**International Politics and International Policy**

**Fall 2012**

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**NOTE: THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO BOTH QUARTER & SEMESTER STUDENTS**

**Course objectives:**

This course is intended to provide academic background and guidance to students whose internships involve international policy. The primary goal is gain an appreciation of the complex policy community—including governmental, non-governmental, and intergovernmental actors—that engages in forging international policy. We will do this through the lens of specific policy problems. In order to take advantage of our location in Washington, I will bring in practitioners from different policy communities to speak to us about their work. In addition, one of your briefing memos will summarize the substance of a House or Senate subcommittee meeting on a relevant international issue of your choice.

**Requirements and Evaluation**

Course assignments are designed to provide flexibility for students to integrate their internship with the research component of the UCDC program. This is NOT a lecture course, although I will need to give background from time to time. Rather, class discussions will be the focus of each week’s meeting. I hope and expect that students will bring into the discussions aspects of their internships, but it will also be important for each of you to prepare by doing the readings prior to class; readings have been limited in order to make this possible. 20% of your final grade will reflect your participation in discussions.

 **Semester students:**

Participation: 20%

 One-page single-spaced briefing memos (four): 20%

 Research paper: 60%

 10% research proposal and preliminary bibliography, due October 15

 50% final research paper (15-20 pages), due December 5

 **Quarter students:**

Participation: 20%

 One-page single-spaced briefing memos (three): 20%

 Research paper: 60%

 10% research proposal and preliminary bibliography, due October 15

 50% final research paper (15-20 pages), due November 28

**Briefing memos:**

1. The first memo, due October 8, reflects your response to the prompt in the syllabus regarding the case study on NAFTA trade negotiations.
2. The second memo, due November 19, requires you to design a democracy promotion strategy for a country to be assigned to you.
3. The third memo requires you to attend a committee or subcommittee hearing on an international issue. I urge you not to leave your subcommittee attendance to the last minute, as the schedule of subcommittee hearings is usually posted only a week in advance, and may conflict with your internship duties. This memo should summarize the most important and relevant aspects of the hearing and indicate whether any decision was made. You should turn in your notes of the meeting along with the memo. The committee hearing memo may be turned in at any time, up to the last day of class.
* To find committee schedules for the Senate, see <http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/committees/d_three_sections_with_teasers/committees_home.htm> and click on the committee you want to hear.
* To find committee schedules for the House, see <http://www.house.gov/committees/> and click on the committee you want to hear.
1. For semester students, a fourth memo must be submitted reflecting the additional unit, on human rights (due September 24).

**Availability of Readings**

For your convenience (and to avoid the cost of printing a reader), all readings are available online, either attached to the course description for this course, in PDF by purchase from [www.guisd.org](http://www.guisd.org), or through a link in this syllabus.

**Policy on Original Work and Use of Sources**

Responsibly attributing ideas is an important part of all research. While students are encouraged to discuss their ideas with classmates and others, all work submitted in this course must ultimately be your own. Please raise any questions about appropriate citation form with the instructor well in advance of due dates.

**Class Topics and Meeting Schedule**

**(Semester students only): International Human Rights**

September 10: Human rights promotion: when can (or should) foreign states intervene?

 Farer, “Human Rights and Foreign Policy: What the Kurds Learned”

 GUISD Case Study #515, available online at <http://www.guisd.org>

 Intervention in Libya (selected short articles)

 Obama: On the U.S. Military Action in Libya

 “Syria, Libya Test Obama Policy” Los Angeles Times, April 1, 2011

“LIBYA AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT,” esp. pp. 6-19; available at <http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/events/2011/0616_libya_responsibility/20110616_libya_responsibility.pdf>

 Smith and Smith, “Human Trafficking: The Unintended Effects of United Nations Intervention”

*International Political Science Review*, March 2011.

September 17: Non-governmental organizations and the promotion of human rights

 Field trip to Human Rights NGO, location to be announced.

 Ibhawoh, “Human Rights INGOs and the North-South Gap,” from *Ethics in Action*.

BRIEFING MEMO DUE September 24

You have been asked by a prospective donor to recommend an international human rights organization for support. Evaluate the work of any non-governmental human rights organization. What are this organization’s principal activities? Where does its financing come from? What information does the organization provide to assess the impact of its efforts?

Note: I don’t expect you to compare different organizations and pick the best one. Just choose any organization, review its annual reports and mission statement (it will no doubt have an internet site) and make a recommendation for or against funding this organization.

