Course ID Number: ADC6420
Course Title: UN and Global Governance

No. of Credits: 2

Graduate School of International Relations
International University of Japan

Term: Spring 2012
Timetable: 4th and 5th period on Wed

Instructor: John Clammer

Course Introduction
This course is designed to introduce participants to the history and structure of the UN, its place within the international system of states and non-state actors, its current challenges in the face of failed states and civil wars, climate change, terrorism, continuing high levels of poverty and inequality, challenges to human rights, and calls for radical reform of the whole UN system. The course will discuss current problems of global governance, suggestions for a world government and the relation of the UN to other multi-lateral institutions. The study of the UN system itself will be contextualized in the light of the current geo-political situation in the world, including such events as the “Arab Spring”, resource competition, and recent historical events such as the break up of the former Yugoslavia.
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Organization
The course will consist of ten three hour classes which will be a mixture of lectures, discussions, debates and student presentations and the occasional film or documentary viewing.

Assessment and Class Policy
Assessment for the class will comprise two papers based on class presentations
delivered during the course (20% each), class attendance and participation in discussion (10%) and a final exam (50%). Attendance at all classes is mandatory except in the case of illness or emergency, and course participants will be expected to have completed all reading assignments before each class, to complete written material on time, and to fully engage in class discussions and debate.

Syllabus, Readings and Weekly Schedule

Week One: The UN System – Origins, Structure, Place in the International Order and Current Status in Light of Challenges to Global Governance.
Reading:

Week Two: The UN Charter and the UN and Issues of Global Governance.
Reading:
The UN Charter

Week Three: The Specialized Agencies and Their Evolving Roles and Problems
Reading:
Weiss and Daws (2007) Selected Chapters on Specific UN Agencies.
UN (2011) Basic Facts About the United Nations (UN Department of Public Affairs), Part Eight.

Week Four: Peace Keeping and Humanitarian Intervention: Failures, Challenges and New Possibilities
Reading:


Week Five: Human Rights and the UN
Reading:

  The Universal Charter of Human Rights


Week Six: The Millennium Goals
Reading:

  The Millennium Goals

Week Seven: The UN and the Multilateral Institutions: Complementarity or Contradictions?
Reading:

  Craig Murphy (1994) *International Organizations and Industrial Change*. (Polity)
Week Eight: Emerging Challenges: Climate Change, Terrorism, Resources.

Week Nine: Reforming the UN: The Issue of the Security Council

Week Ten: The UN in 2020: Redundant or New Roles?

Week Eleven: Final Exam