Carleton University   Winter 2009
Department of Political Science

PSCI 3600A
International Institutions
Wednesdays - 2:35pm to 5:25pm
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: James Milner
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Please note that e-mails relating to the course will be sent to your Carleton Connect account, *not* via WebCT. Also, please use your Carleton Connect account when sending an e-mail to the instructor and include the course code in the subject line.

First class: 7 January 2009
Last class: 1 April 2009

WebCT: On-line components of this course will be managed through WebCT. Please visit the WebCT site at least once a week to receive the most current information pertaining to the scheduling of the course and required readings.

Course objectives:
International institutions have come to play an increasingly important role in global politics in the last century. Arguably the most prominent of these institutions is the United Nations (UN). Established in 1945 and in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War, the UN's Charter set out the rights and obligations of Member States, and pledged to: "save succeeding generations from the scourges of war"; "reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights"; promote "respect for the obligations arising from treaties"; and "promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom".

A brief review of the state of the international system some 60 years later, however, has led many to conclude that the UN is incapable of realizing its Charter ideals, and that the organization itself, and the very promise of global governance, is irrelevant. Indeed, challenges in peace and security, development and human rights have repeatedly underlined the challenges of global governance and the furtherance of a global common good. Given these shortcomings, do we still need the UN?

The purpose of this course is to critically engage with the notion of global governance through an applied consideration of the origins, development and functioning of the UN system. While the UN system engages with a broad range of global and regional issues, this course will engage with a select number of areas linked to the core objectives of the UN Charter. The course will draw on the global governance literature to provide a conceptual framework for understanding the challenge of international cooperation and the tensions between the interests of states and the ideals of a common good. Through a series of lectures, readings, debates and simulations, this course will examine the constraints of the UN in today's international system, while considering its future role.

Course outline:
The course is divided into three sections:

Section 1 will provide a historical, conceptual and structural foundation for our study of the UN system and global governance more generally. We will begin with a consideration of the UN's ancestors and the historical circumstances within which the UN was established. We will then consider different conceptual approaches to the study of international organizations and how these perspectives can be used to focus our examination of the UN system. The section will then delve into the murky world of the UN system to outline the complex interaction between its various elements and the challenges of management and accountability of such a system, before outlining the challenges faced by the system today.

Section 2 will build from this background to consider the two main organs of the UN: the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council. This section will outline the history and politics of these organs, the role they have played in addressing peace and security, especially since the end of the Cold War, and the challenges they have faced in responding to two particular situations: Somalia and Rwanda. This section will also consider how the (in)ability of the UN system to respond to these and other situations, coupled with the changing interests of states and the changing opportunities presented by global politics, has given rise to new understandings of security and responsibility.

Section 3 will delve deeper into the global challenges of development and human rights to consider the range of factors that affect the UN's ability to respond. These tensions and dynamics will be more thoroughly considered through a simulation activity during which students will represent members of the UN Security Council to respond to a particular situation. The course will conclude with a reflection on the conceptual, political, operational and structural challenges facing the UN today, the prospects of reform, and the role that international institutions may play in the future of global politics.

Requirements:

Reading critiques (4 x 5%):	**20%**

Simulation:	**35%**

Delegation profile (15% - due 4 March 2009)
Negotiation note (5% - due 18 March 2009)
Reflection note (individual) (5% - due 1 April 2009)
Participation (10%)

Research paper	**45%**

Proposal (10% - due 28 January 2009)
Paper (35% - due 11 March 2009)

As per **early feedback** guidelines, **at least** one reading critique must be submitted before **28 January 2009**. Critiques will be returned to students the following week.

There is **no final exam** for this course. Instead, students are required to actively engage in reading, writing and participation throughout the term through three elements:

Reading critiques: Students are required to write 4 reading critiques over the course of the term. Reading critiques should be 2 to 3 pages long, double spaced and referenced. Critiques should summarise the key arguments of the readings, contrast the perspectives of the readings, and respond to the readings within the context of the course. Is there a tension between the readings? What contribution do they make? Do you agree with their position? How do the arguments of the authors relate to the broader themes of the course? Reading critiques must be submitted at the start of class.

Simulation: A core element of this course is a simulation of the UN Security Council and its role in responding to threats to international peace and security. Detailed instructions will be given throughout the term on how the simulation will run, the expectation of students during the simulation, and the nature of the crisis to be resolved.

