International Development and International Organizations

**Cornel Ban**

Assistant Professor

The International Relations Department

Boston University

cban@bu.edu

Code: IR 592

Course blog: www.ir592.wordpress.com

## Seminar Description

International organizations (IOs) play a central role in international development. The purpose of this seminar is to enable you to navigate the world of development-related international organizations with competence, critical skills and the capacity to apply your newly acquired knowledge to concrete policy challenges. The questions asked by this course cover a range of pressing issues? Why does the IMF matter and how? How are the rules made inside the World Bank? Does Washington have the last word in the Bretton Woods institutions? Why care about the ILO and the WHO? What are the unusual suspects in the international infrastructure of development? What alternatives are there to mainstream view of development project by IOs and who upholds them? How have the crisis and the rise of the BRICs altered the landscape for IOs?

You will read texts that present pressing questions and issues concerning development practices, policies, and theories as they are related to international organizations. The pedagogical approach is to require students to read entire books and articles, write thought-pieces, engage in lively critical discussions and undertake a research project. Efforts to connect broader debates to understanding contemporary problems are encouraged.

By TBA each of you owes a 2,000 words literature review on a relevant issue to be decided together with the instructor. The final consists of a 4,000 words paper addressing a policy question that is high on the current policy agenda. The format is not the academic paper but the *policy memorandum*.

*Grading*

Each of the literature review essays will be worth 20 points of the final grade, while the final paper will be worth 40 points. The remaining 20 points will be covered in the following way: 10 points for class participation (based on the frequency and quality of your interventions) and 10 points for an editorial/letter to the editor prepared for *Financial Times* on one of the issues discussed in class to be delivered at any point after …but not later than….d, along with evidence of its submission.

**Work and Ethics**

You are responsible to know Boston University’s Academic Conduct Code. Link: <http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/>

All cases of misconduct will be referred to the Dean’s Office.

Papers handed in late entail the loss of ten percent of the grade for each day.

Note: Laptops, ipads and other electronic devices can only be used at the professor’s request. The format of the seminar does not make them useful most of the time.

**Books**

Ngaire Woods, *The Globalizers: The IMF, the World Bank, and Their Borrowers*, Cornell University Press, 2007.

[Catherine Weaver](http://www.amazon.com/Catherine-Weaver/e/B001JSCE1K/ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1327517391&sr=8-1), [*Hypocrisy Trap: The World Bank and the Poverty of Reform*](http://www.amazon.com/Hypocrisy-Trap-World-Poverty-Reform/dp/0691138192/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1327517391&sr=8-1), Princeton University Press, 2008.

1. **Development Orthodoxies**
2. Babb, Sarah. "The Washington Consensus as transnational policy paradigm: Its origins, trajectory and likely successor." *Review of International Political Economy* (2012): 1-30.

Ban, Cornel. "Brazil's liberal neo-developmentalism: New paradigm or edited orthodoxy?." *Review of International Political Economy* ahead-of-print (2012): 1-34.

1. Lin, Justin Yifu, “New Structural Economics: A Framework for Rethinking  
   Development,” World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 5197, June 2. 2010.  
   [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMOZAMBIQUE/Resources/New\_Structural\_Economics.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMOZAMBIQUE/Resources/New_Structural_Economics.pdf" \t "_blank)

Birdsall, Nancy, and Francis Fukuyama. "Post-Washington Consensus-Development after the Crisis, The." *Foreign Aff.* 90 (2011): 45.

Blyth, Mark. "Paradigms and Paradox: The Politics of Economic Ideas in Two Moments of Crisis." *Governance* (2012).

1. **Development Alternatives**
2. Ocampo, José Antonio. "Structural dynamics and economic growth in developing countries." *United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Santiago, Chile* (2003).

Chakravarty, Sukhamoy. "Marxist economics and contemporary developing economies." *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 11.1 (2012): 3-22.

1. Judt, Tony. "What is living and what is dead in social democracy?." *New York Review of Books* 56.20 (2009): 86.

Peck, Jamie, Nik Theodore, and Neil Brenner. "Postneoliberalism and its malcontents." *Antipode* 41.s1 (2010): 94-116.

Berman, Sheri. "Warnings from History." *Journal of Democracy* 23.4 (2012): 7-14.

**3. The Bretton Woods Institutions: A Bird’s Eye View**

**a**. Ngaire Woods, *The Globalizers: The IMF, the World Bank, and Their Borrowers*, Cornell University Press, 2007. (ch. 1-3; 7)

**b**. Jeffrey Chwieroth,[*Capital ideas: the IMF and the rise of financial liberalization*](http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=-DgDKWbm6yIC&oi=fnd&pg=PP2&dq=jeffrey+chwieroth+IMF&ots=uGFY5YSIsf&sig=We0dV1eXSXsO1G9RCP1GEEYpq9g)*,* 2010. (ch. 1, 2 and 3)

**4. The Bretton Woods Institutions and Policy Change**  
  
**a.** Ngaire Woods, *The Globalizers*, chapters 6 and 7

**b**. Catherine Weaver, *Hypocrisy Trap, ch.1-2 and conclusions*

BBC, Inside the IMF, radio documentary,  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/documentaries/2011/01/110109\_documentary\_inside\_the\_imf\_stephanie\_flanders.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/documentaries/2011/01/110109_documentary_inside_the_imf_stephanie_flanders.shtml" \t "_blank)

