. Routledge.
6. Regular reading of a periodical with good international coverage. Knowledge of current events is expected for the exams and class discussions.
7. Any other readings as assigned.

Evaluation (every assignment must be successfully completed to pass the course)

1. Midterm Exam. An in-class exam based on the readings, lectures, and discussions for parts I and II of the course. In class on Wednesday, March 1. **25% of grade**
2. Final Exam. An in-class exam during the assigned time of finals period. **25% of grade**
3. Paper Project. More details will be provided early in the semester, but the project is designed for you to explore the role of global governance in a specific issue area of international relations. You will have great freedom in selecting an issue (with my approval and frequent consultations throughout), but it will have to be fairly focused. In other words, a focused topic will be something like global warming and not something as general as the global environment.
 - The first part of the project will be an exploration of your issue area and a project proposal. In other words, you will conduct research on your topic and present an analysis of the international institutional environment regarding your topic. The goal here is to explain as fully as possible the population of actors involved in the issue. The goal is to improve your research skills, as well as your ability to provide clear and tightly focused, but comprehensive overviews of the field. As you develop this essay, you will incorporate a research proposal in which you select two different actors involved in the issue that will guide your research in the second part of the project. This paper will be 6-8 pages, and is due Friday, February 17. **15% of grade**
 - The second part of the project will be a detailed and focused comparison of the two specific actors that you have identified as being important, interesting, and relevant in your first essay. You will detail the actions that each actor has selected, assess their impacts, and discuss the relative effects of each. There will be also an opportunity to provide your assessment of whether an alternative approach to dealing with the issue is necessary. This paper will be 15 pages long (due Friday, April 21) and will also include a thesis and outline stage (due Friday,

March 31) so that I can help you to guide the paper toward completion. **25% of grade**

4. Participation. I expect that there will be ample opportunities for discussion in class and that students will take advantage of those opportunities. While at certain times there will be more lecturing than at others, I anticipate that this will be a lot of discussions and debates in this course. Students should come to class each day with their questions or thoughts on the reading or on previous course material. If I find students unprepared for discussion, I reserve the right to assign additional assignments or responsibilities to remedy that situation. While attendance is not a formal part of your grade, you can't earn participation points if you are not there. Missing more than 2 or 3 class meetings is not advised, and attendance may be used as a factor in determining borderline grades. Your performance on exams will suffer if you don't both attend lectures and read the required material. I expect that while we might all disagree on certain issues throughout the semester that all discussions will be civil and everyone should respect each other. **10% of grade**

For the exams, you are responsible for both the lecture material and the assigned readings (even those not discussed in class). There will be no make-ups without *prior* permission based on an *extremely* good reason.

Honors Option: For those interested in an Honors Option, please see me by the end of the first week of classes to make arrangements. There will be extra meetings and assignments (reading and written), and students will be held to a higher standard on all facets of the course, including a minimum course grade of 3.5. We will center our discussions on the following book:

Robert Jackson. 2000. *The Global Covenant: Human Conduct in a World of States*.
Either the paperback or hardcover is fine.

Academic Honesty: Of course, no form of academic misconduct (on papers and exams) will be tolerated. All violations will face the harshest penalties allowed under MSU policy (which, at the minimum, is a 0.0 for the course). In part, the JMC's Student Handbook reads:

The faculty recognize that it is the responsibility of the instructor to take appropriate action if an act of academic dishonesty is discovered. It is further understood that a student may appeal a judgment of academic dishonesty to the Student-Faculty Judiciary. The Faculty Assembled recommend that in cases involving proven academic dishonesty, the student should receive, as a minimum, a 0.0 in the course and that a record of the circumstances, sanctions, and any appeal, be placed in the student's confidential file. (In accordance with University policy, the record may be made available to faculty if such information is deemed necessary in the discharging of their respective responsibilities). The individual faculty member or the Dean may recommend further action, including dismissal from the University, to the Student-Faculty Judiciary. If a second case of academic dishonesty should occur, the recommendation is that the faculty, through the Office of Academic Affairs, should seek the student's dismissal from the College and the University.

That said, virtually all violations can be avoided if you speak to me first. Not waiting until the last minute to finish assignments helps to avoid most problems.