Students should join a delegation through the sign-up page on WebCT by **28 January 2009**. Delegations will be expected to research the interests, priorities and profile of the country they represent, and form alliances with other countries. Delegation profiles must be submitted at the start of class on **4 March 2009.** Delegations will meet for a general debate of the UN Security Council on **4 March 2009** before a crisis situation is revealed at the end of class on **11 March 2009**. Delegations will devise their negotiation strategy, due on **18 March 2009,** then engage in a three-hour crisis meeting of the UN Security Council on **18 March 2009**. Final voting of the UN Security Council will take place on **25 March 2009**. Students will then write an individual reflection piece on the simulation exercise, due at the start of class on **1 April 2009**.

Research paper: Students are also expected to research a particular thematic area of the UN's work. Students should select a topic from the following list:

- The history of the UN and international organizations
- The structure of the UN system and the challenge of reform
- The evolving work of the UN Security Council
- New responses to peace and security
- Development challenges
- Human rights and humanitarian action
- Dynamics of individual UN agencies (including the World Bank and IMF)

Students may select a different thematic area if approved by the instructor within the first 3 weeks of class.

Students should begin their research by consulting the "Further Reading" section of the course text: Jussi Hanhimäki, *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. (Required text for the course, see below)

Students are also strongly encouraged to consult: Thomas G. Weiss and Sam Daws (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. (On reserve in the MacOdrum Library)

On the basis of the sources included in these texts, students should select a particular aspect of one thematic area that they will examine in a research paper. Students will be required to submit a 2 to 3 page proposal and annotated bibliography on their selected

issue at the start of class on **28 January 2009**. On the basis of this proposal, students will be required to submit a 10 to 12 page paper at the start of class on **11 March 2009.**

Late penalties: Reading critiques submitted after the start of class will receive a mark of 0%. All other assignments submitted after the due date will be penalized by 5% of the 100% assignment grade per 24 hours. Requirements for the simulation received more than a week late will receive a grade of 0%. Exceptions to this policy will only be made for academic accommodations, as outlined below, or for medical or personal emergencies substantiated by official documentation. **Late papers must be submitted via the drop box in the Department of Political Science, as outlined below. The departmental drop box cut off time is 4pm. Any assignments submitted after 4pm will be date stamped for the following weekday.**

The role of Teaching Assistants (TAs):
Teaching Assistants (TAs) will play an important role throughout the course. One TA will be primarily responsible for receiving and grading reading critiques and answering questions about the readings before class. A second TA will be primarily responsible for the running of the simulation. The instructor will be primarily responsible for supporting students through their research essays. **Together, the TAs and the instructor form the teaching team for this course**. Students are asked to direct their questions, in the first instance, to the relevant TA or the instructor, depending on their question.

Readings and required texts:
The majority of readings for this course are available electronically through the Carleton University Library system *at no cost to the student*.

On-line journals may be accessed through the Carleton Library portal: http://www.library.carleton.ca/eresources/databases.html

E-books may also be accessed through the Carleton Library portal by selecting 'E-Book' from the drop-down menu at: http://catalogue.library.carleton.ca/

The only required text for this class is:

Jussi Hanhimäki, *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

This text is available for purchase at Octopus Books, 116 Third Avenue (Third and Bank), in the Glebe. For directions, see: http://www.octopusbooks.ca, or the map on WebCT.

Provisional outline of course topics:
Below is a *tentative* weekly breakdown of the course and core readings. Please consult WebCT regularly for updates to this list of weekly topics and readings, in addition to information about the course.

Week 1
7 January 2009:   The origins and development of international institutions

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Introduction" in *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 1: The best hope for mankind?: A brief history of the UN", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Clive Archer, "Chapter 1: Definitions and history", *International Organizations*, Third Edition, New York: Routledge, 2001. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Week 2
14 January 2009:   International institutions and the study of global governance

Peter Katzenstein, Robert Keohane, and Stephen Krasner, "International Organizations and the Study of World Politics", *International Organizations*, Vol. 52, no. 4, 1998. (Available through electronic journals)

Clive Archer, "Chapter 4: Writing on international organizations", *International Organizations*, Third Edition, New York: Routledge, 2001. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Tim Dunne, "Chapter 5: Global governance: an English School perspective", in Alice Ba and Matthew Hoffmann (eds.), *Contending Perspectives on Global Governance*, London: Routledge, 2005. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Week 3
21 January 2009:   The United Nations: Structure, management and challenges
                         Sign-up for simulation delegation opens

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 2: An Impossible hybrid: the structure of the United Nations", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

August Reinisch, "Securing the Accountability of International Organizations", *Global Governance*, Vol. 7, no. 2, 2001. (Available through electronic journals)

United Nations Secretary-General, "In Larger Freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all", New York, UN Doc. A/59/2005, 21 March 2005 (available on-line at: http://www.un.org/largerfreedom/contents.htm) * ***Read selectively*** * p. 3-7; and 39-53.

