

Master of International Relations/Political Science

Academic year 2021–2022

International Governance

RISP053 – Fall – 6 ECTS

Course Description

This course will explore current debates around the governance of the global and international system. Emphasis will be put on different sets of institutional forms and ad hoc arrangements as well as different sets of actors (such as formal and informal institutions, nonstate actors, regime complexity, or the vitality of international organizations). Based on these structural and agentic elements, we will examine the opportunities and constraints that have resulted in formulating and implementing multilateral policies globally and regionally.

Note room change to S4

PROFESSOR

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Zoom 945-053-3848,

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ASSISTANT

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Syllabus

Course Aims

The objectives of the course include:

1. introducing different conceptions of governance that have emerged over the past century
2. providing a basis for a sophisticated understanding of theoretical work on multilateral governance and international organizations (and a heightened ability to differentiate what is genuinely new from what is not)
3. provoking reflection and debate on contemporary global governance challenges (e.g. the emerging authority of non-state actors and the setting up of new types of governance arrangements)

Course Structure

The course is structured in three sections. In the first three weeks, we set up the course by discussing how to read and think about global governance. We will build a foundation for the course by discussing different conceptual and theoretical debates. Some exercises help consolidate the expectations for the course.

In the main eight-week component of the course (from 'Power' to 'Performance') we will tackle a number of themes in the study of international actors and institutions. The emphasis will be on identifying different manifestations of governance structures, a variety of actors and institutions that shape governance structures, and the performance and legitimacy of international governance mechanisms.

The last few weeks reserves some time for students to reflect on what they have learned and apply it to a particular international governance case of their choice. Consultation sessions are available for students to discuss their plans.

Course Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All materials can be found on Moodle.

Course Evaluation

Evaluation will consist of three assessment items:

Questions (30%): Each midday before class in the main section of the course, students will submit three questions—one for each reading. Consider questions at the level of the article/chapter, section, paragraph, or sentence. I will share the grading criteria in the first class and we will discuss this more in the second week. Only 6 week's questions will count towards students' grade; students will skip the week they are critic/defendant, and they can skip another week or try to improve their grade.

Authors' critic and defendant (20%): Three students will be assigned to each of the 8 main weeks of the course. Their role will be to act as critic for one of the assigned papers, and defendant of another. Defendants should be ready to introduce the paper and contextualise its role, while critics are expected to lead the class in interrogating its assumptions and challenging its application. You can sign up [here](#).

Applications (10%): In preparation for your final blog report, students are encouraged to try applying the various theories and frameworks to empirical areas of interest. For example, you might contribute to an ongoing discussion about institutional design by highlighting how the framework may be applicable (or not) to the transnational Black Lives Matter Foundation.

Blog report (40%): students will prepare a blog report that discusses one or more themes raised in class with respect to one or more actors, institutions, or mechanisms of international governance in a domain of the student's interest. More details will be provided later in the semester.

Course Policies

Auditing is not possible for this course at this time.

Grading is according to a 20 point scale. I reserve the right to rescale the final grades at the end of the course, but as a general guide a 10 is roughly a passing grade.

Plagiarism means presenting another's thoughts, ideas, or expressions as one's own, and is a breach of academic integrity that is not tolerated at the Graduate Institute. Students who present others' work as their own may receive a 0. Please cite appropriately and contact the TA if you have any doubts.

This syllabus is subject to cantonal and Institute policies in response to the pandemic. We will discuss how, if at all, it has been updated in light of conditions in the first week of class.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (23 Sep): Introductions

Week 2 (30 Sep): Questions

- Murphy, Craig N. (2015). "The Last Two Centuries of Global Governance". *Global Governance*, 21, 189–196.

Week 3 (7 Oct): Concepts

Choose one from each of the three following pairs.

- Rai, Shirin (2004). "Gendering Global Governance". *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 6(4), 579–601.
- Sending, Ole Jacob, & Neumann, Iver B. (2006). "Governance to governmentality: Analyzing NGOS, states, and power". *International Studies Quarterly*, 50, 651–672.
- Weiss, Thomas G., & Wilkinson, Rorden (2014). "Rethinking Global Governance? Complexity, Authority, Power, Change". *International Studies Quarterly*, 58(1), 207–215.
- Finnemore, Martha (2014). "Dynamics of Global Governance: Building on What We Know". *International Studies Quarterly*, 58(1), 221–224.
- Dingwerth, Klaus, & Pattberg, Philipp H. (2006). "Global governance as a perspective on world politics". *Global Governance*, 12, 198.
- Hofferberth, Matthias (2015). "Mapping the Meanings of Global Governance: A Conceptual Reconstruction of a Floating Signifier". *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 43(2), 598–617.

