



**Module Name:** International Public Policy  
**Module Code:** PUBL TBC  
**Teaching:** 10 hours of lectures, 10 hours of seminars  
**Credits:** 30  
**Assessment:** 3,000-word policy brief (50%) and two-hour unseen exam (50%)  
**Writing Deadline/s:** 16 December 2019  
**Lecturer:** Dr. Inken von Borzyskowski and Teaching Fellows

**\*This is a core module for the MSc International Public Policy (MSc IPP) Programme. For this reason it is only available to MSc IPP students.**

## USEFUL LINKS

[UCL Timetable](#)

[Extenuating Circumstances](#)

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[Plagiarism and TurnItIn](#)

[Plagiarism and Academic Writing - a Guide for Students](#) (you will need to log in and enroll yourself on the page)

## **PUBL TBC: International Public Policy**

**Lecture:** Tuesdays 9-10am

**Seminars:** Tuesdays 11am-2pm, 11am-2pm, 3pm-4pm and 3pm-4pm

### **Office Hours:**

Dr. Inken von Borzyskowski

Room: 2.06 in 29/30 Tavistock Square

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-3pm (drop in)

Email: i.Borzyskowski@ucl.ac.uk

Teaching Fellow

Office: TBC 29/30 Tavistock Square

Office Hours: TBC, bookable through SPPBook.

Email:

Teaching Fellow

Office: TBC, 29/30 Tavistock Square

Office Hours: TBC, bookable through SPPBook.

Email:

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This is the core module for the MSc International Public Policy (IPP). The module provides a conceptual overview and empirical illustrations intended to help students understand and analyze the key challenges, actors, and institutions of contemporary international public policy. Students learn how to think critically and analytically about topics in global governance, how to conceptualize problems, how to think through the incentives and constraints of policymakers, and the potential for and limitations of collective action and institutions. We cover these foundations in the first part of the course and then spend the second part of the course discussing specific issue areas. Students develop an understanding of major current and past policy debates in various areas of international governance, including international security, international trade, development, human rights, democracy, and the environment.

In addition to substantive knowledge about global policy challenges, this module helps develop students' practical skills to become effective participants in international public policy. We focus on key skills in applied research, writing, and oral communication: how to research and organize

information about a country's background and foreign policy, how to write a country position paper about a global policy problem, how to give policy speeches, how to negotiate like a diplomat with other actors on the international stage, and how to craft agreements (resolutions) to solve real-world contemporary global policy challenges. We use seminar meetings to hone these skills and apply them in a simulation of United Nations committee meetings in the second part of the term.

### **ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING:**

The course is taught through 10 weekly lectures and seminars. Attendance at both sessions is *required*. Lectures address the week's topic in the context of the research literature and available evidence. Lectures encourage student participation and questions based on the week's readings. Students are expected to come prepared having completed all the week's readings and to be ready to engage. Seminars provide hands-on skills and prepare students to master the policy simulation. Students are expected to actively participate in all aspects of the seminar and to remain "in character" of the country that they represent during the simulation.

### **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

The assignments in this course are designed to test and hone some of the key skills for a career in public policy. The module is assessed through a written examination and a writing assignment. Final grades are composed of both the exam (50%) and the writing assignment (total of 50%). The writing assignment is 3,000 words and consists of two parts: a 1,500-word country position paper and a 1,500-word country fact sheet. As a mandatory formative assignment, a full draft of each part is due during the term: the draft fact sheet is due on 13 October and the draft position paper is due on 10 November. Practicing both parts of the writing assignment is important as they build on each other and enable students to hold policy speeches and successfully participate in the policy simulation. That is why they are mandatory (even though they are for practice only) and it is critical that you work hard on them. Students who submit high-quality drafts can receive better feedback on how to improve their work for the final assignment deadline. The final assignment is due on 16 December. Detailed information is provided in class and available on Moodle.

*A note on plagiarism.* Cheating and plagiarism are unacceptable. If you are caught doing either you will be subject to the disciplinary procedures spelled out in the Student Handbook. Please consult the [plagiarism](#) website for further information. If you have any questions, please ask ahead of time.

Speaking in front of others is a critical skill for almost any job you can imagine, but particularly so in public policy. This class is a low risk forum for practicing and improving this skill. Students are expected to come prepared and participate actively in class meetings. Students also give two short presentations. To enhance peer learning, students receive feedback from fellow students and provide feedback to their peers.

