



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 487 L01  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
Spring 2020**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Machacek

**EMAIL:** mark.machacek@ucalgary.ca

**OFFICE HOURS:** Virtual office hours using Zoom (D2L) Monday & Wednesday 13:00 – 14:00  
or by appointment

**COURSE DAY/TIME:** Monday & Wednesday 12:00 – 12:50 using Zoom (D2L). Pre-recorded  
lectures for each class/topic will also be posted to D2L at the beginning of each week

**DELIVERY METHOD:** Web

**WEBSITE:** <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

**COURSE PRE-REQUISITES:** POLI 381

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this web-based course is to provide students with an introduction to the main concepts, theories, issues, and trends that characterize the study and real-world practice of international organizations (IOs). The course will focus on one type of international organization, international governmental organizations (IGOs), with particular attention on the United Nations (UN), large regional organizations, and those involved in global security and economic governance. Students will learn why and how IGOs have been developed, how they function, and how they relate to other actors and processes of global governance (i.e. the market and civil society). Students will also learn the challenges faced by IO in both theory and practice. An underlying theme of the course concerns IO's relationship to the more general processes of multilateralism and global governance.

As a web-based course, course instruction will be conducted using two methods. First, at the beginning of each week, pre-recorded PowerPoint lecture videos will be posted to the Content section of D2L for each lecture topic. These topical lecture videos are meant for students to review prior to the live online lectures and throughout the semester. Second, synchronous live on-line lectures will be hosted using Zoom (hosted on D2L). These lectures will last one hour. Review this syllabus for lecture times.

The course will begin with an introduction to the core concepts relevant to the study of IOs and the main theories used to understand them. It will then turn its attention to prominent IGOs, including the UN and regional IGOs. Finally, the course will focus on the specific areas of governance involving IGOs, including peace and security, the global economy, human rights, forced migration and development.

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Correspondence between the instructor and the students will include email, D2L News updates, and virtual office hours using Zoom (on D2L). The instructor will respond to email inquiries and discussions in a timely manner between 09:00-17:00 Mon-Fri. Students are also encouraged to check for News updates regularly on D2L for any further updates from the instructor. Students are also encouraged to use the Discussions board on D2L to ask questions and provoke thoughts regarding the course material.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The objectives of this course are to:

- Introduce students to the core concepts and theories of the subfield of international organization and relate these to the study of global governance more generally;
- Acquaint students with the primary international organizations and the issues they confront;
- Strengthen skills in analysis, research, writing, and developing a comprehensive literature review

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Engage in informed discussions on real-world issues being addressed by, or having an impact on, international organizations;
- Articulate the history of the subfield and its relation to the study of international relations and global governance;
- Understand theory and the theories of international organization;
- Conduct effective research and develop a well-written and comprehensive literature review

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S):

Margaret P. Karns, Karen A. Mingst, and Kendall W. Stiles, *International Organizations: the Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Lynne Rienner Publishers Inc., 2015). Textbook can be found at the University of Calgary Bookstore

### COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>	30%	May 25 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
<b>Written Assignment</b>	30%	June 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2020
<b>Final Exam</b>	40%	June 17 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2020
Total	100%	

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS: The schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Wednesday May 6	<b>Introduction &amp; Course Overview</b> Review of core concepts, issues and trends	Textbook Chapter 1

