

## International Law and Organizations

POL/LST 457

TR: 12:30pm-1:45pm, FH 407

**Dr. Marc S. Polizzi**

**Office:** Faculty Hall 5A-8

**Phone:** 270-809-5220

**Office Hours:** MW 9:30am-12pm; TR 3:30pm-5pm; and by appointment

**DEPARTMENT:** Political Science & Sociology

**COURSE PREFIX:** POL/LST

**COURSE NUMBER:** 457

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**I. TITLE:** International Law and Organizations

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S):**

This course will provide an overview of the origin and development of international law and international organizations.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

By the end of the semester, the student should be able to do the following

- A. Describe the evolution of international law and the creation of international organizations;
- B. Explain the changes to international norms leading to interdependence after World War II;
- C. Analyze the structure of specific international institutions; and
- D. Develop valid causal statements about social events, behaviors, and institutions.

**IV. CONTENT OUTLINE:**

This course helps students understand the development of international law and organizations, particularly after the development of new norms after World War II. Given this is a course in political science, students will utilize the scientific process to make causal arguments about the political world, rather than engaging in historical analysis of singular events. As such, we will begin the course with a discussion of how to think scientifically.

The remainder of the course will be divided between a theoretical section and case studies of specific international organizations. The theoretical section will focus on the development of international norms, which aim to create international peace through creating common interests. We will also discuss the sources of international law, enforcement mechanisms, and theories discussing their limitations. Second, we will analyze specific cases of international organizations, including the United Nations, World Bank, World Trade Organization, and the International Criminal Court, among others. These cases will help students apply theoretical arguments learned in the first section of the course.

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Lecture, discussion, in-class activities, quizzes/exams, and a final research paper.

**VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:**

N/A

**VII. TEXT(S) AND RESOURCES:**

There are two required texts for this course. Please ensure that you get both of them as quickly as possible for class. The vast majority of the required readings will come from these texts. Additional readings will be made available through *Canvas*. These are listed on the course schedule at the end of this syllabus.

- A. Gutner, Tamar. 2017. *International Organizations in World Politics*. Sage/CQ Press.
- B. Frederking, Brian, and Paul Diehl. 2015. *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Interdependent World*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. Lynn Rienner Publishers.

### **VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES:**

Students' grades will be comprised of exams, reading quizzes, class participation, a class simulation, and a final paper. The first part of is based on a midterm and a final exam (each exam will be worth 25% of your final grade). These exams will be short answer/essay based questions. You will use a Blue Book for these exams and take them during class time.

Next, you have an attendance and participation portion of your grade. This section is comprised of three parts: reading quizzes, class participation, and a UN simulation. Reading quizzes will be given at random and their key role is to ensure that students are keeping up with the weekly readings and completing them *before* class. These quizzes will also help you summarize the basic arguments of each reading, which will be beneficial when you are studying for the midterm and final exams. These quizzes will collectively account for 10% of your final grade. The second section of this grade is based on general class participation. I will keep track of comments, participation, and general attendance of students. If you are missing numerous classes, are not paying attention during class, or are not participating in class discussions, you will lose points for this section. It accounts for 10% of your final grade. Finally, we will have a United Nations Simulation during the middle half of the course. More details on this assignment will be given in class, and it will account for 10% of your final grade.

Finally, you will have a final paper that will be due at the end of the semester. This paper will be completed in small chunks throughout the semester to ensure that you are keeping up with the assignment and are on the right track before it is due. More directions on this assignment will be given on *Canvas*, and it will count as 10% of students' final grades.

#### **Final Grades are weighted based on:**

- 2 Exams (midterm and final): 25% each
- Reading Quizzes: 10% total
- Class Participation: 10%
- United Nations Simulation: 10%
- Final Paper: 20%

No curve will be given in this course; the grade you earn is the grade you receive. Students' final grades will be based on the following scale:

- A (Excellent): 90-100%
- B (Good): 80-89%
- C (Satisfactory): 70-79%
- D (Poor): 60-69%
- E (Failure): 59% or below

### **IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

I do not take formal attendance in this course. However, your performance in the course will greatly suffer if you do not regularly attend class. Additionally, I will weekly reading quizzes to ensure that students are following the syllabus and completing the required readings in a timely manner. These quizzes, along with your general participation in the course, will make up 20% of students' final grades.

