

Political Science 4735

Multilateral Diplomacy Workshop

Fall 2014

Course Info

Instructor: Steven Wilson

Place: 532 Major Williams Hall

Time: Monday and Wednesday 5:30PM - 6:45PM

Office Hours: 4:00PM - 5:00PM Monday and Wednesday in 527 Major Williams Hall

Contact Info: Email: slw42@vt.edu Phone: 540-231-6425

Objectives: Investigates the purpose, context, and process of multilateral diplomacy and focuses on the strategies and tactics associated with it. Examines products of multilateral diplomacy, decision-making process, negotiations, and mediation in the context of the United Nations.

Textbooks

The course has two required text books, which will be supplemented by a selection of additional readings throughout the semester. The two required texts are:

Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, and Pease.

The United Nations and Changing World Politics

Muldoon, Aviel, Reitano, and Sullivan.

Multilateral Diplomacy

Assignments & Grading

Reading will be assigned for each class. Students should come to class having read the assigned material and being ready to discuss it. Please come to office hours (or schedule a meeting with me if you have a conflict) if you have any trouble understanding the material, or if you have any questions about the course at all as the semester progresses.

Assignments include a research paper that will be completed in stages through the semester and participation in class. The proportion each of these is worth to the final grade is listed below:

Class Participation (35%) (Throughout semester)

Journal Entries (30%) (Throughout semester)

Final Paper (35%) (Due by the start of the final class: Wednesday, Dec 10th)

Final Paper

The final papers will be written in stages over the course of the semester. In the first two weeks of the semester, students will identify a research question they want to answer, and turn in a summary of the question and their approach to it. Throughout the semester, students will identify scholarly literature relevant to their question, and write journal entries summarizing the arguments and how they apply to their paper. The final paper will be 5000 words.

When grading papers, if you write less than the minimum length, you will be graded out of the percent of the assignment that you did. For example, if for a 1000 word assignment you only turn in a 700 word paper, I will grade you out of 70%.

Course Schedule

The schedule for the semester is listed below, reading will be assigned as we go.

Week 1: Introduction and Early History

Week 2: Theory and Structure

Muldoon: Intro & Chapter 1

Weiss: Intro & Chapter 1

Week 3: Cold War

Weiss: Chapter 2

Week 4: After the Cold War

Weiss: Chapter 3

Week 5: After 9/11

Weiss: Chapter 5

Agora on the Iraq War: *American Journal of International Law* 2003, p553-642

Week 6: Arms Control

Valenti, et al 2007: *Journal of Public Health Policy*

Marsh 2007: *Journal of Public Health Policy*

Akerman & Larsson 2010: Working Paper: The Global Arms Trade Network 1950-2007

Hymans 2014: *International Journal*

Valenti, et al 2014: *Journal of Public Health Policy*

Text of United Nations Arms Trade Treaty

Week 7: Telecommunications

Week 8: Human Rights

Muldoon: Chapter 2

Weiss: Chapter 6

Week 9: Human Rights (continued)

Weiss: Chapter 7 & 8

Week 10: Development and Economics

Muldoon: Chapter 4

Weiss: Chapters 9 & 10

Week 11: Globalization

Weiss: Chapter 11

Muldoon: Chapter 3

Week 12: Case Studies

Weiss: Chapter 4

Week 13: Case Studies

Week 14: Thanksgiving

Week 15: The Future

Muldoon: Chapter 6

Weiss: Chapter 11

Week 16: Presentations