Political Science 568: International Organization  
Spring 2014
Friday, 9:30-11:55, Fenno Room (Harkness 329)

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Purpose of the course: This is an advanced course intended for Ph.D. students. The course conducts a broad survey of the field, focusing on recent developments in the theory of international organization, and making use of historical examples from a range of substantive issue areas.

Course Requirements: Each student writes a data-based research paper (20-25 pages, described below). A draft of the paper is due Monday, December 6, at 5:00 pm, and the final version is due December 17 at 12:00 noon. There will be opportunities to present versions of the paper during the semester. There will be a take-home final exam, due December 20 at 4:00 pm. Grading: 1/3 class participation, 1/3 final paper, 1/3 final.

Research Papers: Although the papers are short (no more than 25 pages, please), the standards are high. The papers are expected to formulate a hypothesis, ground it in appropriate literature, illustrate an argument or puzzle using qualitative evidence, and test the hypothesis using quantitative evidence.

Books:


**Course Outline:**

**Jan. 17: No class (International Organization Board Retreat)**

**Jan. 24: Public Goods and Transaction Costs**


**Jan. 31: Institutional Design**


**Feb. 7: Delegation and Agency**


Feb. 14: Credibility and Institutional Effectiveness


Feb. 21: Informal Governance


Feb. 28: Voting in the UN


Mar. 7: Institutional Change in the European Union


March 14: No class (Spring Break)

Mar. 21: The WTO


Mar. 28: No class (ISA)

Apr. 4: Preferential Trade Agreements

Apr. 11: International Law and Domestic Politics


Apr. 18: International Law and Courts


Apr. 25: Informal Governance