

INTA 3101 International Institutions

Fall 2020

Class Day: T/TH 14:00-15:15 (taught remotely except for October 8th & 13th when we will meet face-to-face in the Habersham Bldg. Room 136 during the regular class time to engage in a simulation exercise)

Prof. Katja Weber Email: katja.weber@inta.gatech.edu

Office Hours: By appointment (email to set up a virtual meeting or phone call)

This course is taught as a **hybrid (touch-point) seminar**. There will be a mix of synchronous and asynchronous delivery, except for a face-to-face simulation exercise on Oct. 8th & 13th. Also please note that in case of technical difficulties, some synchronous classes may have to be conducted asynchronously. In short, we all need to be flexible.

Members of this course agree to wear face masks and abide by the social distancing guidelines (this is not optional but a requirement) to make face-to-face meetings possible on the two days specified above. No mask, no class!

Also, should anyone feel ill at any point during the semester, or learn that s/he has been in close contact with someone who has contracted COVID, please do not come to class and self-quarantine. I will make accommodations to make sure you will be able to continue the course.

Should the COVID pandemic make face-to-face meetings impossible, the simulation exercise will have to be adapted and conducted remotely.

Course Description:

This course scrutinizes the evolution of international institutions, and juxtaposes competing conceptual frameworks for understanding the changing roles and functions of institutions in world affairs. After taking a closer look at the EU, NATO, the UN and ASEAN, we then focus on information and communication technologies (ICTs) which, increasingly, play an important role in the international environment as tools which state and non-state actors use for a multiplicity of goals. We will examine their use in cases such as the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the Ushahidi Platform in Kenya, as well as drawing attention to human rights abuses in Burma/Myanmar, China, etc.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to use their knowledge of various international institutional actors in a practical problem-solving way to address issues of immediate concern to these actors. Students should be aware of the diverse cultural/ethnic backgrounds of these international actors and the many challenges that arise from their heterogeneity. Students, moreover, will demonstrate the ability to

describe the causal and determinant relationships between ICTs and international affair and will be able to explain specific cases of ICT use. Students should also be able to participate effectively in small group research projects, give a coherent presentation on a topic assigned to them, and be able to negotiate/bargain with classmates during a simulation exercise.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Midterm: 25% (take-home essay exam, more info provided later)

Class participation: 20% (You need to share your thoughts in breakout sessions, via chats and by posting weekly to the course's *Discussion* section on Canvas)

Class presentation: 15% (A **group project** that you will make available via Kaltura or present via BlueJeans (still to be determined) and upload to Canvas. Further directions are provided in "Class Presentation" which can be found under "Assignments" in Canvas). [The groups will be assigned in week 2].

Team paper: 15% (This is associated with the group project above. Further directions are provided in "Team Paper" which can be found under "Assignments" in Canvas).

Simulation: 25% (You will receive a tasker and detailed instructions!)

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Required Texts:

Margaret Karns and Karen Mingst, *International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 3rd edition, 2015).

John McCormick, *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction*. (Palgrave, 2014).

In addition to the books listed above there will be readings that can be accessed on **Canvas (C)** under *Files*.

Students must also keep up with current events in world politics by regularly reading a high quality news source like the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, etc.

Course Website:

See dashboard on Canvas for INTA 3101/6105

Course Expectations & Guidelines:

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities that may also manifest here as they do in the broader society.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on an assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance is expected and essential for obtaining a passing grade. Students must have completed all their readings for each class, participate via BlueJeans sessions and/or view Kaltura lectures that will be posted on Canvas, and contribute to discussions (in breakout sessions, through Q&A, via chat and weekly posts to Canvas "Discussions." Students also need stay on top of their writing and group assignments.

For students in time-zones who cannot join synchronous classes, we will tape our class meetings so you can view them asynchronously.

Extensions:

The class presentation and team paper need to be uploaded as scheduled and you need to make sure you do your fair share with respect to the group assignment so as not to disadvantage other group members. You are expected to complete the take-home

midterm on the scheduled date, and to participate in the simulation exercise in person (see below for dates!), unless you can document a serious illness or family emergency, as determined by the Dean of Students, or you are living abroad during the fall semester.

Class Schedule and Readings:

Please consult this website prior to the beginning of class for “Remote Learning Strategies”: <https://ctl.gatech.edu/sites/default/files/remote-learning/index.html#/>

Also, please go to “Quizzes” in Canvas and **complete the “Start-of-Semester Survey”** as soon as possible to help me learn about your current circumstances regarding access to technology.

Aug. 18 Introduction

Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

You will receive an invitation with instructions how to join; the session will be recorded and uploaded to Canvas

I will go over the syllabus, discuss how to interact with me (email me at katja.weber@inta.gatech.edu), explain the course assignments and go over course deadlines.

Also, please write a brief **autobiography** so I can learn a bit about you. This is a great opportunity to share anything you would like for me to know about you. Also this is a place where you can let me know should you require special accommodations. Upload your autobiography to “Assignments” on Canvas.