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Monday May 11	<b>Theories of IR and IO</b>	Textbook Chapter 2
Wednesday May 13	<b>The United Nations I: Founding, Principles &amp; Structure</b>	Textbook Chapter 4, pp. 109-129, 140-144
Monday May 18	No Class (Victoria Day)	
Wednesday May 20	<b>The United Nations II: Problems &amp; Challenges</b>	Textbook Chapter 4, pp. 148-159
Monday May 25	<b>Regionalism &amp; Regional IOs: The EU &amp; NATO</b>  <b>Mid-Term Exam</b>	Textbook Chapter 5, pp. 161-183 Textbook Chapter 8, pp. 412-420
Wednesday May 27	<b>Regionalism in the Americas, Asia, Africa &amp; the Middle East</b>	Textbook Chapter 5, pp. 195-229
Monday June 1	<b>Peace &amp; Security</b>	Textbook Chapter 7, pp. 279-320, 344-353
Wednesday June 3	<b>The Global Economy</b>  <b>Written Assignment Due</b>	Textbook Chapter 8, pp. 379-412
Monday June 8	<b>Human Rights</b>	Textbook Chapter 10, pp. 470-508, 515-521
Wednesday June 10	<b>Refugees &amp; Forced Migration</b>	Textbook Chapter 10, pp. 521-525  Betts, Alexander (2013) Regime Complexity and International Organizations: UNHCR as a Challenged Institution. <i>Global Governance</i> , 19: 69-81
Monday June 15	<b>Development</b>	Textbook Chapter 9, pp. 427-443, 456-463
Wednesday June 17	<b>Overview of the Course</b>  <b>Final Exam</b>	No readings

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION (30%)**

The mid-term examination will be an open book exam posted on D2L following the scheduled online lecture on Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>. It will be due in the D2L Mid-Term Exam Dropbox by Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup> at 17:00. Submissions after 17:00 on Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup> will be subject to a 5% grade penalty.

The exam will consist of 3 short answer questions where students can choose from a list of questions. Students will be expected to write approximately 2 pages per question. All the material covered in the required readings, pre-recorded lectures and live online lectures will be eligible to be on the exam. The clarity of writing will be an important component of the grading criteria.

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Further information on the mid-term exam will be provided during the online lecture on Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT** (30%)

Students will be expected to write a 10-12-page (double-spaced) literature review on a topic related to the study of IOs. Students will have the ability to choose from a list of topics provided by the instructor. This literature review requires students to conduct research into the relevant scholarship on the particular issue using the university library's online journal databases and/or book catalogue. The quality of writing, including clarity and paper organization, will be an essential component of the grading criteria. The assignment is to be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L by June 3 at 12:00.

Further information for the assignment, including a comprehensive grading rubric, will be provided during the online lecture on Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### **FINAL EXAMINATION** (40%)

The final examination will be an open book exam posted on D2L following the scheduled online lecture on Wednesday June 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be due in the D2L Final Exam Dropbox by June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 13:00. Submissions after 13:00 on Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> will be subject to a 5% grade penalty.

The exam will consist of one question to be answered in essay format. Students will be expected to write approximately 7-8 pages (double-spaced Word document) and include a title page. Students will be evaluated according to their reference to, and discussion of, key themes, concepts and/or theoretical perspectives covered throughout the course. All the material covered in the required readings, pre-recorded lectures and live online lectures throughout the course is eligible to be on the exam. The clarity of writing will be an important component of the grading criteria.

Further information about the final exam will be provided during the online lecture on Monday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### **Writing Statement:**

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre by contacting them at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

**GRADE SCALE:** The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

### LATE PENALTIES

For the written assignment, mid-term and final exam, late submissions to Dropbox will receive a grade penalty of 5% and an additional 5% for each day that they are late following the submission due dates. The 5% per day penalty will not be applied to weekend days.

### INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments. All meetings will be held virtually.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions. If you cannot make office hours, please request a one on one meeting outside of these hours, to be held virtually.

### IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

#### Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioner for Oaths, visit [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar)).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

*Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.*

Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

University Regulations:

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html).

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Copyright Legislation:

As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, “students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.”

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, please consult with the Arts Students’ Centre by calling 403-220-3580 or by email at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising) for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625].

**Important Contact Information:**

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students’ Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Students’ Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students’ Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)

URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

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Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

### **Campus Mental Health Resources:**

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

Student Wellness Services:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

Campus Mental Health Strategy website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.