## **READINGS:**

Students are expected to read each item listed under “required.” Required readings are available electronically via the e-reading list or on Moodle. Changes to the topics or reading list may be made during the term. However, sufficient notice will always be provided (at least one week).

You should make a habit (if you have not already) of reading at least one major newspaper or periodical with substantial international coverage, such as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Al Jazeera*, *BBC World News*, or *the Economist*. You can access these and other news sources free of charge through the library and online. Lectures will frequently reference relevant current international events, and being conversant with what is going on in the world will be important to contribute to discussions and do well on exams. We will reference current events in the countries we are studying, so it is in your best interest to stay on top of things.

If you want to familiarize yourself ahead of time with some of the key debates in international relations, international institutions, or policy analysis, you may be interested in acquiring the following books, which are available at the bookstore and online.

- *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions*, by Frieden, Lake, and Schultz. Norton & Company. 2018 (4th edition).
- *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice*, by Hurd. Cambridge. 2018 (3rd edition).
- *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving*, by Bardach. 2016 (5th edition).

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Date	1 Oct	8 Oct	15 Oct	22 Oct	29 Oct	12 Nov	19 Nov	26 Nov	3 Dec	10 Dec
Lecture	Introduction	Foundations	Institutions	The United Nations	Security	Human rights	Democracy	Development	Trade	Environment
Seminar	<p>How to ...</p> <p>1) make a country fact sheet + 2) write a country position paper + 3) do research for each</p>	<p>How to...</p> <p>4) give a policy speech</p> <p>(+ any remaining questions on country fact sheet)</p>	<p>Student presentation 1: 2 country issues</p> <p>with feedback from peers and tutors</p>	<p>How to...</p> <p>5) write a resolution + 6) vote on a resolution &amp; act in a UN committee</p> <p>(+ any remaining questions on country position paper)</p>	<p>Student presentation 2: country position</p> <p>with feedback from peers and tutors</p> <p>How to ...</p> <p>7) negotiate</p>	<p>Simulation day 1</p> <p>negotiating formally + informally</p>	<p>Simulation day 2</p> <p>negotiating and writing resolution</p>	<p>Simulation day 3</p> <p>introducing and voting on 2+ resolutions</p>	<p>Simulation day 4</p> <p>negotiating and writing resolution</p>	<p>Simulation day 5</p> <p>introducing and voting on remaining resolutions</p>
Assignment due	Students sign up for countries, contact + meet teammate(s)	Students bring draft of country fact sheet	Students submit <b>1,500-word country fact sheet (due 13 Oct)</b> + Students give <b>1-minute presentation on two country issues (due 15 Oct)</b>	Students bring draft of country position paper	Students give <b>1-minute presentation on country position (due 29 Oct)</b>	Students submit <b>1,500-word country position paper (due 10 Nov)</b> + Students bring draft text for resolution (1 page)				

## Week 1: Introduction

*What is international public policy? What are the challenges of global governance? And why is it difficult for the international community to agree on solutions?*

Required readings:

- Van Oudenaren, John. 2003. What is "Multilateral"? *Policy Review* 117.
- The Economist. 2008. Who Runs the World? Wrestling for Influence.
- Daalder, Ivo and James Lindsay. 2018. The Committee to Save the World Order. *Foreign Affairs*.
- Council of Foreign Relations. 2019. Report Card on International Cooperation. Interactive, Available at <https://www.cfr.org/interactive/councilofcouncils/reportcard2019/#!/>
- Guides on how to 1) make a country fact sheet; 2) write a country position paper; 3) do research for each

Optional readings:

- Weiss, Thomas. 2000. Governance, Good Governance and Global Governance: Conceptual and Actual Challenges. *Third World Quarterly* 21 (5): 795-814.
- Barrilleaux, Charles, Christopher Reenock, and Mark Souva. 2017. Public Policy Models, in *Democratic Policymaking: An Analytic Approach*, Cambridge University Press, pp. 11-56.
- Smith, Catherine. 2015. *Writing Public Policy. A Practical Guide to Communicating in the Policy Making Process*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 8, Briefing, Opinion, Resolution: Inform Policy Makers (pp. 148-161).

