

**Course Outline**

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<b>COURSE:</b>	<b>LAWS 3604 A– International Organizations</b>
<b>TERM:</b>	<b>FALL 2023</b>
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	<b>LAWS 2601 and 0.5 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level or PAPM 1001 and PSCI 2003.</b>
<b>CLASS:</b>	<b>Day &amp; Time: Fridays 11:35 am – 2:25 pm</b>
	<b>Room: Please check Carleton Central for current room location.</b>
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>Dr. Mohammad Hasan</b>
<b>TEACHING ASSISTANTS:</b>	Our TA for this course (TBD), will assist me with marking related activities and will be <b>your first point of contact</b> . There may be group tutorials. TAs have office hours and contact them through Carleton email.
<b>CONTACT:</b>	<b>Office</b> D 488 Loeb Building <b>Office Hrs:</b> Every Fridays 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Allow 36 hours for a reply if you send an email. No replies on weekends or evenings.
	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:MohammadHasan@cunet.carleton.ca">MohammadHasan@cunet.carleton.ca</a>

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**CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Nature, character, legal status, and jurisdiction of intergovernmental international organizations. Rights and duties of states arising from membership in international organizations. The distinction between international and supra-national institutions. United Nations system, selected subsidiary organs, and specialized agencies; non-governmental organizations at times of crisis.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will examine the origins, structure, types, powers, obligations, responsibilities, immunities, and impact of international organizations formed by states and non-states actors to address common challenges the world is facing. Throughout the semester, the course will explore the diplomatic, humanitarian, and developmental efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies, regional bodies, and international non-governmental organizations. The course will also investigate the complexities of decision-making, power dynamics, and the impact of these organizations on international law and relations. Furthermore, students will be familiarized with different theoretical approaches to international organizations, legal personality, various areas of international regimes and governance, and some important issues and debates.

## **COURSE MODALITY & TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

This course is an in-person course where the instructor and students share information, ideas, and learning experiences through direct interaction in a classroom. Although it is an in-person class, most of the course contents and assessments will be completed on Brightspace. Students are expected to remain up to date with the deadlines and due dates provided by the instructor.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Learn the subject matters, deepen their knowledge and understanding of certain international organizations and international regimes;
- Extend their understanding to contemporary development of global governance, rights, and duties of states, and actions of key international organizations;
- Read, summarize, and examine various aspects of international organizations and relationships with international laws and policies;
- Critically evaluate issues affecting inter-governmental relations around the world;
- Investigate legal frameworks of some of the social, political, economic, and cultural issues that are at the heart of contemporary struggles over international organizations;
- Disseminate their understanding of international organizations their critical review papers and examinations.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS**

There is no required course pack or textbook for this course. The contents of the course are designed to focus on readings from international treaties, court decisions, scholarly articles, and relevant documents from different international organizations. The course contents also aim to provide students with an in-depth understanding of the legal and interdisciplinary framework governing international organizations and their role in global politics and governance.

Most of the required readings will be available through the Brightspace page and ARES system.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS**

As we proceed, additional related readings may be posted throughout the semester. We may also use the United Nations and its specialized agencies' open-access resources.

<https://www.un.org/en/model-united-nations/un-structure#>

**EVALUATION**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Department and of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Department and the Dean.

**Attendance and Participation: 10%**

**Group Presentation and Written Submission (1 for each group): 15%**

**Reading Reflections (10): 20%**

**Critical reflection paper (1): 20% [November 10, 2023]**

**Take-home Exam: 35% [During the exam period]**

**Total: 100%**

**All components must be successfully completed in order to get a passing grade.**

**Attendance and Participation: 10%**

Your attendance will be counted on for this course. Also, your participation will be assessed during discussions and presentations.

**Group Presentation and Written Submission: 15%**

Every week a group will present on required readings of the given week. The presenters of the group will facilitate a small discussion with some discussion questions. Participants may ask questions for any clarification. Each group will have at least 30 minutes to present and facilitate the discussion. The purpose of your presentation is to review and analyze the main arguments and themes in the week's readings and then encourage class discussion. This is a great opportunity for both students and instructors to communicate with each other and analyze the topics more effectively. The presentations will begin in the second class. Scheduling presentations will be done in the first seminar class. You need to address the following questions while presenting:

- Who is/are the author/s of the reading/s, what type of material is it, where was it published or circulated?
- Make a summary of the paper you are presenting.
- What is the main argument the author/s makes?
- What is the nature of the problem that the author is trying to address and how this is relevant to the course?
- How are you as the reader/viewer being addressed by the author/s?
- What assumptions is the author/s making about the nature of international organizations?
- What are the assumptions made in the piece about who holds power and who does not?
- How do these assumptions and framing compare and contrast with those in the other readings for that week?

