# American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

## School of Security and Global Studies
## IRLS 503
## International Organizations
## Credit Hours:  3
## Length of Course:  8 Weeks
## Prerequisite:

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## Instructor Information

***Instructor:***        [insert name with credentials]

***Biography:***        [insert APUS biography link]

**Please contact your instructor through the Messages tab in the classroom.**

## After the class is over, instructor contact information: [insert mycampus address]

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### Course Description (Catalog)

This course introduces issues surrounding the two major categories of international institutions: intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) such as the United Nations, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) such as the International Committee of the Red Cross. The course studies the theories, origins, principles, organization, activities, legal authority and performance of major international organizations as world actors in areas of economic development, international security, trade, and humanitarian assistance. IGOs serve as forums for communications, as regulators, as distributors, as organs of military security, and as peacekeepers. Table of Contents

### Course Scope

As part of the core requirement, this course introduces the student to critical elements of the discipline. Students will participate in weekly Discussion Forums that correlate to weekly readings. Students will write an analytical research paper and a comprehensive final assignment.

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### Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

## CO-1: Examine the roles of international organizations within international relations, peacekeeping, economy, security, and conflict resolution.

## CO-2: Analyze the correlation between international organizations and the theories of socialization, interest convergence, and behavior.

## CO-3: Apply theories of human rights and state sovereignty to specific international organizations and institutions.

## CO-4: Distinguish how the theories of liberalism, realism, and constructivism have been incorporated within the international system.

## Co-5: Evaluate the ability of the United Nations to work with regional organizations in peacekeeping initiatives.

## Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

## Course Resources

### Required Course Textbooks

No book is required for this course.

### Required Readings

- External websites and other assigned readings are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.

- Weekly Lesson Notes and videos or audio files are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.

## Evaluation Procedures

The course grade is based on the following assessments:

### Discussion Forums — 20 percent

Each week, a discussion question is provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings. Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to 2 or more classmates by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. Forum posts are graded on timeliness, relevance, knowledge of the weekly readings, and the quality of original ideas.

### Research Question, Purpose Statement, and Literature Review

## Exercise – 15 percent

The components of this assignment include a research question, a purpose statement, and a literature view of at least 6 sources, two of which must be peer-reviewed. The specific research question should relate to a general topic in the course. 6-8 pages.

## Research Paper – 35 percent

Adding to the 6-8 page assignment in Week Two, the research paper should be at least 10 additional pages of analysis of your topic, not including the cover page, the reference list, and any appendices.

## Final Assignment – 30 percent

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 4 questions, 2-3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

| Assignments | Percentage |
|---|---|
| Research Question Assignment | 15 percent |
| Research Paper | 35 percent |
| Discussion Forums | 20 percent |
| Final Assignment | 30 percent |
| TOTAL | 100 percent |

## 8 – Week Course Outline

| Week | Topic | Course Objective(s) | Readings | Assignments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Introduction | CO-1 Examine types of international organizations and their relationships to scholarly theories about their roles in international relations, peacekeeping, economy, security, and conflict resolution | Iriye (2002), *Global community*<br><br>Steffek (2013) | Week One Forum Discussion |
| 2 | Common Interests versus Irreconcilable Differences: Do IOs Bring States Together? | CO-2: Examine the correlation between international organizations and the theories of socialization, interest convergence, and behavior. | Grant and Keohane (2005) *Accountability and abuses of power in world politics*<br><br>Greenhill (2002) *The company you keep*<br><br>Haftel and Thompson (2006) *The independence* | Week Two Forum Discussion<br><br>Research Question Assignment |

| | | | of international organizations: concept and applications<br><br>Kent (2002) *China's international socialization* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3** | NGOs, States, and the Protection of Human Rights | CO-3: Apply theories of human rights and state sovereignty to specific international organizations and institutions. | Benjamin (2009) *Protecting the protectors: NGO action and the responsibility to protect*<br><br>Hathaway (2007) *Why do countries commit to human rights treaties?*<br><br>Schneider (2011) *Weak states and institutionalized bargaining power*<br><br>Wotipka and Tsutsui (2008) *Global human rights and state* | Week Three Forum Discussion |

| | | | sovereignty: Nation-states' ratifications of human rights treaties | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **4** | Simulation | CO-1: Examine types of international organizations and their relationships to scholarly theories about their roles in international relations, peacekeeping, economy, security, and conflict resolution (changed from evaluation to analysis) <br><br> CO-2: Examine the correlation between international organizations and the theories of socialization, interest convergence, and behavior. <br><br> CO-3: Apply theories of human rights and state sovereignty to specific international | Weeks 1-3 readings and additional student-selected readings for simulation exercise. <br><br> Saiderman and Auerswald (2012) *Comparing Caveats* | Week Four Forum Discussion |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | organizations and institutions. | | |
| **5** | On Realism and its Dominance | CO-4: Distinguish how the theories of liberalism, realism, and constructivism explain the operations of organizations and economic structures of the international system | Mearsheimer (1994) *The false promise of international institutions*<br><br>Moldoveanu (2013) | Week Five Forum Discussion |
| **6** | On Masters and Servants: States and International Financial Institutions | CO-4: Distinguish how the theories of liberalism, realism, and constructivism explain the operations of organizations and economic structures of the international system | Copelovitch (2010) *Master or servant?*<br><br>Porter (2009) *Why international institutions matter*<br><br>Serin and Oktay (2012) *Debates on a new international financial system*<br><br>Urbaczka and Vaubel (2013) | Week Six Forum Discussion<br><br>Research Paper Due |

| 7 | Challenges to Security | CO-5: Evaluate the role of the United Nations and regional organizations in peacekeeping initiatives and conflicts. | Hurd and Cronin (2008) *The UN Security Council and the legitimacy of international authority*<br><br>Chaulia (2011) | Week Seven Forum Discussion |
| 8 | Evaluating the UN and Security Council | CO-5: Evaluate the role of the United Nations and regional organizations in peacekeeping initiatives and conflicts. | Shannon, Morey, and Boehmke (2010) *The influence of international organizations on militarized dispute initiation and duration*<br><br>Tharoor (2011) | Week Eight Forum Discussion<br><br>Final Assignment Due |

## Policies

Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

Drop/Withdrawal Policy

Plagiarism Policy

Extension Process and Policy

Disability Accommodations

## Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the Turabian/Chicago Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University.

See http://www.apus.edu/Online-Library/tutorials/chicago.htm. All written submissions should be submitted in Times New Roman 12pt font with 1" margins, typewritten in double-spaced format. Graduate-level work is expected to be free of grammar, usage, and style errors.

## Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

## Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and <u>especially</u> satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers:  ;-), : ),  ☺

## Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to **librarian@apus.edu**.

- *Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:* The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.

- ***Tutor*.com**: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

### Request a Library Guide for your course (http://apus.libguides.com/index.php)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

## Turnitin.com

Faculty require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. The instructor will post information in the classroom on student procedures.

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## Selected Bibliography

Baylis, John. 2010. International and global security. In *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, ed. John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, 230-245.

Copelovitch, Mark s. 2010. Master or servant? Common agency and the political economy of IMF lending. *International Studies Quarterly* 54/1: 49-77.

Haftel, Yoram Z. and Alexander Thompson. 2006. The independence of International organizations: Concept and applications. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 50/2: 253-275.

Iriye, Akira. 2002. *Global community: The role of international organizations in the making of the contemporary world*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California

Mearsheimer, John. 1994. The false promise of international institutions. *International Security* 1994/5: 5-49.

Willetts, Peter. 2010. Transnational actors and international organizations in global politics. In *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, ed. John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, 326-345.