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.

The written assignment is a review essay of a book related to the course. The essay should be 2000 words and is due at the start of the exam week. We spend the last three sessions of the course discussing these reviews.

No Laptops

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

Grading

Discussion 30%
Review essay sketch 20%
Review essay 50%
Required Texts


one of the review-essay books:


Schedule of Meetings and Readings

Thursday April 4th - no class

Thursday April 11th -- Law of IOs, Treaties, and the UN Charter

Charter of the United Nations


Thursday April 18th -- no class

Thursday April 25th -- the WTO

GATT/WTO
- GATT Articles I, II, III, VI, X, XI, XVI, IXX, XX, XXI, XXIV

Ian Hurd, International Organizations, Ch. 3.


Thursday May 2nd -- the IMF and the World Bank

Ian Hurd, *International Organizations*, Ch. 4.


Thursday May 9th -- the ICJ and the ICC

Statute of the ICJ.

Ian Hurd, *International Organizations*, Ch. 8 (ICJ) and 9 (ICC).


*Application Instituting Proceedings*, ICJ (Australia vs Japan 2010), ‘Whaling in the Antarctic.’

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Articles 1-33.

David Scheffer, “Futile Endgame,” Ch. 8 of Scheffer *All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals*. Princeton University Press.
Thursday May 16th -- class starts at 1:30: discussion of book review process

**** read your book ****


Thursday May 23rd -- discussion of what the book is trying to do

**** sketch due ****


Thursday May 30th -- discussion of what you think of the book

**** draft due ****


Monday June 10th -- review essay due, 10am