Seminar activity:

- Discuss how to 1) make a country fact sheet; 2) write a country position paper; 3) do research for each
- Students sign up for countries, contact + meet teammate(s)

## Week 2: Foundations

*Who are the actors in IPP? Why can't actors always get what they want? What are their interests and which constraints do they face? What is collective action?*

### Required readings:

- Frieden, Lake, and Schultz. 2018. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions*, chapter 2. Norton & Company, 4<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Sandler, Todd. 2004. With a Little Help From My Friends: Principles of Global Collective Action, in *Global Collective Action*, pp. 17-36. New York: Cambridge.
- Guide on how to 4) give a policy speech.
- Watch example videos of good and bad presentations.

### Optional readings:

- Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*, chapter 1.
- Putnam, Robert. 1988. Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games. *International Organization* 42 (3): 427-460.
- Knill, Christoph and Jale Tosun. 2012. Theoretical Approaches to Policy-Making, in: *Public Policy: A New Introduction*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 69-96.

### Seminar activity:

- Discuss how to 4) give a policy speech
- Students bring draft of their country fact sheet
- Discuss any remaining questions on country fact sheet

\*\*\* Students submit 1,500-word country fact sheet (due 13 October) \*\*\*

### Week 3: Institutions

*What are international institutions? How do they help address IPP problems? What is the difference between compliance, cooperation, and effectiveness? What are constraining and screening effects?*

#### Required readings:

- Hurd, Ian. 2018. *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice*, chapter 1 and 2. Cambridge, 3rd edition.
- Chayes, Abram and Antonia Handler Chayes. 1993. On Compliance. *International Organization* 47 (2): 175-205.
- Downs, George, David Rocke, and Peter Barsoom. 1996. Is the good news about compliance good news about cooperation? *International Organization* 50 (3): 379-406.

#### Optional readings:

- Von Stein, Jana. 2005. Do Treaties Constrain or Screen? Selection Bias and Treaty Compliance. *American Political Science Review* 99 (4): 611-22.
- Martin, Lisa. 2013. Against Compliance, in *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on International Law and International Relations: The State of the Art*, edited by Jeffrey Dunoff and Mark Pollack, 591-610. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Botcheva, Liliana and Lisa Martin. 2001. Institutional Effects on State Behavior: Convergence and Divergence. *International Studies Quarterly* 45 (1): 1-26.
- Pevehouse, Jon, and Inken von Borzyskowski. 2016. International Organizations in World Politics. In *The Oxford Handbook of International Organizations*, edited by Jacob Katz Cogan, Ian Hurd, and Ian Johnstone, chapter 1.

#### Seminar activity:

- Students give 1-minute presentations on two country issues
- Peers and seminar tutors provide feedback on presentations



## Week 4: The United Nations

*What is the UN? What does it do, how does it work, and what are its key bodies? Which crises can and cannot be solved by the UN?*

### Required readings:

- Mingst, Karen, Margaret Karns, and Alynna Lyon. 2017. *The United Nations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, pp. 21-63 and 71-93. Westview Press, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Sengupta, Somini. 2014. Why the UN Can't Solve the World's Problems. *New York Times*, July 26, 2014.
- Guides on how to 5) write a resolution; 6) vote on a resolution & act in a UN committee (UN rules of procedure) + background guide on "your" issue for the simulation (~20 pages)

### Optional readings:

- United Nations. 2017. *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. New York, 42<sup>nd</sup> edition.
- Miller, Lynn. 1999. The Idea and the Reality of Collective Security. *Global Governance* 5 (3): 303-332.
- Weiss, Thomas. 2003. The Illusion of UN Security Council Reform. *The Washington Quarterly* 26 (4): 147-161.
- Hurd, Ian. 2018. *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice*, chapter 3. Cambridge, 3rd edition.

