This course, held in English language, is designed for advanced M.A. students with prior knowledge of International Relations theory, particularly theoretical approaches to the study of international institutions and organizations, who want to deepen their knowledge of the field. Focusing on major publications from the past 5-10 years, the course offers students an opportunity to read and debate research that is yet “fresh off the drawing board” and that IR scholars are currently debating and exploring at international conferences and in ongoing research projects. Thus, students gain first-hand insights into academic practice and learn how to identify and evaluate major research trends and research gaps and how to position their own interests within a changing field. Specific issues covered by the course include: Authority, legitimacy, and democracy of and within IOs; evolution and change of IOs in historical perspective; the interplay of law and politics in IOs; IOs and IOs; IOs and international conflict; IOs and the domestic level.

Assignments:
- Required readings
- Two questions for discussion on each required text (to be posted online by Tuesday 15:00)
- Brief profile of a scholar or of an IR journal
- Group research proposal (to be presented on 18 or 19 January; handout to be handed in by 14 January)
- Essay (based on research proposal; only if grade is required)

Syllabus

16/10/2012 Introduction

Part I: The Internal Side of International Organizations

23/10/2012 Authority and (Democratic?) Legitimacy of IOs

*Required reading: Symons 2011; Zürn/Binder/Ecker-Ehrhardt 2012*

30/10/2012 Evolution and Change of IOs

*Required reading: Barnett/Coleman 2005; Weyland 2008*
The Interplay of Law and Politics in IOs

Required reading: Alter 2008; Nouwen/Werner 2010

13/11/2012  Specialization Session I: tbd

Required reading: tbd

Part II: International Organizations and Their Environment

20/11/2012  IOs and Other IOs

Required reading: Busch 2007; Gehring/Oberthür 2009

27/11/2012  IOs and International Conflict

Required reading: Dorussen/Ward 2008; Hasenclever/Weiffen 2006

4/12/2012  IOs and the Domestic Level

Required reading: Donno 2010; Mansfield/Pevehouse 2008

11/12/2012  Specialization Session II: tbd

Required reading: tbd

Part III: Developing Your Own Research Ideas on International Organizations

18/12/2012  Preparation Session: Research Proposals

no required reading

Christmas Break

18-19/1/2013  Workshop on Research Proposals

Friday, 18 January: 2 sessions
Saturday, 19 January: 3 sessions
List of required readings and additional literature

PART I: THE INTERNAL SIDE OF IOs

Authority and (Democratic?) Legitimacy of International Organizations


EU


**Legitimacy in IR general**


**Evolution and Change of International Organizations**


**The Interplay of Law and Politics in International Organizations**


**European courts**


**WTO/GATT**


**Law & IOs in general**


**PART II: IOs in their environment**

**International Organizations and Other International Organizations**


**International Organizations and International Conflict**


### IOs and the Domestic Level

**IOs & domestic democracy**


**IOs & domestic politics generally**


**Optional topics**

**The Role of IO Administrations**


**Power and International Organizations**


**IOs and Non-State Actors**


**Miscellaneous**