The oral presentation is worth 10%

In addition to the presentation, you are as a group required to submit a critical reflection of your works and the presentation slide (in a single document) based on the questions posed above for your presentation. Please send your critical reflection (one reflection per group) via email or submit it in class. Your written work should be between 300 and 500 words or two pages.

The critical reflection is worth 5%.

### **Discussion Forums/Reading Responses (20%):**

To get more engaged with the course readings and classes, you are expected to write a 250-word summary of an assigned reading of your choice that includes at least one discussion question which may be discussed during the presentations or other times. The summary and discussion questions must be posted on Brightspace by 9 pm every Thursday [the day before the class]. You are welcome to write more questions. The questions should be thought-provoking and insightful which can open fruitful conversations/discussions for the seminar. Throughout the semester, you are expected to submit at least 10 posts total. At the end of the term, discussion post grades will be the average grade for all posts for the term.

### **Research Paper: [20%]**

Each student is required to write a research paper. The paper should be between 1500 and 2000 (Times New Roman with 12 font size or Arial with 11 font size) excluding footnotes and bibliographies.

This is an independent paper and must be original to this course. You are open to picking topics for your research paper but that must be based on a given topic later in the course. The paper must draw on an area of research related to the course and either have conceptual/theoretical or empirical importance concerning the “International Organizations”. You are required to use only required and supplementary readings from our course readings for your reflection paper. You must engage at least 3 scholarly sources and incorporate them into your discussion. Where possible, you should try to discuss your topic's implications or relevance. Use proper citation (footnotes) using the Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation, 9th ed (Toronto: Thomson Reuters, 2018). You can find the citation guide here ([https://library.carleton.ca/sites/default/files/help/writing-citing/Using\\_uniform\\_legal\\_citation\\_2018.pdf](https://library.carleton.ca/sites/default/files/help/writing-citing/Using_uniform_legal_citation_2018.pdf)).

The paper is due on November 10, 2023.

### **Final Exam (35%):**

The final exam will be in essay format. You will be asked to answer two to three long questions during the examination period. More information regarding the final exam will be posted on Brightspace later.

## **LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS**

### **Late Penalty**

Late submission will be penalized. Assignments submitted later than the due date will be penalized 5% per day of the total value of the assignment. For example, if an assignment worth 25% of the total course grade is a day late, 1 point out of 20 (or 5% per day) will be deducted.

### **Extension**

The granting of extensions is determined by the instructor, who will confirm whether an extension is granted and the length of the extension. For requests for extensions lasting less than 7 days, please complete the form at the following link and submit it to the instructor prior to the assignment due date: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/self-declaration.pdf>.

**Extensions for longer than 7 days will normally not be granted.** In those extraordinary cases where extensions lasting longer than 7 days are granted, the student will be required to provide additional information to justify the longer extension (up to a maximum of 14 days).

## **SCHEDULE**

There are three types of learning strategies that will be followed for this course. First, students are responsible for all assigned readings. I suggest students read the required reading material before each scheduled lecture. Secondly, students should review lecture slides posted on Brightspace. Thirdly, students will participate in all assessments and evaluations.

### **Weekly Schedule**

Please read the assigned material before each lecture and review it again after each lecture. Students are responsible for all assigned readings. Most of the readings are posted on Brightspace.

#### **Week 1 [September 8] Introduction to International Organizations (IOs)**

Meet and greet, an overview of the course, key concepts, readings, and assignments.  
Group presentation schedule will be created in the class.

- Definition and types of IOs; Nature and importance of IOs; Origin and historical development and general characteristics of IOs, Overview of UN and its agencies.
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#### **Week 2 [September 15]: Theoretical Perspectives and Legal Personality of IOs**

Realism, liberalism, constructivism, and other perspectives of IOs; Power dynamics and IOs; Legal personality and immunities of IOs.

**Readings:**

Ozkan, Ersan, and Hakan Cem Cetin, "The realist and liberal positions on the role of international organizations in maintaining world order." (2016) 12.17 *European Scientific Journal*: 85-96.

Grieco, Joseph, "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the Newest Liberal Institutionalism," (1988) 42.3 *International Organization*: 485-507.

Fry, James D., "Rights, Functions, and International Legal Personality of International Organizations" (2018) 36:2 *BU Int'l LJ*: 221-248

**Guest speaker: Mahatab Shawon, Guelph University****Group 1 presentation****Week 3 [September 22]: Legal Framework of IOs**

Sources of International organization law; the role of the UN Charter in establishing IOs; Treaties and conventions governing IOs' activities; relationship between international law, IOs and national and international legal systems (courts and tribunals); ICJ and other dispute resolution mechanisms.

