

**PS 325/525: MODEL UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN- EAU CLAIRE, FALL 2005
Wednesdays 6:00-8:45, HHH 102**

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course deals with the United Nations and its place in the organization of global governance. The course is designed to fit students from different academic backgrounds and there are no prerequisites for this class. We will begin in the first few weeks with a brief review of the history and organization of the United Nations and its position as a multipurpose global intergovernmental organization in global politics. This is followed by an in-depth study and analysis of major issues and challenges facing the organization. (The UN and its functional agencies have *the potential* to play a more central role in the management of the global political economy. The global economic (and political) gap between the haves and have-nots is compounded by widespread global challenges, including: proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, deforestation and global warming, communicable diseases and drug trafficking.) Finally, the main part of the class involving the study of specific issues and role-playing will follow. Included in our class activities are mock General Assembly and Security Council committee meetings. The success of this approach is heavily dependent upon active student participation and, therefore, twenty percent of your final grade will depend on your class participation and attendance. By the end of the semester, students are expected to have a deeper and more articulated view of the United Nations and its role in global governance. [\[Note that goals of this class will match the following University's Baccalaureate Goals: Goal 3, An ability to inquire, think, and analyze; Goal 6, An historical consciousness; Goal 7, International and intercultural experience; Goal 10, An understanding of values; Goal 11, An understanding of human behavior and human institutions.\]](#)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students in this class are expected to be present in class every Wednesday and to vigorously participate in class activities. Students will also do the following assignments, all interrelated and designed to give them a better understanding of the UN and its member-states in pursuing their national interests and presumably the interest of the global community:

- 1) **[Every student will write a 10 Page summary of his/her chosen-country's national interest, paying close attention to the country's declared and practiced position](#)**

in the four committees of the UN (Political/Security; Economic and Financial; Social, Humanitarian and Cultural; and Environmental). So, this paper should attempt to closely correspond with the country's national interest as viewed and practiced by governments in these countries. **You must treat this as a research paper, complete with a thesis, a central argument, references, etc. This paper is due by week VIII (Wed., October 26).**

- 2) **Every student will write a total of five resolutions, one on each of the four committees of the UN plus a Security Council resolution.** (You will be provided with a sample list of resolutions.) I will read and select five or six of these resolutions to form the agenda for committee meetings, where student mentors will preside and lead debates by member representatives. I have outlined below the exact due dates for resolutions and committee meetings.

- 3) Every student will write, in light of what he or she has learned in this class, a 10 page analysis of the role of the UN in international politics in the post-Cold War era. Specifically, students should address the following question: **(You must treat this as a research paper, complete with a thesis, a central argument, references, etc. due Week XIV, December 7):**

In light of what you have learned in this class and your own independent research, how would you evaluate the United Nations' performance in the Cold War's aftermath in promoting global peace and cooperation, including your prognoses for the future of the organization?

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Drakulich, Angela, ed., *A Global Agenda: Issues Before the 60th General Assembly of the United Nations* (United Nations Association of the United States of America, 2005).
2. Ziring, Lawrence, Robert E. Riggs, and Jack C. Plano, *The United Nations: International Organization and World Politics*, 4th ed. (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2005). **Rental Book**
3. *The a-b-c's of Parliamentary Procedure* (South Deerfield, MA: Channing L. Bete, 2001). **We will provide you with necessary handouts**
4. Selected sites and scholarly articles available on the Internet

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING:

There are no examinations in this class, and you will learn from class lectures and discussions, extensive reading, written assignments, and mock General Assembly and

Security Council committee meetings. **[Your written assignment will fulfill goals 3a, 3b, or 3c for your portfolio in meeting the Baccalaureate Goals].** Your final grade will be based on:

Country Position Paper (due by Wednesday, Oct. 26)	-----20%
General paper on the UN (due by Wednesday, Dec. 7)	-----20%
Resolutions (see due dates below)	-----40%
Participation/Attendance	-----20%

ABOUT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

In accordance to the University handbook, “I consider any academic misconduct in this course as a serious offense, and I will pursue the strongest possible academic penalties for such behavior.” The disciplinary procedures and penalties for academic misconduct are described in the UW-Eau Claire *Student Services and Standards Handbook* (<http://www.uwec.edu/sdd/publications.htm>) in the section titled, “Chapter UWS 14—Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures.”