### Seminar activity:

- Discuss how to 5) write a resolution; 6) vote on a resolution and act in a UN committee
- Students bring drafts of country position paper
- Discuss any remaining questions on country position paper

## Week 5: Security

*How can the international community address security crises? What is peacekeeping and (how) does it work? How do interests and institutions influence international security policies?*

### Required readings:

- Mingst, Karen, Margaret Karns, and Alynna Lyon. 2017. *The United Nations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, chapter 4 (especially pp. 131-159). Westview Press, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.
- UN Peacekeeping Operations, 2018 Factsheet.
- Vreeland, James and Axel Dreher. 2014. *The Political Economy of the United Nations Security Council: Money and Influence*. Cambridge, pp. 1-26 and 62-70.
- Guide on how to 7) negotiate

### Optional readings:

- Fortna, Page. 2008. *Does Peacekeeping Work? Shaping Belligerents' Choices after Civil Wars*. Chapters 4 and 5 (pp. 76-126).
- Hurd, Ian. 2018. *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice*, chapter 4 (pp. 80-108). Cambridge, 3rd edition.
- Hultman, Lisa, Jacob Kathman, and Megan Shannon. 2013. United Nations Peacekeeping and Civilian Protection in Civil War. *American Journal of Political Science* 57 (4): 875-91.
- Karreth, Johannes and Jaroslav Tir. 2013. International Institutions and Civil War Prevention. *Journal of Politics* 75 (1): 96-109.

### Seminar activity:

- Students give 1-minute presentations on country position
- Peers and seminar tutors provide feedback on presentations
- Discuss how to 7) negotiate

\*\*\* Students submit 1,500-word country position paper (due 10 November) \*\*\*

## Week 6: Human Rights

*What are human rights and why do states violate them? Why do some actors care about human rights in other countries? How can human rights be protected?*

### Required reading:

- Hafner-Burton, Emilie. 2008. Stick and Stones: Naming and Shaming the Human Rights Enforcement Problem. *International Organization* 62 (4): 689-716.
- Kelley, Judith. 2007. Who Keeps International Commitments and Why? The International Criminal Court and Bilateral Nonsurrender Agreements. *American Political Science Review* 101 (3): 573-89.
- Vreeland, James Raymond. 2008. Political Institutions and Human Rights: Why Dictatorships enter into the United Nations Convention Against Torture. *International Organization* 62 (1): 65-101.

### Optional reading:

- Scott Straus. 2005. Darfur and the Genocide Debate. *Foreign Affairs*.
- Lupu, Yonatan. 2013. Best Evidence: The Role of Information in Domestic Judicial Enforcement of International Human Rights Agreements. *International Organization* 67 (3): 469-503.
- Prorok, Alyssa. 2017. The (In)compatibility of Peace and Justice? The International Criminal Court and Civil Conflict Termination. *International Organization* 71 (2): 213-243.
- Chapman, Terrence and Stephen Chaudoin. 2017. People Like the ICC – As Long As It Targets People in Other Countries. *Washington Post*.

### Seminar activity:

- Simulation day 1
- Students bring draft text for resolution

## Week 7: Democracy

*How can the international community protect and promote democracy and elections? Which mechanisms exist, when are they applied, and do they work?*

### Required readings:

- Pevehouse, Jon. 2002. Democracy from the Outside In? International Organizations and Democratization. *International Organization* 56 (3): 519-549.
- von Borzyskowski, Inken and Felicity Vabulas. 2019. Credible Commitments? Explaining Suspensions to Sanction Political Backsliding. *International Studies Quarterly* 63 (1): 139-152
- Hyde, Susan. 2011. Does Election Monitoring Matter? In *The Pseudo-Democrat's Dilemma: Why Election Observation Became an International Norm*, chapter 4. Cornell University Press.
- Chertoff, Michael and Anders Fogh Rasmussen. 2019. The Unhackable Election: What It Takes to Defend Democracy. *Foreign Affairs*.

### Optional readings:

- Aydın-Düzgit, Senem, Tom Gerald Daly, Ken Godfrey, Staffan Lindberg, Anna Lührmann, Tsveta Petrova, and Richard Youngs. 2019. Post-Cold War Democratic Declines: The Third Wave of Autocratization. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
- Donno, Daniela. 2010. Who is Punished? Regional Intergovernmental Organizations and the Enforcement of Democratic Norms. 2010. *International Organization* 64 (4): 593-625.
- Carnegie, Allison and Nikolay Marinov. 2017. Foreign Aid, Human Rights, and Democracy Promotion: Evidence from a Natural Experiment. *American Journal of Political Science* 61 (3): 671-683.
- von Borzyskowski, Inken. 2016. Resisting Democracy Assistance: Who Seeks and Receives Technical Election Assistance? *Review of International Organizations* 11 (2): 247-282.