Week 4
28 January 2009:   The 'global parliament'?: The UN General Assembly
                         Sign-up for simulation delegation closes
                         Due: Paper proposal

M. J. Peterson, "Chapter 4: The General Assembly, the member states, and the rest of the UN system", *The U.N. General Assembly*, New York: Routledge, 2006. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

M. J. Peterson, "Chapter 5: Key criticisms of the General Assembly in historical perspective", *The U.N. General Assembly*, New York: Routledge, 2006. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Robert O. Keohane, "The study of political influence in the General Assembly", *International Organization*, Vol. 21, no. 2, 1967. (Available through electronic journals)

Week 5
4 February 2009:   Governing peace and security: the UN Security Council

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 3: Facing wars, confronting threats: the UN Security Council", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Mark Imber, "The Reform of the UN Security Council", *International Relations*, Vol. 20, no. 3, 2006. (Available through electronic journals)

Mats Berdal, "The UN Security Council: Ineffective but Indispensible", *Survival*, Vol. 45, no. 2, 2003. (Available through electronic journals)

A portion of this class will be devoted to an introduction of the simulation activity and meetings of the various delegations.

Week 6
11 February 2009:   Changing approaches to peace and security

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 4: Peacekeeping to peacebuilding", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Ramesh Thakur, "Chapter 11: The Responsibility to Protect", *The United Nations, peace and security: from collective security to the responsibility to protect*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Roland Paris, "Peacebuilding and the Limits of Liberal Internationalism", *International Security*, Vol. 22, no. 2, 1997. (Available through electronic journals)

Reading week: No class meeting on 18 February

Week 7
25 February 2009:   Governing rights and responsibilities: Human rights

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 6: Rights and responsibilities: human rights to human security", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Andrew Clapham, "Chapter 3: Human rights foreign policy and the role of the United Nations", *Human Rights: A very short introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Ramesh Thakur, "Chapter 4: Human rights: civil society and the United Nations", *The United Nations, peace and security: from collective security to the responsibility to protect*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Week 8
4 March 2009:   First Plenary Session and delegation meetings
                        Due: Delegation profile

See "PSCI3600: Simulation Package" on WebCT.

Week 9
11 March 2009:   Governing human well-being: Development
                        Due: Research paper

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 5: Economic development to human development", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Criag Murphy, "Chapter 12: 'Ploughing the sea'? UNDP and the future of global governance", *The United Nations Development Programme: a better way?*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

United Nations, "Report of the High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment addressed to the Secretary-General", New York, UN Doc. A/61/583, 20 November 2006 (available on-line at: http://www.un.org/events/panel/) *Read selectively* p. 9-32.

Class will end with a situation briefing ahead of next week's simulation.

Week 10
18 March 2009:   Simulation week
                        Due: Negotiation note

See "PSCI3600: Simulation Package" on WebCT.

Week 11
25 March 2009:   Intervention and humanitarianism: Somalia and Rwanda

The class will begin with the final vote of the UN Security Council

Mohammed Ayoob, "Humanitarian Intervention and International Society", *Global Governance*, Vol. 7, no. 3, 2001. (Available through electronic journals)

Ioan Lewis and James Mayall, "Somalia", in Mats Berdal and Spyros Economides (eds.), *United Nations Interventionism, 1991-2004*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007 (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Bruse Jones, "Rwanda", in Mats Berdal and Spyros Economides (eds.), *United Nations Interventionism, 1991-2004*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007 (E-book in MacOdrum Library)

Week 12
1 April 2009:   Conclusion: Reforming the United Nations
                                    Due: Individual simulation reflection

Jussi Hanhimäki, "Chapter 7: Reform and challenges: the future of the United Nations", *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Giulio Gallarotti, "The Limits of International Organization: Systemic Failure in the Management of International Relations", *International Organization*, Vol. 45, no. 2, 1991. (Available through electronic journals)

C.S.R Murthy, "New Phase in UN Reforms: Establishment of the Peacebuilding Commissioner and Human Rights Council", *International Studies,* Vol. 44, no. 1, 2007. (Available through electronic journals)

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your letter of accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 7, 2008 for December examinations**, and **March 6, 2009 for April examinations**.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course. The Department's Style Guide is available at:
http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

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

Course Requirements: Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: The Department of Political Science only communicates with students via Connect accounts. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email

carletonpss@gmail.com, visit our website at poliscisociety.com, or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.