Week 4 (14 Oct): –no class–

Week 5 (21 Oct): Power

- Barnett, Michael, & Duvall, Raymond (2005). "Power in International Politics". *International Organization*, 59(1), 39–75.
- Finnemore, Martha (2009). "Legitimacy, Hypocrisy, and the Social Structure of Unipolarity: Why Being a Unipole Isn't All It's Cracked Up to Be". *World Politics*, 61(1), 58–85.
- Monteiro, Nuno P. (2012). "Unrest Assured: Why Unipolarity Is Not Peaceful". *International Security*, 36(3), 9–40.

Week 6 (28 Oct): Institutions

- Johnston, Alastair Iain (2001). "Treating International Institutions as Social Environments". *International Studies Quarterly*, 45(4), 487–515.
- Mansfield, Edward D., & Pevehouse, Jon C. (2008). "Democratization and the Varieties of International Organizations". *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 52(2), 269–294.
- Gray, Julia (2018). "Life, Death, or Zombie? The Vitality of International Organizations". *International Studies Quarterly*, 62(1), 1–13.

Week 7 (4 Nov): Design

- Koremenos, Barbara, Lipson, Charles, & Snidal, Duncan (2001). "The Rational Design of International Institutions". *International Organization*, 55(4), 761–799.
- Pierson, Paul (2000). "The Limits of Design: Explaining Institutional Origins and Change". *Governance*, 13(4), 475–499.
- Bernauer, Thomas, Kalbhenn, Anna, Koubi, Vally, & Spilker, Gabriele (2013). "Is there a "depth versus participation" dilemma in international cooperation?". *The Review of International Organizations*, 8(4), 477–497.

Week 8 (11 Nov): Complexity

- Alter, Karen J., & Meunier, Sophie (2009). "The Politics of International Regime Complexity". *Perspectives on Politics*, 7(1), 13–24.
- Johnson, Tana, & Urpelainen, Johannes (2012). "A Strategic Theory of Regime Integration and Separation". *International Organization*, 66(4), 645–677.
- Hofmann, Stephanie C. (2019). "The politics of overlapping organizations: hostage-taking, forum-shopping and brokering". *Journal of European Public Policy*, 26(6), 883–905.

Week 9 (18 Nov): Networks

- Betsill, Michele M., & Bulkeley, Harriet (2006). "Cities and the multilevel governance of global climate change". *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 12, 141–159.
- Carpenter, R. Charli (2007). "Setting the Advocacy Agenda: Theorizing Issue Emergence and Nonemergence in Transnational Advocacy Networks". *International Studies Quarterly*, 51(1), 99–120.
- Andonova, Liliana B. (2010). "Public-Private Partnerships for the Earth: Politics and Patterns of Hybrid Authority in the Multilateral System". *Global Environmental Politics*, 10(2), 25–53.

Week 10 (25 Nov): Agency

- Haftel, Yoram Z., & Thompson, Alexander (2006). "The independence of international organizations: Concept and applications". *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 50(2), 253–275.
- Zürn, Michael, Binder, Martin, & Ecker-Ehrhardt, Matthias (2012). "International authority and its politicization". *International Theory*, 4(1), 69–106.
- Littoz-Monnet, Annabelle (2017). "Expert Knowledge as a Strategic Resource: International Bureaucrats and the Shaping of Bioethical Standards". *International Studies Quarterly*, 61(3), 584–595.

Week 11 (2 Dec): Legitimacy

- Steffek, Jens (2003). "The Legitimation of International Governance: A Discourse Approach". *European Journal of International Relations*, 9(2), 249–275.
- Grant, Ruth W., & Keohane, Robert O. (2005). "Accountability and Abuses of Power in World Politics". *The American Political Science Review*, 99(1), 29–43.
- Cutler, A. Claire (2010). "The legitimacy of private transnational governance: Experts and the transnational market for force". *Socio-Economic Review*, 8(1), 157–185.

Week 12 (9 Dec): Performance

- Von Stein, Jana (2005). "Do Treaties Constrain or Screen? Selection Bias and Treaty Compliance". *American Political Science Review*, 99(4), 611–622.
- Abbott, Kenneth W., & Snidal, Duncan (2010). "International regulation without international government: Improving IO performance through orchestration". *The Review of International Organizations*, 5(3), 315–344.
- Gutner, Tamar, & Thompson, Alexander (2010). "The politics of IO performance: A framework". *The Review of International Organizations*, 5(3), 227–248.

Week 13 (16 Dec): Consultations

Week 14 (23 Dec): Report due

– This syllabus is subject to change –