	Resolution Due	Agenda Assigned	Committee Begins
1. Political and Security (PS)	9/28	9/30 (students pick up resolutions from SSS 229A)	10/5
2. Economic and Financial (EF)	10/5	10/12	10/19
3. Social, Humanitarian, Cultural (SHC)	10/19	10/26	11/2
4. Environmental (E)	11/2	11/9	11/16
Security Council (SC)	11/16	11/30	Dec. 7 (no class on 11/23—TXGVNG)
General Assembly (GA)/UNSC Crisis Simulation	—	—	—

Week I, September 7

- 1) Introduction and Country Selection
- 2) Understanding Fundamentals of World Politics
- 3) The Place of International Organizations in World Politics
- 3) United Nations: History and Background
- 3) Institutional Settings

Readings:

- 1) Ziring, et al., chs. 1 (pp. 1-30) and 5 (pp. 167-263)
- 2) Global Agenda, Introduction, pp. xiv-xvi and Ch. 1, pp. 1-36
- 3) Overview of the UN site on the Net
<http://www.un.org/english/index.html>
- 4) List of Member States
<http://www.un.org/Overview/unmember.html>
- 5) Secretary General Statement to GA, 2005
<http://www.un.org/largerfreedom/sg-statement.html>
- 6) Secretary General's 1992 Report, "An Agenda for Peace, Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping," at:
<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/agpeace.html>
- 7) Map of Peacekeeping Operation
<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/english/htmain.htm>
- 8) The 2005 World Summit: An Overview
<http://www.un.org/ga/documents/overview2005summit.pdf>

Week II, September 14

United Nations: Institutional Structure and Mission

Readings:

- 1) Ziring, et al., chs. 8 (pp. 373-96) and ch. 2 (pp. 31-72)
- 2) Global Agenda, Ch. 2, pp. 37-112
- 3) Continue with the Internet site
<http://www.un.org/english/index.html>
- 4) Member states
<http://www.un.org/Overview/unmember.html>
- 5) In Larger Freedom: Annan's Report
<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/270/78/PDF/N0527078.pdf?OpenElement>

- 6) The Challenges to Humanity at Century's End:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap1.htm>
- 7) The Future United Nations System:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap2.htm>
- 8) Providing Security from the Scourge of Violence:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap3a.htm>
- 9) Improving Global Economic Conditions:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap3b.htm>
- 10) Protecting the Social Fabric:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap3c.htm>
- 11) Leadership, Organization and Resources:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap3d.htm>
- 12) Reaching the Common Goal:
<http://www.yale.edu/unsy/FRDRPT/chap4.htm>

OPTIONAL ON THEORIES OF IR

KEOHANE ON KRASNER

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/world_politics/v050/50.1keohane.html

REALISM, IR, HUMAN RIGHTS

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/v023/23.1monshipouri.html

Week III, September 21

- 1) United Nations System: Institutional Structure and Mission
- 2) Model UN Rules and Parliamentary Procedure: a, b, c's of Parliamentary Procedure
- 3) Review on How to Write a Resolution/Practice Resolution debate in class
- 4) United Nations: Call for Reform and prospects for the Future

Readings:

- 1) Global Agenda, Chs. 3 and 4, pp. 113-96
- 2) Ziring, et al., chs. 3-4 (pp. 74-166)

- 3) Patrick L. Smith, “ A Question of Leadership:”
<http://speakout.com/activism/opinions/5230-1.html>
- 4) <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/home.shtml>

OPTIONAL ON THEORIES OF IR

KANTIAN PEACE AND IR/IL

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/world_politics/v052/52.1oneal.html

ECOSO, NGOs AND INT'L CIVIL SOCIETY 1996

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/v018/18.1otto.html

Week IV, September 28

DUE: Political and Security Committee Resolutions

Reading:

- 1) Global Agenda, Chs. 5-7, pp. 197-269

**STUDENTS WILL PICK UP THE FIRST SET OF SELECTED
RESOLUTIONS FROM MY OFFICE ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1**