### Seminar activity:

- Simulation day 2

## Week 8: Development

*What is the development gap? Why does it exist and how can it be mitigated? Does foreign aid help with development? How could aid be more effective?*

### Required readings:

- Sachs, Jeffrey. 2005. The Development Challenge. *Foreign Affairs*.
- Sachs, Jeffrey. 2014. The Case for Aid. *Foreign Policy*.
- Easterly, William. 2014. The Aid Debate Is Over: The failure of Jeffrey Sachs' Millennium Villages.
- Radelet, Steven, Michael Clemens, and Rikhil Bhavnani. 2005. Aid and Growth. *Finance and Development*.
- Bhagwati, Jagdish. 2010. Banned Aid. *Foreign Affairs* 89 (1): 120-126.
- Dreher, Axel, Jan-Egbert Sturm and James Raymond Vreeland. 2009. Development Aid and International Politics: Does Membership on the UN Security Council influence World Bank decisions? *Journal of Development Economics* 88: 1-18

### Optional readings:

- Woods, Ngaire. 2016. How to Save the World Bank. *Project Syndicate*.
- Wang, Hongying. 2016. New Multilateral Development Banks: Opportunities and Challenges for Global Governance. *Council on Foreign Relations*.
- Rodrik, Dani. 2006. Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? *Journal of Economic Literature*: 973-987.
- Mallaby, Sebastian. 2004. NGOs: Fighting Poverty, Hurting the Poor. *Foreign Policy*.

### Seminar activity:

- Simulation day 3

## Week 9: Trade

*Why do countries trade? If trade is efficient, then why do many countries restrict trade in some way? What barriers to trade to countries use, and how is trade regulated internationally?*

### Required readings:

- Crowley, Meredith. 2003. An Introduction to the WTO and GATT. *Economic Perspectives* 42-57.
- Goldstein, Judith, Douglas Rivers, and Michael Tomz. 2007. Institutions in International Relations: Understanding the Effects of the GATT and WTO on World Trade. *International Organization* 61 (1): 37-67.
- Chatzky, Andrew. 2019. The Truth About Tariffs. *Council on Foreign Relations*.

### Optional readings:

- Legrain, Philippe. 2018. "Steeling for a Fight." *Foreign Policy*.
- Gowa, Joanne and Soo Yeon Kim. 2005. An Exclusive Country Club: The Effects of the GATT on Trade, 1950-94. *World Politics* 57 (4): 453-78.
- Busch, Marc. 2007. Overlapping Institutions, Forum Shopping, and Dispute Settlement in International Trade. *International Organization* 61 (4): 735-61.
- Johns, Leslie and Krzysztof Pelc. 2014. Who Gets to Be in the Room? Manipulating Participation in WTO Disputes. *International Organization* 68 (3): 663-99.

### Seminar activity:

- Simulation day 4

## Week 10: The Environment

*If policy changes can limit the damage of human-made climate change, then why is it so difficult for states to agree on solutions? How can global warming be mitigated?*

### Required readings:

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2018. Global Warming of 1.5 Celsius: Summary for Policymakers.
- The Economist. 2019. Sunny with overcast features: Countries look at ways to tinker with Earth's thermostat.
- Urpelainen, Johannes. 2015. Here's What Political Science Can Tell Us About the Paris Climate Deal. *Washington Post*.
- Flachsland, Christian, Robert Marschinski, and Ottmar Edenhofer. 2009. Global Trading Versus Linking: Architectures for International Emissions Trading. *Energy Policy*.

### Optional readings:

- Busby, Joshua, and Nina von Uexkull. 2019. Climate Shocks and Humanitarian Crises: Which Countries Are Most at Risk? *Foreign Affairs*.
- Keohane, Robert, and David Victor. 2011. The regime complex for climate change. *Perspectives on politics* 9 (1): 7-23.
- Mitchell, Ronald. 1994. Regime Design Matters: International Oil Pollution and Treaty Compliance. *International Organization* 48 (3): 425-459.
- Najam, Adil, Saleumul Huq and Youba Sokona. 2003. Climate Negotiations beyond Kyoto: Developing Countries Concerns and Interests. *Climate Policy* 3 (3): 221-231.

### Seminar activity:

- Simulation day 5