This seminar examines the law and politics of international organizations. It combines two sets of resources: the study of particular organizations, their legal powers and their political controversies; and conceptual thinking about the nature, power, and role of international organizations in international politics more generally. The readings include specific legal treaties and charters, case studies of particular international problems, and broader analysis of the relationship between international organizations and other parts of world politics.

We look in depth at the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, international courts, and the international financial institutions, as well as other international organizations in comparative terms.

This is a seminar rather than a lecture class, and so students are expected to arrive in class having read and thought about the materials for the week. Participation in the discussion is expected of all students.

No Laptops

To maximize the quality of classroom discussion, I do not permit laptops or other devices in class.

Grading

There are three grading components for the course: participation in discussion, a midterm essay, and a final exam. The midterm essay topic is below, due Feb. 17th. The final exam is takehome and due Monday March 17th at noon.

Discussion 20%
Midterm essay 30%
Final exam 50%
Midterm essay question: “For the organizations we have studied so far, assess B.S. Chimni’s claim that the network of international organizations constitute an emerging global state. In what ways is he right and in what ways wrong?”

**Required Texts**


**Monday January 6th** - no class

**Monday January 13th** - UN Charter

Charter of the United Nations

Ian Hurd, *International Organizations*, Ch. 5.


**Monday January 20th** - no class: MLK Day
Monday January 27th - Power and Global Governance

Ian Hurd, Ch. 1 and Ch. 2.


Barnett and Finnemore, Ch. 2.

Monday February 3rd - UN and the Use of Force

Ian Hurd, Ch. 6.

Evans and Sahnoun, “The Responsibility to Protect,” Foreign Affairs,

Siba Grovogui, “This State of Independence Shall Be: Africa, the West, and the Responsibility to Protect,” ms. 2012. UN and Peacekeeping

Barnett and Finnemore, Ch. 5.


**Monday February 10th - IMF and the World Bank**

Ian Hurd, Ch. 4.


James Ferguson, *The anti-politics machine: “Development”, depoliticization, and bureaucratic power in Lesotho*. Ch. 1 and Ch. 2.


Barnett and Finnemore, Ch. 3.


**Monday February 17th - ILO **** midterm essay due ****

Covenant of the International Labor Organization


Ian Hurd, Ch 7.


**Monday February 24th - Courts: ICC and ICJ**

Statute of the ICJ.

Ian Hurd, Ch 8.


Case Study: *Australia v. Japan*
The ICC Rome Statute.
Ian Hurd, Ch. 9.


**Monday March 3rd** - Nuclearity & the International Atomic Energy Agency

*The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.*


**Monday March 10th** - WTO

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade


Ian Hurd, Ch. 3.