

Syllabus

International Cooperation

Instructor: Oliver Westerwinter
Fall Semester 2016

Time & room

Thursday, 10:15-12h in 01-208

Office

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Office hours: by appointment

This syllabus may be subject to adjustments.

Overview and goals

In this course, we will read, discuss, and engage the modern literature on international institutions, regimes, and organizations. International politics is increasingly institutionalized in all issue areas. Understanding the dynamics of international conflict and cooperation therefore requires that we understand the sources and consequences of institutionalization in world politics. In addition to intergovernmental agreements and organizations, we will also cover institutions in which states cooperate with non-state actors, such as companies and non-governmental organizations.

The course will be theory-driven, with each session devoted to studying a particular theoretical framework or family of frameworks used by international relations scholars to understand international institutions. In addition to theoretical arguments, each session will engage with empirical applications of these theories. We will address most of the major issue areas in international politics, including political economy, security, and environmental issues. In terms of research questions, the course focuses on the emergence, design, and functioning of international institutions with a lesser emphasis on their consequences.

The goal of this course is to enable students to read and understand theoretical arguments about international institutions and research designs developed to empirically test these arguments. The course will also enable students to develop their own ideas for research and writing. To that end, if students are interested, it is possible to set aside the last session of class for presentation of research designs by students to obtain feedback prior to the submission of their final assignment. The assignments for the course are designed to move you toward identifying researchable questions for study, and preparing a research design to answer these questions.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this class.

Class requirements

Final grades will be based on:

- Research design (40% of final grade)
- Topic identification (20% of final grade)
- Two discussion papers (20% each of final grade)
- Participation in lectures and discussions

Your final grade will be determined by two discussion papers (20% each), an identification of a research topic (20%), and a research design paper (40%). The discussion or response papers (1-2 pages) focus on a particular article and serve to start the group discussion of a selected class session. Each student has to select two class sessions to write a response paper for a particular article in each of these two class sessions. Students will give brief summaries of their response papers (5-10 minutes) in class to start the group discussion.

The research topic identification is a short (2-3 pages) paper that outlines a research topic of your choice and identifies a researchable question. The research design paper (5-7 pages) builds on the topic identification and develops the topic and question into an executable research design (as would be required, for example, for a BA or MA thesis project). For each type of assignment, there will be short guidelines available after the first class session. Discussion papers have to be submitted as hard copy at the beginning of the class session to which they are related. The topic identification has to be handed in as hard copy at the beginning of the session for which they are due. The deadline for the research design paper has to be submitted either as hard copy or electronically (pdf) by January 20, 2017. Late submissions will not be accepted for any assignment.

If interested, students can hold short presentations of their research designs to obtain feedback prior to submit their final assignment in the last session. In combination, the assignments will help students to deepen and broaden their understanding of the materials covered in class. In general, students should come to class having completed the required readings and being prepared to participate in the group discussions.

Course website

We use StudyNet as communication platform for the class. The course site at StudyNet can be accessed here: <https://loginpages.unisg.ch/studynet>. The course website at StudyNet will provide readings and other materials.

Textbooks

The course will be taught without using a single textbook. The required readings in combination with the slides provided throughout the course will be the primary teaching materials. Students may find it useful to purchase one or several of the following books. These are seminal contributions to the study of international cooperation and are useful not only in this class but may also be relevant later on in your studies.

Keohane, Robert O. 1984 (2005). *After Hegemony. Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

- Krasner, Stephen D. 1983. *International Regimes*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Hawkins, Darren G., David A. Lake, Daniel L. Nielson and Michael J. Tierney. 2006. *Delegation and Agency in International Organizations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Koremenos, Barbara. 2016. *The Continent of International Law. Explaining Agreement Design*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Barnett, Michael and Martha Finnemore. 2004. *Rules for the World. International Organizations in Global Politics*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Schedule

The weekly coverage might change as it depends on the progress of the class. The assigned required and optional readings are listed in the class schedule for each session. The required readings should be completed prior to the session for which they are listed and studied carefully. In addition, it is recommended to consult the optional readings. The optional readings may prove useful to students looking for additional coverage of some of the course topics as well as for developing the topic of your assignments. This schedule is subject to adjustments.

September 22: Introduction and general background

Required readings:

- Martin, Lisa L. and Beth A. Simmons. 1998. "Theories and Empirical Studies of International Institutions." *International Organization* 52: 729-757.
- Oye, Kenneth A. 1985. "Explaining Cooperation under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies." *World Politics* 38: 1-24.