**September 24-October 8: Trade Negotiations: The Case of NAFTA**

September 24: Historical context and goals of NAFTA

 Cameron and Tomlin, “Getting to the Table,” from *The Making of NAFTA*.

October 1: Negotiations: the Mexican perspective

 Grayson, “Lobbying by Mexico and Canada,” from *The Controversial Pivot*

October 8: Negotiations: the U.S. perspective

 Lovely, “Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: Congressman Jim Walsh and the NAFTA vote”

 GUISD Case Study #160, available online at <http://www.guisd.org>

BRIEFING MEMO DUE OCTOBER 8

Write a one-page memo to Congressman Walsh, giving your recommendation for the NAFTA vote, and listing key advantages and costs to such a vote. Note: Think about this in terms of **WALSH’**s interests as a congressman who wants to get re-elected, rather than just the general advantages/costs of trade

**October 15-29: International Development Assistance**

October 15: The International Aid Community

 Downs, “Negotiating Development Assistance: USAID and the Choice between Private and

 Public Implementation in Haiti.”

 GUISD Case Study #207, available online at <http://www.guisd.org>

RESEARCH PROPOSAL DUE OCTOBER 15 (all students): one page, and preliminary bibliography

October 22: Approaches to development assistance: World Bank versus Grameen Bank

Evaluate a Status of Projects in Execution (SOPE) report for 2010 for a country of your choice. What kind of projects did the World Bank fund in this country in 2010? What appear to be the main results? (available online through <http://go.worldbank.org/888TBTGHD0>) Please provide a written summary as well as preparing an oral presentation.

October 29: Assessing outcomes: How do you know if your program ‘worked’?

 Baker, “Concepts and Techniques for Impact Evaluation,” from *Evaluating the Impact of Development Projects on Poverty: A Handbook for Practitioners*

Lab component: read a 3-4 page evaluation of a program—selected as examples of best-

practices in program evaluation—to report to the class on the challenges of program evaluation in the specific case, and how evaluators responded to these challenges. (cases available online in the class electronic folder)

**November 5-19: Democracy Promotion: Challenges to U.S. policy**

November 5: Democratization theory: what makes democracy possible? What makes it hard?

 Diamond, Lipset and Linz, “Building and Sustaining Democratic Government in Developing Countries,” *World Affairs*, 1987.

November 12: U.S. democracy promotion efforts—major actors and tools

 Carothers, “Taking Stock of U.S. Democracy Assistance,” from *American Democracy Promotion*.

 Scott and Steele, “Sponsoring Democracy,” *International Studies Quarterly*, March 2011

November 19: Democracy promotion in Afghanistan and Iraq; Bush v. Obama

 The “Future of Iraq” project (released by the National Security Archive)

Bouchet, “Barack Obama’s democracy promotion at midterm”, *The International Journal of Human Rights*, published online April 2011, in hardcopy May 2011

News articles and editorials regarding the Obama administration’s response to the Arab Spring (each student should bring in one article/editorial and be prepared to summarize it for the class)

BRIEFING MEMO DUE NOVEMBER 19

 You will be randomly assigned a country listed among Freedom House’s “Countries at the Crossroads 2010” (you don’t always get to pick your problem!) For your State Department supervisor, devise a democracy promotion strategy for this country.

DRAFT RESEARCH PAPER DUE NOVEMBER 21 (quarter students only): Optional, but I will review and comment on drafts or annotated outlines, for your revision prior to the final due date. This component is not graded.

**November 26: To Sanction or Not to Sanction? Sanctions and their impact**

 Escriba-Folch and Wright,“Playing to the Home Crowd? Symbolic Use of Sanctions in the United

States” *International Studies Quarterly*, 2011.

Whang, “Dealing with Tyranny: Sanctions and the Survival of Authoritarian Rulers,” *International*

*Studies Quarterly*, 2010.

DRAFT RESEARCH PAPER DUE (semester students): Optional, but I will review and comment on drafts or annotated outlines, for your revision prior to the final due date. This component is not graded.

FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE NOVEMBER 28 (quarter students)

**December 3 (semester students only): Sanctions and Human Rights**

Shagabutdinova and Berejikian, “Deploying Sanctions while Protecting Human Rights: Are Humanitarian “Smart” Sanctions Effective?” Journal of Human Rights, January 2007.

FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE December 5 (semester students)