### **X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic

achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

**Violations of Academic Honesty include:**

**Cheating** - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

**Fabrication and Falsification** - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

**Multiple Submission** - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

**Plagiarism** - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the accuracy of your material, please see me immediately! It is best to have a conversation with me before an assignment is due than to wait until afterwards and risk disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

**If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of *E* in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.**

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

**If a student is found cheating or plagiarizing written assignments, they will receive an automatic “E” on the assignment/exam. If it happens again, they will receive an “E” in the course. No Exceptions! No Excuses!**

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

**XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. In particular and without limiting the preceding and pursuant to and consistent with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its regulations 34 CFR 100 et seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its regulations 34 CFR 104; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681 et seq., and its regulations 34 CFR 106 et seq.; and the Age Discrimination Act of

1975 and its regulations 34 CFR 110, Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its educational programs and activities. This non-discrimination in education programs and activities extends to employment and admissions and to recruitment, financial aid, academic programs, student services, athletics, and housing. Murray State is required by Title IX and 34 CFR part 106 not to discriminate on the basis of sex and the prohibition against sex discrimination specifically includes a prohibition of sexual harassment and sexual violence. For more information contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Access/ Murray State University Title IX Coordinator, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071 Telephone: (270) 809-3155 Fax: (270) 809-6887; TDD: (270) 809-3361; Email: [msu.titleix@murraystate.edu](mailto:msu.titleix@murraystate.edu)

### Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889(TDD).

### Safe Zone Statement

I am a member of the Safe Zone Project and I am available to listen and support you in a safe and confidential manner. As a Safe Zone participant, I can help you connect with resources on campus to address problems you may face that interfere with your academic and social success on campus as it relates to issues surrounding sexual orientation and gender identity. My goal is to help you be successful and to maintain a safe and equitable campus. For more information, visit the Office of LGBT Programming at 243 Blackburn Science Building or online at [www.murraystate.edu/lgbt](http://www.murraystate.edu/lgbt).

### Weekly Schedule:

The following outline should be considered tentative. I reserve the right to change the syllabus as I see fit. Any and all changes will be announced in advance, both in class and electronically. Please keep up to date with Canvas, and check your University email to be aware of any changes that occur.

<i><b>Tentative Weekly Schedule</b></i>	<i><b>Content</b></i>
Week 1: August 15 & 17 Introduction to Course	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gutner Ch. 1 Introduction</li> <li>• Gutner Ch. 2 Evolution of IO Theory</li> </ul>
Week 2: August 22 & 24 How IGOs Form and Function	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 2 Identifying Formal IGOs</li> <li>• Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 3 Why States Act Through Formal IGOs</li> </ul>
Week 3: August 29 & 31 The UN and Conflict	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gutner Ch. 3 The United Nations</li> <li>• Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 7 The Responsibility to Protect</li> </ul>
Week 4: September 5 & 7 NATO and Non-Proliferation	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kemp, Scott R. 2014. "The Nonproliferation Emperor has No Clothes." <i>International Security</i> 38(4): 39-78.</li> <li>• North Korea Nuclear Weapons Test Simulation</li> </ul>
Week 5: September 12 & 14 Regional Organizations	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gutner Ch. 11 Regional Organizations</li> <li>• Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 15 Is the EU Collapsing?</li> </ul>
Week 6: September 19 & 21 World Bank and Development	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gutner Ch. 5 World Bank</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 10 International Norm Dynamics and the Millennium Development Goals</li> </ul>
Week 7: September 26 & 28 IMF and Financial Crises	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gutner Ch. 7 IMF</li> <li>Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 14 The Financial Crisis and Intra-BRICs Cooperation</li> </ul>
Week 8: October 3 & 5 Midterm Exam	<b>Exam 1: Tuesday, October 3</b> <b>No Class: Thursday, October 5 (Fall Break)</b>
Week 9: October 10 & 12 Human Rights Law and Development	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</i></li> <li>Hafner-Burton &amp; Tsutsui. 2005. "Human Rights in a Globalizing World." <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> 110(5): 1373-1411.</li> <li>Vreeland. 2008. "Political Institutions and Human Rights: Why Dictatorships Enter into the United Nations Convention Against Torture." <i>International Organization</i> 62(1): 65-101.</li> </ul>
Week 10: October 17 & 19 Human Rights Monitoring	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 18 Global Human Rights Monitoring</li> </ul>
Week 11: October 24 & 26 The International Criminal Court	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Rome Statute</i></li> <li>Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 9 A Tale of Two Institutions</li> </ul>
Week 12: October 31 & November 2 Enforcing International Law	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kirgis, Frederic L., Jr. 1996. "Enforcing International Law." <i>The American Society of International Law</i>.</li> </ul>
Week 13: November 7 & 9 Enforcing International Law	<b>No Class: Thursday, November 9 (Human Rights Conference)</b> Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gutner Ch. 10 WTO Case Study on Intellectual Property</li> </ul>
Week 14: November 14 & 16 Women's Rights	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederking &amp; Diehl Ch. 19 Trafficking Women</li> </ul>
Week 15: November 21 & 23	<b>No Class: Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Break)</b>
Week 16: November 28 & 30 The Global Environment	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederking and Diehl Ch. 17 Public and Private Rules for Managing Carbon</li> </ul>
Week 17: December 5 & 7	Papers and Final Exam Study
Final Exam	<b>Tuesday, December 5 at 1:30pm in normal lecture room.</b>