Aug. 20 Understanding Global Governance:

Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 1

Aug. 25 Theoretical Foundations of Global Governance: (Liberalism/Realism)

Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 2

-Presentation assignments

Aug. 27 Theoretical Foundations of Global Governance: (Constructivism/Marxism)

Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 2

Sept. 1 **Regional Organizations: Global Governance:
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!**

Karns & Mingst chapter 3

Sept. 3 **Regional Organizations: The European Union—
Historical Evolution
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!**

McCormick chapters 1-3

Sept. 8 **Regional Organizations: The European Union—
Principal Institutions (Commission & Council of the EU,
Parliament & ECJ)
No class! Share your thoughts on “Discussions” on Canvas where you
will find a “prompt.”**

McCormick chapter 4 & 6

Also watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APqIcseL_B8 (5min.)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0diZ48_q7U&t=73s (9 min.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTWahdj-GJA&t=32s> (12 min.)

Sept. 10 **Regional Organizations: The European Union—
Enlargement & Migration
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!**

McCormick chapter 9 & Conclusion

Watch prior to class meeting: “Europe’s Border Crisis: The Long Road”

<https://vimeo.com/141171981>

Sept. 15 **Regional Organizations: The European Union—
ESDP, CSDP and EU Security Operations
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!**

Michael Merlingen, *EU Security Policy: What It Is, How It Works, Why It Matters*, chapters 3 & 6 (Canvas)

(Guest Speaker: Robert Bell)

Sept. 17 **Regional Organizations: The Creation of NATO
Asynchronous lecture via Kaltura available on Canvas in “My
Media”**

Karns & Mingst chapter 5; Lindley-French, Introduction (**Canvas**)

Sept. 22 **Regional Organizations: NATO Transformed**
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

See main NATO website <http://www.nato.int/>
(Guest Speaker: General Breedlove!)

Sept. 24 **Review for Midterm (Format: Q&A)**
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Sept. 29 **MIDTERM (take-home exam)**

Oct. 1 **Orientation Session for Simulation on European Security**
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

(discussion of scenario and tasker; group assignments)

Oct. 6 **Team Meetings for Simulation on European Security**
No class: Meet in your groups remotely!

Each team needs to come up with a 2-3 page position paper

Oct. 8 **Inter-Team Meetings for Simulation on European Security**
Meet on campus in Habersham (exact space TBD)

Bring copies of your position papers for each team; in-class negotiations with members from other delegations while practicing social distancing and wearing masks!!!

Oct. 13 **Simulation on European Security**
Meet on campus in Habersham (exact space TBD)

Bargaining and negotiation among different teams while practicing social distancing and wearing masks!!! closing remarks

Oct. 15 **The Role of ICTs in International Affairs: Creating awareness, transparency and accountability versus promoting repression, radicalization and exclusion**
Asynchronous lecture via Kaltura available on Canvas in “My Media”

Aday, S., Farrell, H., Lynch, M., Sides, J., Kelly, J. and Zuckerman, E. (2010) Blogs and Bullets: New Media in Contentious Politics. *Peaceworks*, No. 65, Washington DC: US Institute of Peace (USIP).
(**Canvas**)

Denning, D. (2000) Activism, Hacktivism, and Cyberterrorism: The Internet as a Tool for Influencing Foreign Policy. Paper prepared for the Internet and International Systems: Information Technology and American Foreign Policy Decisionmaking Workshop, San Francisco, CA. **(Canvas)**

Oct. 20 **Case Studies: The Use of ICTs in Drawing Attention to Human Rights Abuses (examples: Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, and China)**
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Diamond, L. (2010) Liberation Technology, *Journal of Democracy* 21 (3): 69-83. **(Canvas)**

Garrett, K. (2006) Protest in an Information Society: A Review of the Literature on Social Movements and the New ICTs. *Information, Communication and Society* (9) 2, pp. 202-224. **(Canvas)**

Oct. 22 **The United Nations** (group presentation)
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 4

Oct. 27 **The Search for Peace and Security** (group presentation)
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 7

Oct. 29 **Protecting Human Rights** (group presentation)
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 10

Nov. 3 **Protecting the Environment** (group presentation)
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Karns & Mingst chapter 11

Nov. 5 **Regional Organizations and Asia's Historical Legacies:**
No class! Share your thoughts on "Discussions" on Canvas where you will find a "prompt."

Karns & Mingst, pp. 205-219

Weber and Huang, "East Asian Security Revisited in Light of the European Experience," (2010) **(Canvas)**

Nov. 10 **Southeast Asia (ASEAN)**

Asynchronous lecture via Kaltura available on Canvas in “My Media”

<http://asean.org> for a discussion of ASEAN’s history, rationale, etc.

Lee Jones, “ASEAN and the Norm of Non-Interference in Southeast Asia: A Quest for Social Order”, Nuffield College Politics Group Working Paper, (March 2009).

<http://www.nuffield.ox.ac.uk/politics/papers/2009/Jones.March2009.pdf>

Nov. 12 **Post-Cold War Security Architecture; Non-Traditional Security**
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Katja Weber, “The EU, China and Southeast Asia: Divergent Views of Dealing with Human Security,” in Jan Wouters, Jean Christophe Defraigne and Matthieu Burnay, eds., *EU-China and the World: Analyzing the Relations with the Developing and Emerging Countries* (2015).
(Weber-Burma) (Canvas)

Nov. 17 **Non-State Actors: NGOs, Networks, and Social Movements**
No class! Share your thoughts on “Discussions” on Canvas where you will find a “prompt.”

Karns & Mingst chapter 6

Nov. 19 **Guest Speaker (Banafsheh Azizi TBD)**
Synchronous via BlueJeans during regular class time!

Nov. 24 **Wrap-Up**
Asynchronous lecture via Kaltura available on Canvas in “My Media”