

733A50: International Organizations: Theory and Practice, 7.5 ECTS Credits

Fall semester 2018

Course coordinator & facilitator

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Link to Student's Examination Guide

<http://www.student.liu.se/tenta/regler?l=en>

Aim

On completion of the course the student should be able to

- display deeper understanding of the role and significance of international organizations and international institutions;
- relate the phenomenon of international organization to current theories of international relations, as well as to understand general aspects of organizational behavior and organizational change;
- identify the types and expressions of international organization in the contemporary world;
- display in-depth knowledge of a particular case of international organization and/or the organization of a particular issue area in international relations.

Examination

The course is examined through *an individual project work (case study)*, which will be reported (in preliminary form) in writing and orally at the final seminar on Thursday, October 25, and by *active participation in the three seminars* on October 10, October 11, and October 18. Non-attendance at seminars will have to be compensated by submitting an extra written assignment. All seminars have to be accounted for in order to pass the course. The project work accounts for 5.5 credits; seminar performance accounts for 2 credits.

The *project work* has the form of a *case study*. This means that you will choose a particular international organization of the contemporary world, and use this to illustrate and illuminate problems of international organization. *You may not choose any of the organizations which are covered by case studies in Barnett & Finnemore.*

The aim of the project work is to develop your understanding of the role and significance of international organizations and international institutions, as well as your independent analytical skills, by connecting relevant theories and concepts to an empirical case of international organization.

- The written report should comprise no less than 2.500 and no more than 3.500 words.
- Relevant parts of the course literature should be utilized and referred to, but you are of course free to use any additional literature and sources.
- All sources must be properly indicated (notes and references in the text, bibliography at the end of the paper).

Final reports are due on Friday, October 27, 12.00. Your paper must be submitted in Lisam.

Seminar instructions

Seminar 1: Legitimacy of International Organizations (October 10)

Read Gareis (*The United Nations: An Introduction*) and the articles by Claude and Franck. What is the basis for the legitimacy of international organizations, and how does this apply to the UN?

Report in writing (3 full pages of text, 12 pt font, 1.15 spacing) and be prepared to present and discuss your analysis at the seminar!

Seminar 2: PBL pre-discussion (October 11)

- Introduction to Problem Based Learning (PBL) module
- Presentation of the PBL assignment.
- Steps 1-5 in the PBL-process (see below)

Seminar 3: PBL presentation (October 18)

- Reporting back and discussion
- Reflections and feedback

PBL process

1. Clarifying uncertain terms and concepts
What are the terms and concepts? Make use of acquired knowledge!
2. Defining the problem
What problem is *indicated* by the assignment?
3. Brainstorm
Analyze the problem – generate ideas and hypotheses!
4. Summarizing and ordering
5. Formulating learning objectives
Questions to be answered (what do we need to learn in order to address the problem?)
6. Individual study
Free use of library and Internet resources (proper referencing)
Written report (3 pgs of full text, double spaced). Final version is due on Friday, October 19.
7. Reporting back and discussion
8. Reflection/feedback

Literature

Books:

- Claude, Inis L, *Swords into Plowshares: The Problems and Progress of International Organization* (New York: Random House, 1967), “Introduction”, pp. 3-14, available as pdf on Lisam, Course documents.
- Barnett, Michael & Martha Finnemore, *Rules For the World: International Organizations in Global Politics* (Ithaca & London: Cornell University Press, 2004).
- Gareis, Sven Bernard, *The United Nations: An Introduction*, 2nd ed., (Houndmills: Palgrave, 2012).
- Rittberger, Volker, Bernard Zangl & Andreas Kruck, *International Organization*, 2nd ed., (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).

Articles:

- Claude, Inis L., “Collective Legitimization as a Political Function of the United Nations”, *International Organization*, Vol. 20, No. 3, (1966), pp. 367-379.
- Collingwood, Vivien, “Non-governmental organisations, power and legitimacy in international society”, *Review of International Studies*, Vol. 32 (2006), pp. 439-454.
- Franck, Thomas M., “The Power of Legitimacy and the Legitimacy of Power, International Law in an Age of Power Disequilibrium”, *The American Journal of International Law*, Vol. 100, No. 1, (2006), pp. 88-106.
- Jinnah, S., ”Overlap management in the World Trade Organization: secretariat influence on trade-environment politics”, *Global Environmental Politics*, Vol. 10(2), (2010), pp. 54-79.

Reus-Smit, Christian, “The Constitutional structure of international society and the nature of fundamental institutions”, *International Organization*, vol. 51, 1997, pp. 555-589.
 Xu, Y., & P. Weller, ” 'To be, but not to be seen': exploring the impact of international civil servants”, *Public Administration*, Vol. 86(1), (2008), pp. 35-51.

Schedule

For rooms, see Time Edit

Date	Subject
W. 39	
Mon 24/9	Course introduction (Rittberger, ch 1 & 3; Claude (1967); Reus-Smit)
Wed 26/9	Theories of IO (Rittberger, part I)
W. 40	
Mon 1/10	The Politics of IO (Rittberger, part II & III; Collingwood)
Tue 2/10 –	Prepare for lecture on IO and bureaucracy and Seminar 1 (read assigned literature)
– Fri 5/10	
W. 41	
Mon 8/10	IO as bureaucracy (Barnett & Finnemore, Jinnah, Xu & Weller)
Wed 10/10	Seminar 1
Thu 11/10	Seminar 2: PBL pre-discussion
Fri 12/10	Independent work on PBL assignment
W. 42	
Mon 15/10 –	Independent work on PBL assignment
Wed 17/10	
Thu 18/10	Seminar 3: PBL presentation
Fri 19/10 (12.00)	PBL-reports are due
W. 43	
Mon 22/10	Case study: Tutorial session
Tue 23/10 –	Independent work on case study
Wed 24/10	
Thu 25/10	Final seminar: Case study presentation
Fri 26/10 (12.00)	Case studies are due