PS 123B: International Organizations  
Course Syllabus -- Preliminary  
Spring 2015

Professor Leslie Johns  
ljohns@polisci.ucla.edu  
Bunche Hall, office #3381

Teaching Assistants:

Francesca Parente  
fparente@ucla.edu

Andrea Vilan  
avilan@ucla.edu

LOCATION and TIME:

TR 9:30AM-10:45AM
HAINES A2

Office hours for Professor Johns: Wednesday, 11:00 am —12:00 pm and by appointment

Office hours for TAs: TBD

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an overview of both the theory and functioning of international organizations in promoting international cooperation. This is an upper-level course and is designed for juniors and seniors who have already taken introductory courses in international relations.

ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING

Your grade in this course is based on the following:

Participation: 15%

Attendance at lectures, active participation in discussion sections, and demonstrated preparation and understanding of readings.

Weekly quizzes: 15%

Short quizzes will be administered each week in section. These will consist of simple questions on the week’s readings. The two lowest quiz grades will be automatically dropped. Make-up quizzes are not permitted: students who do not
attend the section or lecture in which the quiz is administered will be given an automatic zero grade for that week’s quiz.

Midterm exam (Apr 30 in lecture): 30%

Final exam (June 9 @ 3:00—6:00pm): 40%

There will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a grade of zero. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

TEXTS

Required texts:


For the Vreeland book, you should find a copy of the 1st edition, which was published in 2006—2008. A new 2nd edition will be available next fall. We obviously will not be using the new 2nd edition because it is not yet available. If you purchase your books from Amazon, be sure that you are buying a copy of the 1st edition, and not pre-ordering a copy of the 2nd edition.

Other required readings:

These will be made available on the course web-site: https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/15S-POLSCI123B-1
TOPICS AND READINGS

Part I: Conceptual Issues in International Cooperation

Week 1: The Need for International Institutions (Mar 31 & Apr 2)


Section: No discussion materials. Sections will be administrative.

Week 2: Reputation and Cooperation (Apr 7 & 9)


News articles: retaliatory tariffs. See class website.


Quiz #1

Week 3: Compliance (Apr 14 & 16)


Read pages 379–384 and 387–392 only.

News articles: TBD. See class website.


**Quiz #2**

**Week 4: Multilateralism, Bargaining, and Enforcement (Apr 21 & 23)**


News articles: TBD. See class website.


**Quiz #3**

**Week 5: Review Session (Apr 28) / Midterm Exam (Apr 30)**

Lecture:  Review session

**Week 5, Thursday: Midterm Exam (Apr 30)**

Section:  No section meetings. TAs will hold extra office hours early in the week for midterm prep.

**Part II: The Impact and Functioning of International Organizations**

**Week 6: GATT/WTO (May 5 & 7)**
- WTO law and principles: section 1.3 (pages 35—44)
- WTO dispute settlement: sections 3.1-3.2 (pages 173—182)
- General exceptions: sections 7.1-7.2 (pages 596—624)


News articles: TBD. See class website.


Quiz #4

Week 7: UN Security Council (May 12 & 14)


News articles: TBD. See class website.


Quiz #5

Week 8: IMF (May 19 & 21)


Vreeland (2008)
- Chapter 1: pages 5—11 and 20—25
Chapter 2: all
Chapter 3: pages 50—67
Chapter 4: pages 73—74 and 84—94

News articles: TBD. See class website.

Section: Materials on the Greek debt crisis:
- More news articles: TBD. See class website.

Quiz #6

Week 9: Peacekeeping & Election observation (May 26 & 28)

Lecture:


News articles: TBD. See class website.


Quiz #7

Week 10: Legalization (Jun 2 & 4)

Lecture:
Johns (2015)
- Chapter 1: pages 1—7
- Chapter 2: all
- Chapter 3: all

News articles: TBD. See class website.
Section:  Johns (2015)
- Chapter 4: all

Quiz #8

Final Exam on Tuesday, June 9, 3:00—6:00pm