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PSC 332.01: International Organizations

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Course purpose is to provide a theoretical and political examination of the United Nations (and selected other organizations) as an instrument of international cooperation.

Course objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to demonstrate 1) factual knowledge of the historical-theoretical context of the modern United Nations and selected other international organizations, 2) familiarity with research sources relevant to international organizations, and 3) competence in preparing a short research paper and presenting it to a class.


2. EXAMS: Midterm (90 points; 45% of final grade)--Friday, Oct. 18; Final (100 points; 50% of final grade)--Fri, Dec. 20 (8:00-10:00). Grading Scale: total score ÷ 2 (90s=A, 80s=B, 70s=C, 60s=D, 59 & below = F)

3. RESEARCH PAPER: (to be explained in class) Topic picked by: Oct. 7 (Mon); Paper Due: Oct. 21 (Mon); Paper collected: Oct. 25 (Fri). PAPER: 5-10 pages, including endnotes and bibliography, double-spaced, typed, uneven right margin, collected at BEGINNING of class. Late papers will NOT be graded. Submission of a paper, however, is required to receive a grade in the class. Oral discussion dates announced after papers handed in. Papers are graded on the basis of use of scholarly research sources, organization and clarity of prose (incl. grammar, punctuation & spelling) and formal paper mechanics (Turabian manual). (10 points; 5% of final grade)

COURSE OUTLINE (Yoder = Y; Cusimano = C) REFERENCE
I. Background
a. Nature of the State & Intl. Relations: state & human values
b. Dev. of Intl. Organization
c. League of Nations

II. The United Nations
a. Establishment & Const. Framework
   1) allocating values at the global level
b. General Assembly  
   1) Membership, Organization, Functions  
   c. Representation of "Red China"  
   d. Parliamentary Diplomacy/Prob. of Voting  
   e. Financial Crisis: what is a state's "fair share" of the U.N. budget?

III. Maintenance of Intl. Peace & Security
   a. Security Council  
      1) Membership, Org., Functions  
      2) Collective Security & Enforcement Action  
      3) Veto/"Uniting for Peace" Resolution  
      4) Peacekeeping  
   b. Rule of Law: ICJ/Intl. Law Commission  
      1) state goals & human rights  
      2) legal frameworks & a "just" world  
   c. Pacific Settlement of Disputes  
   d. Disarmament: moral views on war & peace

IV. International Administration
   a. Secretariat & Secretary-General

V. Economic & Social Activities
   a. ECOSOC & Specialized Agencies  
   b. "haves" v. "have-nots": the "just" sharing of the world's resources

VI. Trusteeship & Dependent Peoples
   a. Trusteeship Council and Non-Self-Governing Territories

VII. Regionalism

VIII. Perspective
   a. Ethical relationships & choices

NOTE: Monday, October 14 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.

PSc website: www.umt.edu/polsci/