**Readings:**

Daugirdas, Kristina, "How and why international law binds international organizations." (2016) 57.2 *Harv. Int'l LJ*: 325.

Boisson de Chazournes, Laurence, and Vassilis Pergantis, "A Legal Framework on Internal Matters: Please Mind the Gap." *CAMBRIDGE COMPANION ON INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL LAW*, (Cambridge, CUP: 98-119.

Davey, William, "The WTO and Rules-Based Dispute Settlement: Historical Evolution, Operational Success, and Future Challenges" (2014) 17 *Journal of International Economic Law*: 679-700.

**Group 2 presentation****Week 4 [September 29]: Structure and Governance**

Organizational structure of IOs; decision-making process; the role of Secretariats and member states; procedures of becoming members of IOs

**Readings:**

Beckfield, Jason, "Inequality in the world polity: The structure of international organization." (2003) *American Sociological Review*: 401-424.

Von Bernstorff, Jochen., “Procedures of decision-making and the role of law in international organizations.” (2008) 9.11 German Law Journal: 1939-1964.

Ian Johnstone, “The Role of the UN Secretary-General: The Power of Persuasion Based on Law,” *Global Governance*, Vol. 9 (2003), pp. 441-458.

**Group 3 presentation.**

**Week 5 [October 6]: Human Rights and IOs**

Role of IOs in promoting and protecting human rights; Inter-state intervention and humanitarian interventions and role of IOs

**Readings:**

Lillich, Richard B, “The Role of the UN Security Council in Protecting Human Rights in Crisis Situations: UN Humanitarian Intervention in the Post-Cold War World.” (1995) 3 Tul. J. Int'l & Comp. L.: 1.

Scannella, Patrizia, and Peter Splinter, “The United Nations Human Rights Council: A Promise to be Fulfilled,” (2007) 7.1 Human Rights Law Review: 41-72.

Neuman, Gerald L. *International Organizations and Human Rights—the Need for Substance*. Research Working Paper Series HRP 19-001, Harvard Law School, 2019.

**Week 6 [October 13]: Peace and Security Organizations**

The role of IOs like UN Security Council, NATO, etc.; Collective security mechanism and peacekeeping missions

**Readings:**

Carswell, Andrew J., “Unblocking the UN security council: The uniting for peace resolution.” (2013) 18.3 Journal of Conflict and Security Law: 453-480.

Bellamy, Alex, J. and Charles T. Hunt, “Twenty-first century UN peace operations: protection, force and the changing security environment”, (2015) 91.6 International Affairs: 1277–1298

Hurd, Ian, “Myths of membership: the politics of legitimation in UN Security Council Reform.” (2008) 14 Global Governance: 199.

**Group 4 presentation**

**Week 7 [October 20]: Trade and Finance Organizations and Development**

The role of IOs in economic development, trade, and finance; UNCTAD, WTO, IMF, World Bank etc.;

**Readings:**

Winham, Gilbert R., "The World Trade Organization: Institution-Building in the Multilateral Trade System," (1998) 21.3 *World Economy*: 349-368.

Muhumed, Muhumed Mohamed, and Sayid Aden Gaas, "The World Bank and IMF in Developing Countries: Helping or Hindering?" (2016) 28.6 *International Journal of African and Asian Studies*: 237-249.

Therien, Jean-Philippe, "The United Nations and Human Development: From Ideology to Global Policies" (2012) 3.1 *Global Policy*: 1-12.

**Group 5 presentation.****Reading Break [October 23-27 - No class]****Week 8 [November 3]: Environment and IOs**

Climate change, environmental agreements (Paris Agreement), sustainability, CBD, UNEP, transnational environmental challenges and collaborative solutions.

**Readings:**

Ivanova, Maria, "UNEP in Global Environmental Governance: Design, Leadership, Location," (2010) 10.1, *Global Environmental Politics*: 30-59.

O'Connor, David, "Governing the global commons: Linking carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation in tropical forests." (2018) 18.3 *Global Environmental Change*: 368-374.

Hickmann, T., Widerberg, O., Lederer, M., & Pattberg, P., "The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat as an orchestrator in global climate policymaking." (2021) 87.1, *International Review of Administrative Sciences*: 21–38.

