**INTA 6105 International Institutions** Spring 2015

Prof. Katja Weber T/TH 13:35-14:55 IC 219 Habersham Bldg. Rm 148

(404) 894-5409

email: katja.weber@inta.gatech.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 10-11am; TH 3-4pm and by appointment

**Core Area:**

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence the global system.

**Course Description:**

This course scrutinizes the evolution of international institutions, and juxtaposes competing theoretical approaches for understanding the changing roles and functions of institutions in world affairs. Since information and communication technologies (ICTs), increasingly, play an important role in the international environment as tools which state and non-state actors can use for a multiplicity of goals, we will examine their use in cases such as the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the “Green Movement” in Iran, the Ushahidi Platform in Kenya, as well as drawing attention to human rights abuses in Burma/Myanmar, China, and Thailand.

**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.

**Required Texts:**

Margaret Karns and Karen Mingst, *International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*. (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2009).

Michael Green and Bates Gill, *Asia’s New Multilateralism: Cooperation, Competition, and the Search for Community*. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2009).

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

*The Economist*: [http://prx.library.gatech.edu/login?url=http://www.economist.com/gatech](http://www.economist.com/gatech" \t "_blank)

**Course Requirements:**

Students must have completed all their readings for each class and are expected to participate in classroom discussions. 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.

The course grade will be as follows:

Research paper 50% (further directions will be given in class)

Class participation 25%

Simulation 25%

**Attendance Policy:**

Regular attendance is expected and essential for obtaining a passing grade.

**Honor Code:**

The Georgia Tech Honor Code is available online: <http://www.honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9>. If caught cheating, you will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code.

**Students With Disabilities:**

Georgia Tech is committed to providing reasonable accommodation for all students with disabilities through the ADAPTS program (http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/). Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate his/her educational opportunities. Students with disabilities must be registered with the ADAPTS-Disability Services Program prior to receiving accommodations in this course. The ADAPTS-Disability Services Program is located in Smithgall Student Services Building, phone 404-894-2564 or TDD only 404-894-1664.

**Readings**

**Jan. 6**  **Introduction**

Syllabus

**Jan. 8**  **Understanding Global Governance**

Karns & Mingst chapter 1

**Jan. 13** **Theoretical Foundations of Global Governance**

**(Liberalism/Realism)**

Karns & Mingst chapter 2

-Presentation assignments

**Jan. 15** **Theoretical Foundations of Global Governance (Constructivism/Marxism)**

Karns & Mingst chapter 2

**Jan. 20 Historical Foundations of Global Governance**

Karns & Mingst chapter 3

**Jan. 22** **Regional Organizations: The European Union**

**Historical Evolution**

McCormick chapters 1-3

**Jan. 27** **Map Quiz on Europe**

**Regional Organizations: The European Union**

**Principal Institutions (Commission & Council of the EU, Parliament & ECJ)**

McCormick chapter 4 & 6

**Jan. 29** **Regional Organizations: The European Union**

**ESDP, CSDP and EU Security Operations**

Michael Merlingen, *EU Security Policy: What It Is, How It Works, Why It Matters* (Lynne Rienner, 2012), chapters 3 & 6 (on T-Square)

**Feb. 3**  **Regional Organizations: The European Union**

**Enlargement & the Turkish Question**

McCormick chapter 9 & Conclusion

Feb. 5 TBD Guest Speaker (CARE, Amnesty International, Carter Center?)

**Feb. 10 Regional Organizations: The Creation of NATO**

Karns & Mingst chapter 5

**Feb. 12 Regional Organizations: NATO Transformed**

(See main NATO website <http://www.nato.int/>)

Feb. 17 Review for Midterm

**Feb. 19 (proctor MIDTERM)**

**Feb. 24 The United Nations**

Karns & Mingst chapter 4

(group presentation)

**Feb. 26** **The Search for Peace and Security**

Karns & Mingst chapter 8

(group presentation)

March 3 Map Quiz Asia

Regional Organizations: Asia’s New Multilateralism;

U.S. & Chinese perspectives

Karns & Mingst, pp. 189-200.

Green & Gill, chapters 1-3

**March 5** **Regional Organizations: Asia’s New Multilateralism:** **Korean, Japanese & Indian Perspectives**

Green & Gill, chapters 4-6

March 10 Regional Organizations: Asia’s New Multilateralism (ASEAN & Future Security Architecture; Non-Traditional Security)

Green & Gill, chapters 8 & 11-13

**March 12** **Non-State Actors: NGOs, Networks, and Social Movements**

Karns & Mingst chapter 6

March 16-20 SPRING BREAK

**March 24 Protecting Human Rights**

Karns & Mingst chapter 10

(group presentation)

**March 26 The Role of ICTs in International Affairs: Creating awareness, transparency and accountability versus promoting repression, radicalization and exclusion**

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).

(on T-Square)

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.

(on T-Square)

**March 31 Case Studies: The International Campaign to Ban Landmines;**

**Use of the Ushahidi Platform in Kenya**

Excerpts fromMeier, P. (2011) Do “Liberation Technologies” Change The Balance Of Power Between Repressive States And Civil Society? A Thesis Presented to the Faculty of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

(on T-Square)

**April 2 Case Studies: The Use of ICTs in Drawing Attention to Human Rights Abuses in Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, and China**

(group presentation)

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

(on T-Square)

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.

(on T-Square)

**April 7 Case Studies: The Use of ICTs in the “Green Movement” in Iran**

(group presentation)

Shirky, C. (2011) The Political Power of Social Media: Technology, the Public Sphere, and Political Change. *Foreign Affairs,* January/February.

(on T-Square)

**April 9 Protecting the Environment**

Karns & Mingst chapter 11

(group presentation)

**April 14 Orientation Session for Simulation on International Security**

(hand out scenario and tasker; group assignments)

**April 16 Team Meetings for Simulation**

(in-class discussion and development of a 2-3 page position paper)

**April 21 Inter-Team Meetings for Simulation**

(in-class discussions to reevaluate negotiation positions; bring copies of your position papers for each team)

**April 23 Simulation**

(actual bargaining and negotiations among different teams)