

International Studies 190: International Economic Agreements

Syllabus and Reading List

Course Overview

This course focusses on collective action problems facing the international community -- nations and governments, non-governmental organizations (NGO's), regional and other international government bodies. Among the problems we will discuss are health and disease eradication; poverty and foreign aid; crime, terrorism, and civil wars; and trans-national environmental issues such as the protection of endangered species, trans-boundary resource management, pollution control, and global warming. All these problems transcend national boundaries and thus require international cooperation since under the current international system, nations are sovereign and not subject to any international laws and authority except those to which they have agreed to recognize and follow. Cooperation among nations is often codified in international agreements and treaties. Yet many treaties are not effective in solving the problems they attempt to solve. Why this is so and what can be done to improve such agreements depends in most instances on the special features of the problem being addressed. Thus, we need to look at a range of different problems and the attempts made to deal with them internationally to understand both the effectiveness of treaties and agreements and their limitations.

We will start by exploring basic principles of collective action and the economic theory of market failures and public goods. Elementary economics and basic game theory will be used to develop an understanding of the nature of these international problems and the theory of international agreements designed to address them.

Following our examination of the theoretical foundations will be discussions of the specific problems mentioned above. Most of our attention, however, will be devoted to international environmental agreements dealing with environmental issues.

Course Requirements

In addition to regular attendance and active participation at our weekly class meetings, you will be required to write a 20 - 25 page research paper on a topic related to the course. Your paper will be due by *4:30 pm Thursday, December 9th*. In order to help you meet this deadline, you will also be required to turn in a one (1) page description of your paper with at least three (3) bibliographic references that you have read by *October 21st* and a five (5) page outline by *November 11th*. We will reserve part of every class meeting to discuss general problems related to your papers and depending

on how the course meetings go, we may also reserve some time at the end for some student presentations.

Office Hours

I will hold office hours for this course on Wednesday afternoon from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. I am also available by appointment most other days. You can best reach me by e-mail at tgroves@ucsd.edu. Please put "INTL 190" in your subject line so I don't overlook your message.

Class Meetings

The class is currently scheduled to meet Thursday from 9:00 - 11:50 am in room 103 of the Social Science Building. The first part of each class will be devoted to lecture presentation on the topic of the day. The second part will be spent on student-led discussion of this material. One or two students will lead this discussion each week but all students will be expected to participate.

NOTE: The first meeting of the course will be on September 30th (NOT September 23rd). We will hold a make-up session on Tuesday, November 23rd. Please mark your calendars!

WebCT Web Site

All information about the course, including up-to-date announcements will be on the course WebCT web site. You can access the site at <http://webct.ucsd.edu/index.html> where you can also find out what your user name and password are. I will, on occasion, put supplementary reading material on the website. There is also a discussion forum that you should use to ask any public questions about the course. Please e-mail me only personal messages.

A note on the readings

The main textbook for the course is Todd Sandler, *Global Collective Action*, Cambridge University Press, 2004. A second textbook is also recommended: Scott Barrett, *Why Cooperate? The Incentive to Supply Global Public Goods*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. In addition, there will be some chapters assigned from Scott Barrett, *Environment and Statecraft: The Strategy of Environmental Treaty-Making*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.

NOTE: An e-book edition of *Global Collective Action* can be either purchased from Cambridge University Press (<http://www.cambridge.org/us/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780511208263>) or viewed on computers with an UCSD IP address from the library website (<http://roger.ucsd.edu/record=b5796346~S9>).

Other journal articles and book chapters will be assigned from time to time. However, since nearly all your supplemental readings will be devoted to your paper topics and likely be extensive, the core reading for the course will be kept to a minimum. You will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading for that meeting.

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

Topic I: Principles of Collective Action and Economic Theory

- **Meeting 1: (September 30) Introduction: Principles of Collective Action**
 - **Required Readings:**
 - *Global Collective Action*, Chapters 1 and 2.
 - *Why Cooperate?*, Introduction and Chapter 1.

- **Meeting 2: (October 7) Economic Theories of Market Failure and Public Goods**
 - **Required Readings:**
 - *Global Collective Action*, Chapters 3 and 4.
 - *Why Cooperate?*, Chapter 2.

Topic II: International Health and Economic Assistance Programs

- **Meeting 3: (October 14) International Health Programs and Disease Eradication**
 - **Required Readings:**
 - *Global Collective Action*, Chapter 5.
 - *Why Cooperate?*, Chapter 3.

- **Meeting 4: (October 21). International Assistance and Foreign Aid**
 - **Required Readings:**
 - *Global Collective Action*, Chapter 6.
 - *Why Cooperate?*, Chapter 4.
 - **Note: Paper topic with three (3) bibliographic references due today!**

Topic III: International Security

- **Meeting 5: (October 28). International Crime, Enforcement, and Terrorism**
 - **Required Readings:**
 - *Global Collective Action*, Chapters 7 and 8.
 - *Why Cooperate?*, Chapter 5.

- **Meeting 6: (November 4). Civil Wars and Peacekeeping**

- **Required Readings:**

- *Global Collective Action*, Chapter 9.
- *Why Cooperate?*, Chapter 6.

Topic IV: International Environmental Agreements

- **Meeting 7: (November 11). Theory of International Agreements**

- **Required Readings:**

- *Environment and Statecraft*, Chapters 1, 3 and 6.
- *Why Cooperate?*, Chapter 7 and Conclusions.

- **Note: Paper outline (five (5) pages) due today!**

- **Meeting 8: (November 18). Endangered Species and Trans-boundary Resource Management**

- **Required Readings:**

- *Environment and Statecraft*, Chapters 2.

- **Meeting 9: (November 23: **TUESDAY**). Water and Atmospheric Pollution**

- **Required Readings:**

- *Environment and Statecraft*, Chapter 8 .
- *Global Collective Action*, Chapter 10.
- Case study: Montreal Protocol.
- You should also consult the web page for this important agreement: <http://ozone.unep.org/>

- **Meeting 10: (December 2). Global Warming: Kyoto Protocol, Copenhagen and beyond**

- **Required Readings:**

- *Environment and Statecraft*, Chapter 15.

- **December 9. Final Draft of Papers Due Today, by 4:30 pm.**

Academic Integrity Statement:

Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship: <http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/Appendices/app2.htm>. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in forbidden conduct will be subjected to the disciplinary process. Cheaters and plagiarists will receive a failing grade on the assignment or the exam and/or in the entire course. They may also be suspended from UCSD.