Week V, October 5

Political and Security Committee

DUE: Economic and Financial Committee Resolutions

Readings:

- 1) Ziring, et al., ch. 6, pp. 264-323

Week VI, October 12

Political and Security Committee

Reading:

- 1) Ziring, et al, ch. 7, pp. 324-72

2) Small Arms Trade:

<http://www.unicef.org/smallarms/exhibit/html/sa04/index.html#top>

3) Children as Soldiers:

<http://www.unicef.org/smallarms/exhibit/html/sa03/index.html>

Week VII, October 19

Economic and Financial Committee

DUE: Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee Resolutions

Readings:

1) Ziring, et al, ch. 9, pp. 397-469

2) Agenda for Development: Foreword by Kofi Annan:

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/forward.htm>

3) Agenda for Development: I. SETTING AND OBJECTIVE

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/setting.htm>

4) In Larger Freedom: Annan's Report

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/270/78/PDF/N0527078.pdf?OpenElement>

Week VIII, October 26

Economic and Finance Committee

Reading:

Ziring, et al, ch.10, pp. 470-514

Agenda for Development: II. POLICY FRAMEWORK, INCLUDING MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

A. Agenda for Development: Economic development:

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/ecodev.htm>

B. Agenda for Development: Social development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/socdev.htm>

C. Agenda for Development: Empowerment of women

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/women.htm>

D. Agenda for Development: Rights of the child

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/child.htm>

E. Agenda for Development: Population and development and international migration

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/popul.htm>

F. Agenda for Development: Environment and development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/environ.htm>

G. Agenda for Development: Humanitarian issues and development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/human.htm>

H. Agenda for Development: Participatory approach to development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/approach.htm>

I. Agenda for Development: Actions related to countries in special situations

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/actions.htm>

J. Agenda for Development: Means of implementation

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/means.htm>

PAPER ON COUNTRY POSITION IS DUE

Week IX, November 2

Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee

DUE: Environmental Committee Resolutions

Reading:

1) Agenda for Development: III. INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES AND FOLLOW-UP

A. Strengthening of international cooperation for development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/intcoop.htm>

B. Role of the United Nations in development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/unrole.htm>

C. Enhancing the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system in development

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/enhance.htm>

D. Interaction between the United Nations and other multilateral development institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (WTO)

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/interact.htm>

E. Follow-up and implementation

<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/followup.htm>

Week X, November 9

Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee

Reading:

- 1) Martin Walker, "United Against Capital Punishment," June 15, 2000
<http://speakout.com/activism/opinions/5322-1.html>
- 2) Global Environmental Outlook (GEO 2002, pp. 1-20 pdf):
<http://www.unep.org/geo/geo3/english/pdfs/synthesis.pdf>
- 3) Post Dec. 26, 2005 Tsunami Report: Executive Summary
http://www.unep.org/tsunami/reports/TSUNAMI_INTRO_LAYOUT.pdf

Week XI, November 16

Environmental Committee

DUE: Security Council Resolutions

- 1) UNEP Highlights
<http://www.unep.org/highlights.asp>
- 2) UNEP
<http://www.unep.org/Documents/Default.asp?DocumentID=287>

Week XII, November 23 No Class: Thanksgiving Break Starts 5 pm, Wed.

Week XIII, November 30

Environmental Committee

- 1) World Summit of Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 2002
<http://www.unep.org/wssd/>
- 2) UNEP Annual Report, 2002
http://www.unep.org/home/UNEP_Annual_Report_2002.pdf

3) Post Tsunami Report/Concerns

<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=424&ArticleID=4733&l=en>

Week XIV, December 7

Security Council

Reading:

- 1) Ziring, et al, ch. 11, pp. 515-534
- 2) Security Council
<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/>
- 3) Security Council 2000 Round-up, 12 January 2001
<http://www.un.org/documents/roundup.htm>
- 4) UNSC Annual Report, 2002-2203
http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/annual03_toc.html
- 5) Map of Peacekeeping Operation
<http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/english/htmain.htm>

RESEARCH PAPER ON THE UNITED NATIONS DUE

Week XIV, December 14

Security Council: Crisis Simulation

EXAM WEEK:

Friday-Thursday, Dec. 16-22