**Group 6 presentation**



**Week 9 [November 10]: Socio-cultural dimensions and IOs****Indigenous issues, Reduction of gender discrimination, UNICEF, UN Women****Readings:**

Cambou, Dorothée, “The UNDRIP and the legal significance of the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination: a human rights approach with a multidimensional perspective.” (2019) 23.1-2 The International Journal of Human Rights: 34-50.

Dhar, Suneeta, “Gender and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” (2018) 25.1, Indian Journal of Gender Studies: 47-78.

Maria Teresa Dutli & Antoine Bouvier, "Protection of Children in Armed Conflict: The Rules of International Law and the Role of the International Committee of the Red Cross" (1996) 4:2 Int'l J Child Rts 181.

Goffe, Marcus, “Recent developments in the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.” (2011) 1.1 Queen Mary Journal of Intellectual Property: 90-98.

**Group 7 presentation.****Week 10 [November 17]: Regionalism and role of IOs****Readings:**

Hettne, Bjorn, and Fredrik Soderbaum, “The UN and regional organizations in global security: Competing or complementary logics.” (2006) 12, Global Governance: 227.

Fawcett, Louise, “Exploring regional domains: a comparative history of regionalism.” (2004) 80.3, International Affairs: 429-446.

Felício, Tânia, “The United Nations and regional organizations: the need for clarification and cooperation.” (2009) Studia Diplomatica: 13-19.

Borzyskowski, Inken von, and Clara Portela, “Piling on: the rise of sanctions cooperation between regional organizations, the United States, and the EU.” (2016): 31.

**Group 8 presentation**

**Week 11 [November 24]: International Non-governmental Organizations****Readings:**

Egger, Clara, “Just part-time lovers? Competition, coercive coordination, and friendship among international INGOs.” (2017) 30.4, *Cambridge review of international affairs*: 394-414.

Shujat, Aghna, Md Sajid Khan, and Md Nazmul Islam, “INGO and NGO Strategies for Social Cohesion: The Case of Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh.” In *Rohingya Refugee Crisis in Myanmar: Ethnic Conflict and Resolution* (2022): 337-355.

Steffek, Jens, “Explaining cooperation between IGOs and NGOs—push factors, pull factors, and the policy cycle.” (2013) 39.4, *Review of international studies*: 993-1013.

**Group 9 presentation****Week 12 [December 1]: Multinational and Transnational Corporations****Readings:**

Mares, Radu, “Regulating transnational corporations at the United Nations—the negotiations of a treaty on business and human rights.” (2022) 26.9 *The International Journal of Human Rights*: 1522-1546.  
Monshipouri, Mahmood, Claude E. Welch, and Evan T. Kennedy, “Multinational corporations and the ethics of global responsibility: Problems and possibilities.” In *Human Rights and Corporations*. (Routledge, 2017): 123-147.

Van den Herik, Larissa, and Jernej Letnar Čerňič, “Regulating corporations under international law: from human rights to international criminal law and back again.” (2010) 8.3 *Journal of International Criminal Justice*: 725-743.

**Group 10 presentation****Week 13 [December 1]: Exam Review and Wrap up the course.**

<b>Fall 2023 Sessional Dates and University Closures</b>	
<i>Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website: <a href="https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/">https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/</a></i>	
<b>September 6, 2023</b>	Fall term begins.
<b>September 19, 2023</b>	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in fall and fall/winter courses.
<b>September 30, 2023</b>	Last day to withdraw from full fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
<b>October 9, 2023</b>	Statutory holiday. University closed.
<b>October 23-27, 2023</b>	Fall break, no classes.
<b>November 15, 2023</b>	Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall courses.
<b>November 24, 2023</b>	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in fall term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official December final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
<b>December 8, 2023</b>	Fall term ends.
	Last day of fall classes.
	Classes follow a Monday schedule.
	Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
	Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for full and late fall courses.
	Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate degree program transfers for winter term.
<b>December 10-22, 2023</b>	Final examinations in full fall and late fall courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
<b>December 22, 2023</b>	All final take-home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

## **University and Departmental Policies**

### **DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND REGULATIONS**

Please review the following webpage to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations, particularly regarding standard departmental protocols and academic integrity requirements:  
<https://carleton.ca/law/student-experience-resources/>.

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence. More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at:  
<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows.

#### **Pregnancy Obligation**

Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form that can be found at:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/contact/form-pregnancy-accommodation/>

#### **Religious Obligation**

Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, please go to:

<https://carleton.ca/equity/focus/discrimination-harassment/religious-spiritual-observances/>

#### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this

course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. You can find the Paul Menton Centre online at: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. Read more here: <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>.

For more information on academic accommodation, please visit: <https://students.carleton.ca/services/accommodation/>.