

Sciences Po
Master of Public Affairs 2009-2010

Syllabus, Workshop, 1st semester (3 credits)

Frontier Issues in Global Governance and the Role of Key Actors (US, EU, China, and Japan in a comparative setting)

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Instructor:

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Class Website (for lecture notes, links, resources, PDF readings):

<http://www.politics.ubc.ca/tiberg/mpaworkshop.htm>

Course Description:

Global governance constitutes one of the key challenges in current international relations and policy-making. As demonstrated by the global financial crisis of 2008, global forces often overwhelm a political system that is primarily rooted in fragmented national sovereignty. Global markets require institutional foundations; yet, these foundations are either the result of competing national policy processes or fragile efforts toward global coordination. As the global challenges facing the nations of the earth become more pressing, it becomes critical to address the classical political dilemmas of collective action, global commons, and asymmetry of benefits and costs. Are the dominant players in the system able to make progress in this large battle? How does the changing balance of power in the world and the rise of China in particular affect the game of global governance?

At a time when the global governance that sustains globalization is largely in question and in flux, the choices made by China and other rising powers will have a critical impact, whether these choices are made unilaterally, in a condominium with the US (Bergsten, 2008), or in a larger G-20 or G-16 context (Bradford & Linn, 2007). The historical evidence on previous periods of global economic crisis or uncertainty have shown that the lack of management of the global economy by rising powers or the conflict between existing and rising powers over the management of the global economy could wreak havoc to the global system.

The current period is a critical juncture. Global uncertainties about the stability and sustainability of the current system of global finance and global trade in the context of an additional energy and food crisis have intensified the debate about the need to rejuvenate the post-war institutions that sustain globalization and to rethink our architecture of global governance. The financial meltdown of the fall of 2008 has only accelerated this debate further.

The workshop begins with an overview of the theoretical dilemmas of global coordination and different approaches to global governance. It covers the perspectives and roles played by key large players, particularly the US, the EU, China, and Japan. Much emphasis is also given to the historical trajectory and to the current debates on the impact of the rise of China on global governance. The second day focuses on three thematic arenas: global finance, biosafety (GMOs), and climate change.

The workshop will include a variety of activities, including lively lectures, movie excerpts, discussions, and debates. Lecture notes will be available on the website, as well as additional resources. The instructor will be available for further discussion in person or by email.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will have obtained a solid understanding and some critical skills at three levels:

1. the theoretical dilemmas of global governance in the current age;
2. the particular historical juncture of our current period in a larger comparative perspective with a focus on the interplay between the US, the EU, Japan, and China;
3. and empirical knowledge on three issue areas: global finance, climate change, and biosafety from the perspective of global governance, and a changing balance of power

In addition, students will be actively involved in the workshop through participation and debates and will thus improve their analytical and presentation skills.

Class Schedule:

2-day Workshop: December 3 (Thursday) and December 4 (Friday), 2009

Hours: 10-13 and 14-19

Books and other material advised:

The workshop classes are supplemented with a set of readings, including book chapters and articles. These readings will be available as PDF pieces on the class website at least one month ahead of time.

Course Outline and Some Indicative Readings (readings to be updated):

The workshop is divided into the following 7 components.

Part 1 (Dec 3, 9-12): Theoretical Overview – the Dilemma of Global Governance in the Context of Globalized Economic Forces and Fragmented Sovereignty

Nye, Joseph. 2001. "Globalization's Democratic Deficit: How to Make International Institutions More Accountable" in *Foreign Affairs* July/August 2001 (5 pages)

Rodrik, Dani. "How Far will International Economic Integration Go?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14, no. 1 (Winter 2000): 177-86.

Bradford, Colin and Johannes Lin. 2007. *Global Governance Reform: Breaking the Stalemate*. Washington DC: Brookings Institution. Introduction and Conclusion

Part 2 (Dec 3, 2-5): Historical Perspective on the Global Quest for Coordination and Cooperation since 1914

Carr, Edward Hallett. 1939. *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939*. New York: Harper and Row.
- read: Chapter 4 (41-62) "The Harmony of Interests"

Part 3 (Dec 3, 5-7): The Rise of China and Global Governance: Understanding Chinese Approaches and Potential Pathways

Excerpts from:

Jacques, Martin. 2009. "When China Rules the World: the Rise of the Middle Kingdom and the End of the Western World."

Part 4 (Dec 4, 9-12): The Global Governance of Finance in the Context of the Crisis and Global Power Transition: National Regulations and G20 Coordination

Susan Strange, *Mad Money*, 1998, Chapter 1

Selected Updates on the Global Financial Crisis and the G20 Process

Part 5 (Dec 4, 2-4): The Global Governance of Biosafety and Genetically-Modified Food

Tiberghien, Yves. 2006. "The Battle for the Global Governance of Genetically Modified Organisms: the Roles of the European Union, Japan, Korea, and China in a Comparative Context," *Les Etudes du CERI*, Number 124 (April), Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris.

Excerpt from Robert Falkner's Book on the Governance of Biosafety

Falkner, Robert. 2007. *The International Politics of Genetically Modified Food: Diplomacy, Trade, and law*. Palgrave MacMillan.

Part 6 (Dec 4, 4-6): Climate Change and Global Governance: Perspectives on the dilemma of the global commons and the Copenhagen Conference

Special Issue from *Global Environmental Politics*, November 2008 – Intro+ 3 articles (US, Canada, EU, Japan)

Selected Updates on Climate Change Negotiations

Part 7 (Dec 4, 6-7): Conclusion and Broader Discussion

Brawley, Mark. 2003. "Future scenarios, political backlash, or global governance?", 195-214 in *The Politics of Globalization*.