Optional readings:

- Keohane, Robert O. 1984 (2005). *After Hegemony. Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Ch. 1
- Fearon, James D. 1998. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation." *International Organization* 52: 729-757.
- Mearsheimer, John J. 1994. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security* 19: 5-49.
- Grieco, Joseph M. 1988. "Anarchy and the limits of cooperation: a realist critique of the newest liberal institutionalism." *International Organization* 42: 485-507.
- Axelrod, Robert and Robert O. Keohane. 1985 "Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy: Strategies and Institutions." *World Politics* 38: 226-254.

Lake, David A. and Robert Powell. 1999. International Relations: A Strategic-Choice Approach. In *Strategic Choice and International Relations*, eds. David A. Lake and Robert Powell. Princeton: Princeton University Press pp. 3-38.

Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa L. Martin. 2003. Institutional Theory as a Research Program. In *Progress in International Relations Theory. Appraising the Field*, eds. Colin Elman and Miriam Fendius Elman. Cambridge: MIT Press pp. 71-107.

September 29: International regimes and international organizations

Required readings:

Keohane, Robert O. 1982. "The Demand for International Regimes." *International Organization* 36: 325-355.

Abbott, Kenneth W. and Duncan Snidal. 1998. "Why States Act through Formal International Organizations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42: 3-32.

Optional readings:

Krasner, Stephen D. 1982. "Structural causes and regime consequences: regimes as intervening variables." *International Organization* 36: 185-205.

Haggard, Stephan and Beth A. Simmons. 1987. "Theories of international regimes." *International Organization* 41: 491-517.

Krasner, Stephen D. 1991. "Global Communications and National Power." *World Politics* 43: 336-366.

Vaubel, Roland. 1986. "A public choice approach to international organization." *Public Choice* 51: 39-57.

Martin, Lisa L. 1992. "Interests, power, and multilateralism." *International Organization* 46: 765-792.

Pevehouse, Jon, Timothy Nordstrom and Kevin Warnke. 2004. "The Correlates of War 2 International Governmental Organizations Data Version 2.0." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 21: 101-119.

October 06: Workshop "The Politics of Informal Governance"

Required readings:

Westerwinter, Oliver and Kenneth W. Abbott. 2016. "Informal Governance in World Politics." Manuscript: University of St. Gallen.

Optional readings:

Westerwinter, Oliver. 2016. "The Politics of Informal Governance." Manuscript: University of St. Gallen.

October 13: Delegation*Required readings:*

Nielson, Daniel L. and Michael J. Tierney. 2003. "Delegation to International Organizations: Agency Theory and World Bank Environmental Reform." *International Organization* 57: 241-276.

Vaubel, Roland. 2006. "Principal-agent problems in international organizations." *Review of International Organizations* 1: 125-138.

Optional readings:

Hawkins, Darren G., David A. Lake, Daniel L. Nielson and Michael J. Tierney. 2006. *Delegation and Agency in International Organizations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 1.

Hooghe, Liesbet and Gary Marks. 2015. "Delegation and pooling in international organizations." *Review of International Organizations* 10: 305-328.

Pollack, Mark A. 1997. "Delegation, agency, and agenda setting in the European Community." *International Organization* 21: 99-134.

October 20: No class**October 27: Institutional design***Required readings:*

Koremenos, Barbara, Charles Lipson and Duncan Snidal. 2001. "The Rational Design of International Institutions." *International Organization* 55: 761-799.

Abbott, Kenneth W., Robert O. Keohane, Andrew Moravcsik, Anne-Marie Slaughter and Duncan Snidal. 2000. "The Concept of Legalization." *International Organization* 54: 401-419.

Optional readings:

Duffield, John S. 2003. "The Limits of "Rational Design"." *International Organization* 57: 411-430.

Koremenos, Barbara. 2016. *The Continent of International Law. Explaining Agreement Design*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 2.

Smith, James McCall 2000. "The Politics of Dispute Settlement Design: Explaining Legalism in Regional Trade Pacts." *International Organization* 54: 137-180.

Rosendorff, B. Peter and Helen V. Milner. 2001. "The Optimal Design of International Trade Institutions: Uncertainty and Escape." *International Organization* 55: 829-857.

November 17: Monitoring and enforcement (topic identification papers due)

Required readings:

Mitchell, Ronald B. 1994. "Regime Design Matters: International Oil Pollution and Treaty Compliance." *International Organization* 48: 425-458.

Downs, George W., David M. Rocke, and Peter N. Barsoom. 1996. "Is the good news about compliance good news about cooperation?" *International Organization* 50: 379-406.

