

**International Organization**  
**PSC 348-01**  
**Spring 2008**

**Jerry Pubantz**  
**224 Graham Building**  
**256-0516; [j\\_pubant@uncg.edu](mailto:j_pubant@uncg.edu)**  
Office Hours: MW, 2-3pm

This course examines the history, politics, philosophy, structure and role of international organizations in international politics with a special emphasis on the United Nations. It also looks at security, economic, and regional organizations such as the European Union, as well as functionally specialized agencies.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the successful conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

- explain the historical and philosophical origins of contemporary international organization;
- describe the structures and functions of major international organizations;
- analyze the role of international organization in international relations;
- critique negative and positive political responses to the United Nations and other important international organizations;
- identify and interpret current scholarly literature on international organization; and
- use basic research methods to write research papers on important topics related to international organization.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Donald J. Puchala, Katie Verlin Laatikainen, and Roger A. Coate. *United Nations Politics: International Organization in a Divided World*. Prentice-Hall, 2007.

David Armstrong, Lorna Lloyd, and John Redmond. *International Organisation in World Politics*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Palgrave, 2004.

John Allphin Moore, Jr., and Jerry Pubantz. *The New United Nations: International Organization in the Twenty-first Century*. Prentice-Hall, 2006.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

There will be two tests (February 13 and March 26) during the semester and a final examination during the scheduled examination period (May 9, 3:30-6:30 pm). Each student will also prepare a research paper (10 to 15 pages, due no later than April 21) on an appropriate topic. Given the topical nature of the course, it will be important for members of the class to keep up with on-going world events and the involvement of international organizations in those events. The best source for this information is *The New York Times*, to which you are required to have an online subscription. The subscription is free and available at [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com). The final exam will count for 30% of the final grade, the paper 30%, and each mid semester test 20%. **N.B.** – There will be no class on January 30 and February 1.

**Course Outline:**

- I. Historical Theory and Practice of International Organization January 14 – 25
- A. Philosophical Speculation on International Cooperation
  - B. International Organization within the theoretical schools of international relations
  - C. 19<sup>th</sup> Century Developments
  - D. World War I and the League of Nations
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, pp. 1-9; 36-41  
Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, Chapters 1-2

- II. Types and Purposes January 28 – February 4
- A. Universal Organizations
  - B. Regional Organizations
  - C. Specialized Agencies
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, Chapter 1
- III. Founding of the United Nations February 6 - 11
- A. Dumbarton Oaks, Yalta, and San Francisco Conferences
  - B. Bretton Woods System
  - C. International Court of Justice
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, pp. 42-76  
Puchala et al., Chapters 1-2
- IV. The UN Charter February 15 – 25
- A. Collective Security
  - B. Cold War Accommodations
  - C. The Superpowers and the UN
  - D. Crisis, Amendment and Evolution
  - E. UN Reform
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, Chapter 3  
Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, Chapters 3-5; pp. 116-123
- V. The United Nations System February 27 – March 5
- A. Principal Organs
  - B. Specialized Agencies, Programmes and Funds
  - C. Global Civil Society Forum
  - D. Age of the NGO
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, Chapter 4  
Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, pp. 123-140, Chapter 14.  
Puchala et al, Chapters 3-5.
- VI. Maintenance of Peace and Security March 7 – 19
- A. Chapters VI and VII of the UN Charter
  - B. Military alliances
  - C. Disarmament
  - E. Peacekeeping and Nation-Building
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, Chapters 5-6  
Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, Chapters 6  
Puchala et al., Chapter 7.
- VII. Economic Development March 24 – April 7
- A. UN Development Programme
  - B. International Monetary Fund and World Bank
  - C. Sustainable Development and the Millennium Development Goals
- Readings: Moore and Pubantz, Chapter 8  
Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, pp. 231-240  
Puchala et al., Chapter 8
- VIII. Regional Economic Integration April 9 - 18
- A. European Union
  - B. NAFTA
  - C. MERCOSUR
  - D. From Economic to Political Integration
- Readings: Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, Chapters 8-12

IX. Beyond Sovereignty: Global Public Policy Making

April 21 – May 6

- A. Habermas's Public Sphere
- B. Human Rights and International Judicial Diplomacy
- C. Women's Empowerment
- D. Environment

Readings: Moore and Pubantz, Chapter 7

Armstrong, Lloyd, and Redmond, pp. 240-250

Puchala et al., Chapters 6 and 9.

### Some General Notes and Guidelines

**Blackboard:** Please establish access to the Blackboard site for this course. Regular announcements, reserve readings, new readings assigned during the term, the syllabus, assignments, and other critical information for the class will be maintained there. Check the site daily if possible. You are responsible for knowing all course information on the site.

**Attendance:** I will take class attendance for the first couple weeks of the course in order to get to know you. However, in general, I will not take attendance—I will expect it, but not require it. Students in the past have found attendance critical to their understanding and performance in my classes, and I expect that this will be the case this semester. If you miss a class, you remain completely responsible for the material covered that day, new assignments made, the outcome of classroom discussions, and any change in course schedule or other matter related to the course.

**Tests and other assignments:** Except in the case of a bona fide medical emergency with confirming documentation, or the sudden death of an immediate relative, I do not approve make-up tests or accept assignments late. If you have a commitment scheduled for the day of a test or assignment, you should contact me well before the date so that we can consider the possibility of taking the test or submitting the assignment early. Given the percentage each test and assignment counts in this class, it should be expected that you will likely fail the course or do poorly if you do not take a test or turn in a required assignment. It is absolutely critical that you complete all of the work in the course. Letter Grade numerical value: A+: 98-100; A: 93-98; A-: 90-93; B+: 88—90; B:83-88; B-: 80-83; C+:78-80; C: 73-78; C-: 70-73; D+: 68-70; D: 63-68; D-: 60-63; F: 0-60.

**Class rules:** This class is wide open for discussion. So please come prepared, be on time, and actively participate. In our exchanges all of us have the right to expect professionalism and courtesy. If you have a cell phone or pager with you, BE SURE to turn it off before you enter the room. **All students are expected to abide by the University's academic integrity regulations. If you are not familiar with the University's policy, please see <http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/academicintegrity/>.**

**Unfortunately, there have been a few plagiarism cases in this class over the last couple of years. They have resulted in an "F" for the course and further penalties from the University.**

**Office hours:** I will maintain regular office hours each Monday and Wednesday from 2 to 3pm. I look forward to meeting and talking with you about your work. We can arrange another appointment time if these hours are not workable for you. Please check my office door (224 Graham Building) for open upcoming appointment times. Outside of class, you can reach me most quickly by e-mail. My e-mail address is [j\\_pubant@uncg.edu](mailto:j_pubant@uncg.edu). My office phone number is 256-0516.