Course Overview

In today’s globalizing world, a wide range of human activities and interests spill across national borders. Trade agreements, arms control, greenhouse gas reduction, Internet protocol standardization, and many other areas promise massive mutual gains from international coordination and cooperation via institutionalized rules of the game.

Building governing institutions and enforcing norms and rules is the traditional province of government. But in a world of nation states which zealously guard their sovereignty, “government” softens into “governance”. In the absence of a single global rules-maker, a plethora of global governance organizations (GGOS) has emerged instead. To differing degrees, GGOs have been created by, and are responsive to, national governments, private sector companies, ngo’s and individual citizens.

Most countries in the world participate in GGOs as rules-takers, deferring to the power of the United States and a few other major powers to make the rules. But China is a different case. Throughout human history, China was the world’s most populous country. Before the Industrial Revolution, China had the world’s largest economy as well. Now, as it acquires industrial technology, China is reclaiming that economic ranking, and seeks a commensurate seat at the tables where global rules are made. How will China participate in, and transform, the world of global governance?

This course explores that question, by exploring a half dozen particular cases. Students will form teams, each focusing on a particular governance area. We will surely deal with trade (WTO), exchange rates (IMF, OECD, G20), intellectual property (WIPO) and climate change. We’ll choose other topics from a menu after the course begins. You will all be responsible for the readings listed below. In addition, you’ll be expected to do research and present it in a series of in-class reports and a term paper.

This is a discussion course. All assigned readings must be completed before the class at which they’re due. Preparation, participation and unannounced quizzes will form a major part of your grade. (The number of quizzes will depend on the extent of preparation.) Your term papers will be at least 15 double-spaced pages, with footnotes and a bibliography, and must incorporate information from in-port field trips. To do well on the midterm, you should take careful notes on the readings in your theory notebook. I will review and grade that notebook. The final exam will be an open-book, open-notes, one-hour response to an essay question that captures the core issues of the course.
Grading:
Grades will be calculated as follows:

Class Participation: 15%
Pop Quizzes: 10%
Theory Journal: 5%
Midterm Exam: 25%
In-class presentations: 10%
Term Paper: 20%
Final Exam: 15%

Theory Journal:
Buy a bound notebook (for example, the black speckled notebooks sold in drugstores). As you read the assignments, take notes. Outline the reading. Record the definitions of key terms, important specific facts, and the author’s key conclusions. You’ll hand your notebook in to me for review at sessions 3, 6 and 9.

Term Paper Deadlines and Assessments:

1) Session 4: Begin to consider your term paper topic.
2) Session 6: Hand in a 250-word statement of your topic. Your report should tell me what you’ve read on the topic, your ideas about how this governance area fits into Koppell’s framework, your timetable for completion, and the division of labor within your group. Meet with me outside class to refine your plans.
3) Sessions 14-16: topic presentations and critiques
4) Sessions 17-19: progress reports and discussion
5) Sessions 20-22: term paper presentations and discussion
6) Session 23: hand in completed term paper.

I expect to meet with you regularly outside class to discuss your work. Your term paper will be 3000 or more words long, with a clearly stated hypothesis and specific evidence bearing on that hypothesis. Your bibliography will list at least 12 sources beyond our reading list, and you’ll show your use of each of these in the text.

Readings: Students should purchase the following books.


The other readings are listed by class session and will be made available in PDF format.
Field Lab:
Broad target take-away: Shanghai has been transformed, especially after 1993. What was the role of government – municipal and central – in stimulating and guiding that growth? Is the growth sustainable?

Itinerary:

1) Renmin Square (downtown Shanghai): Visit the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center. Understand the history of Shanghai’s physical development. Briefing from a representative of the Shanghai Municipal Government. Walk to the other side of Renmin Square to visit the Shanghai Museum.

2) Pudong Special Economic Zone: Briefing and factory tour. Understand the coordination between government, private Chinese companies and foreign investment that created this industrial landscape.

3) Lecture and Q&A with a faculty member at CEIBS (China Europe International Business School). Explore ways in which the development model that produced the Shanghai Miracle (strong state role, financial repression, export-orientation) may impede China’s transition to a more sustainable development model (financial liberalization, growth led by domestic consumption).

Schedule of Class Meetings and Reading Assignments:

Session 1: Koppell Chapters 1-3

Session 2: Koppell Chapters 4-6

Session 3: Koppell Chapters 7-9

Session 4: Koppell Chapters 10-12

Session 5: Steinfeld Chapters 1-2

Session 6: Steinfeld Chapters 3-4

Session 7: Steinfeld Chapters 5-7

Session 8: Steinfeld Chapters 8-10


**Session 12:** Martin Jacques, Chapter 11

**Session 13:** Midterm exam

**Session 14:** Ren Xiao. “A Reform-Minded Status Quo Power? China, the G-20, and Changes in the International Monetary System”. (RCCPB Working Papers 2012)

**Session 15:** Bruce Reynolds and Susan Sell. “China’s Participation in Global Governance: Exchange Rate Regimes and Intellectual Property Protection.” (RCCPB Working Papers 2012)


**Session 21:** Term paper presentations.

**Session 22:** Term paper presentations.

**Session 23:** Review and discussion.

**Session 24:** Final Exam