Schedule

Within each unit, some minor adjustment can be made to the course schedule based on our progression through the material. I'll announce any changes in class. I may also send out email to the class – be sure to check your accounts regularly. Feel free to come see me at any point if you wish to talk more about the course. I am generally around and available even outside of office hours. I will answer email questions, but I will also ask to talk with you in person for subjects that cannot be treated appropriately electronically.

Part I: Theoretical Approaches to Global Governance

Monday, January 9 – Welcome and Introductions

Wednesday, January 11 – What is global governance?

Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 1
Wilkinson, introduction and chapter 1

Monday, January 16 – MLK Holiday – no class

Wednesday, January 18 – IR Theory and Global Governance: Liberalisms

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 35-45, 56-59
Diehl, chapter 2

Monday, January 23 – IR Theory and Global Governance: Realisms

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 45-50
Diehl, chapter 3

Wednesday, January 25 – IR Theory and Global Governance: Critical Approaches

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 50-56
Wilkinson, chapters 4, 5, and 7

Monday, January 30 – Transnationalism, Social Movement Theory, and Global Governance

Reading: Wilkinson, chapter 2
Smith and Johnston, chapters 2-3

Part II: Understanding the Actors of Global Governance

Wednesday, February 1 – The Early Years of IGOs

Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 3
Diehl, chapter 1

Monday, February 6 – The Basics of the UN System
 Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 97-132

Wednesday, February 8 – Decision-making in the UN
 Reading: Diehl, chapters 4-6

Monday, February 13 – Reforming the UN
 Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 132-142
 Diehl, chapters 7 and 18
 Price and Zacher, chapter 13

Wednesday, February 15 – Regional Organizations
 Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 142-144 AND chapter 5
 Diehl, chapter 14
 Price and Zacher, chapter 14

Monday, February 20 – NGOs and other non-state actors
 Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 6

Wednesday, February 22 – States and Global Governance
 Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 7

Monday, February 27 – Civil Society and Accountability in Global Governance
 Reading: Wilkinson, chapters 3, 6, and 17

Midterm Exam: Wednesday, March 1

Spring Break – March 6 – 10 – No Classes

Part III: The Activities of Global Governance

Monday, March 13 – Conflict Prevention and Resolution
 Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 277-306
 Price and Zacher, chapters 4-5
 Diehl, chapter 8

Wednesday, March 15 – UN Peace-keeping

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 306-324
Diehl, chapter 10
Price and Zacher, chapter 9

Monday, March 20 – The Politics of Intervention

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 324-327
Price and Zacher, chapters 11-12
Diehl, chapter 9
Wilkinson, chapter 10

Wednesday, March 22 – Sanctions, Terrorism, and Criminalization

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 336-353
Price and Zacher, chapters 6-8

Monday, March 27 – Arms Control

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 327-336
Price and Zacher, chapters 1-3

Wednesday, March 29 – Human Security and Protecting People

Reading: Karns and Mingst, page 353
Price and Zacher, chapters 10 and 15
Diehl, chapter 15
Smith and Johnston, chapter 4

Monday, April 3 – The Structure of Global Economic Governance

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 355-402
Diehl, chapters 11 and 13

Wednesday, April 5 – Economic Development and Foreign Aid

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 402-406
Diehl, chapter 12
Wilkinson, chapters 11 and 12

Monday, April 10 – Critiques of the Global Economic Governance Structure

Reading: Karns and Mingst, pages 406-412
Wilkinson, chapters 8, 9, and 13
Smith and Johnston, chapters 7, 11, 12, 13

Wednesday, April 12 – Human Rights

Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 10
Smith and Johnston, chapter 8

Monday, April 17 – Women's Issues and Public Health Governance

Reading: Diehl, chapter 17
Wilkinson, chapters 14 and 16

Wednesday, April 19 – Governing the Global Environment

Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 11
Diehl, chapter 16
Wilkinson, chapter 15
Smith and Johnston, chapters 5, 9, and 10

Monday, April 24 – The Future of Global Governance

Reading: Karns and Mingst, chapter 12
Diehl, chapter 19

Wednesday, April 26 – Conclusion and Review

Final Exam: Monday, May 1, 10 am - 12 noon