Optional readings:

Gilligan, Michael J. 2004. "Is There a Broader-Deeper Trade-off in International Multilateral Agreements?" *International Organization* 58: 459-484.

Dai, Xinyuan. 2002. "Information Systems in Treaty Regimes." *World Politics* 54: 405-436.

Morrow, James D. 1994. "Modeling the forms of international cooperation: distribution versus information." *International Organization* 48: 387-423.

November 24: Domestic politics

Required readings:

Milner, Helen V. 1997. *Interests, Institutions, and Information. Domestic Politics and International Relations*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Ch. 2.

Dai, Xinyuan. 2005. "Why Comply? The Domestic Constituency Mechanism." *International Organization* 59: 363-398.

Optional readings:

Putnam, Robert D. 1988. "Diplomacy and domestic politics: the logic of two-level games." *International Organization* 42: 427-460.

Milner, Helen V. and B. Peter Rosendorff. 1997. "Democratic Politics and International Trade Negotiations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41: 117-146.

December 01: Socialization*Required readings:*

Barnett, Michael and Martha Finnemore. 2004. *Rules for the World. International Organizations in Global Politics*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. Ch. 2.

Schimmelfennig, Frank. 2005. "Strategic Calculation and International Socialization: Membership Incentives, Party Constellations, and Sustained Compliance in Central and Eastern Europe." *International Organization* 59: 827-860.

Optional readings:

Johnston, Alastair Iain. 2001. "Treating International Institutions as Social Environments." *International Studies Quarterly* 45: 487-515.

Bearce, David H. and Stacy Bondanella. 2007. "Intergovernmental Organizations, Socialization, and Member-State Interest Convergence." *International Organization* 61: 703-733.

December 08: Informal governance*Required readings:*

Stone, Randall W. 2011. *Controlling Institutions. International Organizations and the Global Economy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 2.

Lipson, Charles. 1991. "Why are Some International Agreements Informal?" *International Organization* 45: 495-538.

Optional readings:

Vabulas, Felicity and Ducan Snidal. 2013. "Organization without delegation: Informal intergovernmental organizations (IIGOs) and the spectrum of intergovernmental arrangements." *Review of International Organizations* 8: 193-220.

Kleine, Mareike. 2013. *Informal Governance in the European Union. How Governments Make International Organizations Work*. Itaca: Cornell University Press. Ch. 2.

December 15: Non-state actors and transnational governance*Required readings:*

Tallberg, Jonas, Thomas Sommerer, Theresa Squatrito, and Christer Jonsson. 2014. "Explaining the Transnational Design of International Organizations" *International Organization* 68: 741-774.

Abbott, Kenneth W. and Duncan Snidal. 2009. The Governance Triangle: Regulatory Standards Institutions and the Shadow of the State. In *The Politics of Global Regulation*, eds. Walter Mattli and Ngaire Woods. Princeton: Princeton University Press pp. 44-88.

Optional readings:

Avant, Deborah D., Martha Finnemore and Susan K. Sell. 2010. Who governs the globe. In *Who Governs the Globe?*, eds. Deborah D. Avant, Martha Finnemore and Susan K. Sell. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press pp. 1-31.

Avant, Deborah and Oliver Westerwinter. 2016. Introduction: Networks and Transnational Security Governance. In *The New Power Politics: Networks and Transnational Security Governance*, eds. Deborah Avant and Oliver Westerwinter. New York: Oxford University Press pp. 1-18.

December 22: Regime complex (student presentations if sufficient interest exists)

Required readings:

Raustiala, Kal and David G. Victor. 2004. "The Regime Complex for Plant Genetic Resources." *International Organization* 58: 277-309.

Busch, Marc L. 2007. "Overlapping Institutions, Forum Shopping, and Dispute Settlement in International Trade." *International Organization* 61: 735-761.

Optional readings:

Alter, Karen J. and Sophie Meunier. 2009. "The Politics of International Regime Complexity." *Perspectives on Politics* 7: 13-24.

Keohane, Robert O. and David G. Victor. 2011. "The Regime Complex for Climate Change." *Perspectives on Politics* 9: 7-23.

Colgan, Jeff D., Robert O. Keohane and Thijs Van de Graaf. 2012. "Punctuated equilibrium in the energy regime complex." *Review of International Organizations* 7: 117-143.

Abbott, Kenneth W., Jessica F. Green, and Robert O. Keohane. 2016. "Organizational Ecology and Institutional Change in Global Governance." *International Organization* 70: 247-277.