TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

INTP 372: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS: CHANGE AND CONTINUITY

2009 TRIMESTER 1
2 March to 5 June 2009

Coordinator:	Dr Eşref Aksu
Room:	MY 513
Phone:	463 9585
Email:	esref.aksu@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours:	Fridays, 14:00–16:00 (otherwise by appointment)
Seminar Times:	Fridays, 12:00–13:40 (no break)
Seminar Venue:	HM LT 002

Course Delivery
The weekly meetings of this course will proceed in mixed format, i.e. a combination of lecture and seminar.

Communication of additional information
Additional information about the course or information on any changes will be conveyed to students in class and by email.

Course content
This course examines the origins and development of international organisations together with their types and roles within the context of structural changes in the international system. Throughout the course, particular emphasis is placed on inter-governmental organisations (IGOs). The mandates, structures, and practices of a range of IGOs along the regional–global spectrum are problematised with a view to exploring different patterns of cooperation and coordination in the Westphalian framework.

Learning objectives
Students passing this course should:
- have a good understanding of "international organisation" understood as a process in world politics
- be familiar with the practices and policies of several major inter-governmental organisations
- be able to link the study of international organisation(s) to the general theories of International Relations (IR)

The weekly seminar questions and the class test are designed to develop students' critical awareness as to the dynamics of international organisation understood as a process in world

politics. The research paper, on the other hand, will enable the students to tackle a general hypothesis with the help of a concrete case study.

Graduate attributes
As with all POLS and INTP courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes in the areas of critical thinking, creative thinking, communication and leadership. Please consult the Programme Prospectus 2009, p. 10, for more details or on our website http://www.victoria.ac.nz/pols/

Expected workload
In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 18 hours per week to INTP 372. This includes 2 hours of lecture/seminars per week.

Readings
There are two required texts for this course:
1) J. Samuel Barkin, *International Organization: Theories and Institutions*, (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006)
2) Volker Rittberger and Bernhard Zangl, *International Organization: Polity, Politics and Policies*, (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006)

Textbooks can be purchased from Vicbooks located on the top floor of the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop the day after placing an order online. Opening hours are:
8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays)
10.00 am – 1.00 pm Saturdays.

Assessment requirements
a) *Seminar questions:* In the last 15 minutes of each seminar (weeks 2–11), students will be asked to provide a brief written response to one or more question(s) related to that week's reading(s) and class discussion(s). The best 7 of a student's responses over the trimester will make up 35% of his/her final grade (i.e. each seminar response is worth 5% of the final grade). If a student has submitted only 7 written responses in the course of trimester because of relatively poor attendance, all of these responses will be taken into account in determining his/her grade on this assessment component (i.e. there will be no additional/make-up questions later). The seminar questions are designed primarily to test whether the students have done the required readings for the week and/or whether they have digested the core message(s) of that week's class discussion.

b) *Research paper:* Each student is required to submit a 2,500-word research paper, which is worth 35% of the overall grade. The research paper will enable the students to explore a general hypothesis about international organisations in the specific context of a carefully selected case. The paper must be submitted on or before 5p.m. on Thursday, 30 April 2009 in hardcopy as well as in electronic format. The hardcopy must be handed in with the Programme's *Assignment Cover Sheet* stapled to the front (an electronic copy is available on Blackboard). And the identical electronic copy must be emailed to the course coordinator as a Word attachment. Further information about the paper will be provided in class.

c) *Class test:* There will be a two-hour closed-book class test, which determines <u>30%</u> of the overall grade. The test will draw on all required readings as well as weekly discussions, and is scheduled for <u>Friday, 5 June 2009</u>. If a student misses the test due to serious hardship, a make-up/substitute test may be arranged at a suitable day/time at the lecturer's discretion. In any case, serious hardship must be both properly evidenced by relevant authorities (e.g. a medical doctor) and brought to the attention of the lecturer in a timely manner – certainly no later than two weeks after the original test. The format of the make-up/substitute test may or may not be the same as that of the original class test.

Return of assignments
Assignments / assessment results will be returned directly by the course coordinator, *not* the Political Science and International Relations Programme Office.

Penalties
Students will be penalised for late submission of reserch papers – a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Mandatory course requirements
To gain a pass in this course each student must:
a)   attend at least 8 of the weekly seminars
b)   submit at least 7 written seminar responses
c)   submit the 2,500-word research paper

Statement on legibility
Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

Statement on the use of Turnitin
Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine http://www.turnitin.com. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: *http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx*

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.

OUTLINE OF SEMINARS

<u>Week 01 (Friday, 6 March 2009)</u>: Introduction
    Required Reading(s): Rittberger, ch.1

Part I – Visualising International Organisation(s)

<u>Week 02 (Friday, 13 March 2009)</u>: History of international organisation
    Required Reading(s): Rittberger, ch.3

<u>Week 03 (Friday, 20 March 2009)</u>: The League of Nations
    Required Reading(s): Armstrong et al. ch.2 (available on Blackboard)

<u>Week 04 (Friday, 27 March 2009)</u>: The United Nations and its system
    Required Reading(s): Barkin, ch.5

Part II – Theories and Models

<u>Week 05 (Friday, 3 April 2009)</u>: Bringing in theory: How to explain, understand or interpret "international organisation"?
    Required Reading(s): Barkin, chs.1–4; Rittberger ch.2

<u>Week 06 (Friday, 10 April 2009)</u>: *Good Friday: No Class*

[13–24 April 2009: Mid-Trimester Break]

<u>Week 07 (Friday, 1 May 2009)</u>: Policy-making in international organisations: Input, conversion, output
    Required Reading(s): Rittberger chs.4-7

Part III – Issue Areas

<u>Week 08 (Friday, 8 May 2009)</u>: Security
    Required Reading(s): Barkin, ch.6; Rittberger ch.8

<u>Week 09 (Friday, 15 May 2009)</u>: Money, Trade, and Development
    Required Reading(s): Barkin, chs.8-9; Rittberger ch.9

<u>Week 10 (Friday, 22 May 2009)</u>: Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid
    Required Reading(s): Barkin, ch.7; Rittberger ch.11

<u>Week 11 (Friday, 29 May 2009)</u>: Environment, Health and Other "Technical" Areas
    Required Reading(s): Barkin, ch.10; Rittberger ch.10

<u>Week 12 (Friday, 5 June 2009)</u>: **Class Test**