Professors Robert O. Keohane and Helen V. Milner
Tuesdays, 1:30-4:20.

Prerequisite: Politics 551 or consent of the instructors.

This course will meet weekly as a seminar, with discussions initiated by students. Before each of the first nine classes (including the first class on February 5), two or three short (500 word) student-authored discussion papers will be circulated. They are not to be descriptions of the readings. Instead, they are to raise questions and criticisms, or draw connections and comparisons with readings in other weeks. The authors of the papers will not present them. Instead each paper will be introduced by another student, with comments of not more than five minutes (the instructors will cut off people speaking longer than this). Then we will have a general discussion.

The syllabus focuses on concepts that are important for understanding international cooperation. Each student will write two short discussion papers for circulation to the whole class, will serve as a discussant on two occasions, and will write a long paper. We expect that most of the papers will address a substantive puzzle involving cooperation in some field of international relations (security, environment, political economy, or human rights, for example), and will use concepts discussed in the course to analyze the relevant set of issues. Students are to consult with one of the instructors about a paper topic before spring break, and are to submit a one-page statement of topic by March 25.

The last three sessions of the term will be devoted to discussions of the arguments that students propose to make in their papers. Again, brief papers will be circulated in advance and commentators will initiate the discussion.

Evaluations of student performance in the seminar will depend on evaluations of short papers, initial comments, and general participation in discussion, as well as on the long papers.

We use substantial portions of the following books, which should be available in the bookstore.

Martha Finnemore, National Interests in International Society (Cornell University Press, 1996),
Darren Hawkins et al., Delegation and Agency in International Organizations (Cambridge, 2006).
John Ikenberry, After Victory (Princeton, 2001).

Week 1 (February 5). *Anarchy, Power, and Interests*  240

Review Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*, chs. 5-6 (pp. 79-128) [from Politics 551].
Helen V. Milner, *Interests, Institutions, and Information*, chs. 1-2 (pp. 3-66).

Week 2 (February 12). *Bargaining*  290

Thomas C. Schelling, *The Strategy of Conflict*, chs. 2-4 (pp. 21-118).

Week 3 (February 19). *Institutions and Strategies: Theory*  220

Helen V. Milner, *Interests, Institutions, and Information*, chs. 3-4 (pp. 67-110).
Week 4 (February 26). *Institutions and Strategies: Applications and Extensions* 240


Week 5 (March 4). *Critiques of Institutional Theory, Responses, and Extensions* 280


Week 6 (March 11). *Ideas, Socialization, Identity* 285

Judith Goldstein and Robert O. Keohane, *Ideas and Foreign Policy* (Cornell 1993), ch. 1 (pp. 3-30).

Alexander L. Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics* (Cambridge, 1999) ch. 3 (pp. 92-138) and 6 (246-312).


Spring Break.

Week 7 (March 25). Design and Delegation 290


Week 8. (April 1). Monitoring, Reputation, and Compliance. 250


Week 9. (April 8). Diffusion. 180


Weeks 10-12 (April 15, 22, 29). Discussion of Students’ Proposed Plans and Arguments for Papers.