

**TROY UNIVERSITY**  
**TERM II, AY 2009-2010**

**IR 6610 International Organizations**  
Independent study

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Brendan M. Howe

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**AVAILABILITY:** By e-mail; or Saturday and Sunday, before or after class; or by mutually convenient appointment.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The evolution and functions of international organizations; political structures and international systems for collective use of power and cooperative action among states; the impact of international Non-Governmental Organizations and other types of transnational relations and organizations on global affairs.

**OVERALL OBJECTIVE:** Governance is the process by which we try to reconcile and regulate conflicting individual desires with minimum use of coercion and recourse to physical force. In domestic society this function is performed by the governments of various states. However, in international society there is no government as such, which has led many to describe international politics in terms of anarchy. International organization is an attempt by the international community to supply governance without government, thereby alleviating the worst effects of anarchy, namely conflict between states. The study of international organization has blossomed with the end of the Cold War. Part of this heightened interest is the result of growing UN involvement in peacekeeping and peace-building operations around the globe. The post-Cold War New World Order has been heralded as a second chance to provide international governance and to demonstrate the relevance of international organization now that the United Nations Security Council has been freed from the ideological paralysis of former years. In part international organization has assumed increased importance due to the ongoing impact of globalization in terms of economic interdependence and the transnationalization of labor, trade and investment patterns. Finally, many of the problems and threats facing the international community are no longer specific to individual countries – AIDS, SARS, terrorism, drugs, the ozone layer, global warming and nuclear proliferation have all commanded the attention of international organizers. With this backdrop in mind, the overall objective of the course is to give the student a fuller appreciation of the role of international organizations in the ever more interdependent world of the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

1. The history and evolution of international organization as a process:
2. The dualistic nature of international organization:
3. The organizing principles of international organization:
4. The structure and functioning of international organizations:
5. The role of international organizations in global governance and the management of international conflict:
6. Improved analytical and research skills:
7. Improved written communication skills:
8. Confidence in their ability to convey an understanding of the complex forces shaping international organization.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Open Book Exam: 40% of the Total Grade  
Research Project: 60%

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:** Guided readings, e-mail correspondence, open book exam, research paper. Students to complete assigned readings before each session date upon which the instructor will answer questions in an open forum and give direction regarding the most important issues raised in the readings. Supporting lecture-based material distributed electronically by instructor.

**GRADE SCALE:**

A:	90-100
B:	80-89
C:	70-79
D:	60-69
F:	0-59

**TEXTS:** Ziring, Riggs, and Plano UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND WORLD POLITICS Wadsworth 2004 ISBN-13: 9780534631864  
Weiss, Forsythe, & Coate UNITED NATIONS AND CHANGING WORLD POLITICS Westview 2006 ISBN-10: 081334347X ISBN-13: 978-0813343471

**WEBSITES:** <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govinfo/resource/internat/igo.html>  
<http://www.un.org/>  
<http://europa.eu/>  
[www.wto.org/](http://www.wto.org/)

**LIBRARY RESOURCES:** Students can access online information resources through Troy Library Services home page at <https://www.library.troy.edu>

These resources include a variety of full databases that provide complete article texts from thousands of journals, magazines and newspapers to aid students in their original research for class participation, presentations, and final research project.

In addition, where necessary the Instructor will provide additional readings if they cannot be accessed through the Troy Library Service.

Students are advised to read widely (beyond the set texts) and keep up to date on current affairs through multiple news media.

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:**

Troy University supports Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which insure that post-secondary students with disabilities have equal access to all academic programs, physical access to all buildings, facilities and events, and are not discriminated against on the basis of disability. Eligible students, with appropriate documentation, will be provided equal opportunity to demonstrate their academic skills and potential through the provision of academic adaptations and reasonable accommodations. Further information, including appropriate contact information, can be found at the following link:

<http://www.troy.edu/humanresources/ADAPolicy2003.htm>

**ACADEMIC ETHICS:** Details of “Ethical Standards of Reporting Information” can be found in the PUBLICATIONS MANUAL of the AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION. Troy University’s “Standards of Conduct,” published in the TROY UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CATALOGUE, also should be consulted by students.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT**

1. Each enrolled student will complete a graduate level research paper of 4,000-6,000 words of double-spaced text with appropriate citations and bibliography not included in the word count.
2. Papers due 17 July, 2009 17:00 Japan/Korea time by electronic submission.
3. During the third session students will select a theme for their project in consultation with the instructor.
4. The final Written Report will follow one of the two following structures: (1) An evaluation of the success (or failure) of an international organization in performing its functional mission; (2) the practical construction of the parameters of a new student invented international organization in accordance with the criteria covered in the readings.
5. The Topic of the final Written Report must be cleared with the Instructor via e-mail before, during or after session # 4.

6. The weekly sessions are meant as a guide to ensure that all students keep up with their research and independent study and are literally on the same page when it comes to group discussions.
7. Students are well advised to communicate with each other as well as with the instructor in order to gain feedback on their progress with the reading material and individual research.

**SYLLABUS**

**Texts: Z, R&P:** Ziring, Riggs, and Plano **UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND WORLD POLITICS** Wadsworth 2004 ISBN-13: 9780534631864  
**WFC:** Weiss, Forsythe, & Coate **UNITED NATIONS AND CHANGING WORLD POLITICS** Westview 2006 **ISBN-10:** 081334347X **ISBN-13:** 978-0813343471

**WEBSITES:** <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govinfo/resource/internat/igo.html>  
<http://www.un.org/>  
<http://europa.eu/>  
[www.wto.org/](http://www.wto.org/)

<b>Session</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
<b>Session # 1</b> <b>Preparatory Work</b> <b>Complete by June 5, 2009</b>	Preparation for discussion session and research paper planning.	<b>Begin reading textbooks and studying websites!</b>
<b>Session # 2</b> <b>Complete by June 12, 2009</b>	Introduction of basic concepts / briefing of students on expected contributions. Selection of presentation/project themes. Discussion of contemporary international environment. Historical evolution of IO.	<b>R&amp;P:</b> 1 & 8 <b>WFC:</b> Intro, 1 & 5
<b>Session # 3</b> <b>Complete by June 26, 2009</b>	The structure and functioning of IO. Membership, institutional structures, voting procedures and vetoes.	<b>R&amp;P:</b> 2 & 3 <b>WFC:</b> 6 & 7
<b>Session # 4</b> <b>Complete by July 3, 2009</b>	Administration, financing, and jurisdiction. The practical matters involved in running an international organization – who does what, who pays for what, and over what does it have authority?	<b>R&amp;P:</b> 3 & 4 <b>WFC:</b> 10 & Conclusion
<b>Session # 5</b> <b>Complete by July 10, 2009</b>	The Role of Universal International Organizations in the Management of International Conflict.	<b>R&amp;P</b> 5, 6, & 7 <b>WFC:</b> 2, 3, & 4
<b>Session # 6</b> <b>Complete by July 17, 2009@17:00</b>	Final Papers Due	