Ex-WB boss goes honest

<http://youtu.be/mOwZwkhFemQ>

**5. The Bretton Woods Institutions on the Ground**

## a. Ngaire Woods, *The Globalizers*, chapters 4 and 6

**b.** Weaver, *Hypocrisy Trap*, rest of the book

Take a side in this debate on Al Jazeera

<http://youtu.be/3hBYAcPPYQM>

## 6. The World Trade Organization

## a. [Robert Hunter Wade](http://www.tandfonline.com/action/doSearch?action=runSearch&type=advanced&result=true&prevSearch=%2Bauthorsfield%3A%28Wade%2C+Robert+Hunter%29) “What strategies are viable for developing countries today? The World Trade Organization and the shrinking of ‘development space’” *Review of International Political Economy.* [*Volume 10*](http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rrip20?open=10#vol_10), [Issue 4](http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rrip20/10/4), 2010, pages 621-644.

WTO self-presentation

<http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/whatis_e.htm>

Watch and discuss free trade versus mercantilism or Friedman versus Stieglitz

http://youtu.be/urSe86zpLI4

http://youtu.be/D207fSLnxHk

**b.** [Nitsan Chorev](http://chorev) and [Sarah Babb](http://babb), “The crisis of neoliberalism and the future of international institutions: A comparison of the IMF and the WTO,” [*Theory and Society*](http://article), [Volume 38, Number 5](http://article), 459-484.

The Council of Foreign Relations report on why trade stayed free during the crisis

http://blogs.cfr.org/renewing-america/2012/05/01/the-great-recession-and-trade-protectionism-what-went-right/

*Mock trial:*

Take sides and argue the Embraer case

csis.org/files/media/csis/pubs/pp0312doh%5B1%5D.pdf

**7. Dealing with Extreme Situations: The UNDP, the Bank of International Settlements and the Paris Club**

**a.** Arthur. Mühlen-Schulte "Full faith in credit&quest; The power of numbers in rating frontier sovereigns and the global governance of development by the UNDP." *Journal of International Relations and Development* (2012).

On the UNDP mandate and performance (own report)

<http://dspace.cigilibrary.org/jspui/handle/123456789/29236>

**b.** Leonard Seabrooke, “The Bank for International Settlements,” *New Political  Economy*, March 2006.

Arturo C. Porzecanski, "Debt Relief by Private and Official Creditors: The Record Speaks." *International Finance* 10.2 (2007): 191-214.

*Case study*: Argentina’s debt situation.

**8. The ILO and the WHO**

**a.** Lafferty, George. "In the wake of neo-liberalism: deregulation, unionism and labour rights." *Review of International Political Economy* 17.3 (2010): 589-608.

Policy paper analysis: excerpt 1

Working Paper No. 105 - Decent Work Policy options for the Romanian Economy

<http://www.ilo.org/integration/resources/papers/WCMS_191573/lang--en/index.htm>

Task for presenter (………….): power point on its structure and 5 practical lessons for policy writing

**b.** Chorev, Nitsan. "Restructuring neoliberalism at the World Health Organization." *Review of International Political Economy* (2012).

The policy analysis memo

Brookings, [China's Approach to Economic Development and Industrial Policy](http://www.brookings.edu/research/testimony/2011/06/15-china-economic-development-prasad), June 15, 2011, Eswar Prasad, at <http://www.brookings.edu/research/testimony/2011/06/15-china-economic-development-prasad>

Task for presenter (………….): power point on its structure and 5 practical lessons for policy writing

**Midterms due in print and in class**

**9. Regional IOs**

**a.** Raj [Desai, and James Raymond Vreeland. 2011. “Global Governance in a Multipolar World: The Case for Regional Monetary Funds. *International Studies Review* 13 (1), pp. 109-121.](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1468-2486.2010.01002.x/abstract)

Debate on the Future of the Euro, in *Review of International Political Economy*, 19, 4. 2012, <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rrip20/19/4>

*Policy report*

Bruegel, [The euro crisis: ten roots, but fewer solutions](http://www.bruegel.org/publications/publication-detail/publication/755-the-euro-crisis-ten-roots-but-fewer-solutions/) , 19th October 2012 by [Zsolt Darvashttp://www.bruegel.org/scholars/scholar-detail/scholar/19-zsolt-darvas/](http://www.bruegel.org/scholars/scholar-detail/scholar/19-zsolt-darvas/)

<http://www.bruegel.org/publications/publication-detail/publication/755-the-euro-crisis-ten-roots-but-fewer-solutions/>

Task for presenter (………….): power point on its structure and 5 practical lessons for policy writing

**b**. Lütz, Susanne, and Matthias Kranke. "The European rescue of the Washington Consensus? EU and IMF lending to central and eastern European countries." *Review of International Political Economy* ahead-of-print (2013): 1-29.

**10. Development IOs and the Rise of the BRICs**

**a.** Mark Beeson, Comment: Trading places? China, the United States and the evolution of the international political economy. *Review of International Political Economy* 16(4): 729-741, 2009.

Phillips, Lauren M. "The politics of joint sovereign borrowing: The Venezuelan/Argentine Bono del Sur." *Review of International Political Economy* (2012).

*Group policy project:* Compare and contrast the solutions to the European crisis offered by business (<http://www.bruegel.org>) and by labor (<http://www.etuc.org>). Divide into two teams and elect a rep who will present and debate the rep of the other team. One page policy memos addressed to the European Commission are due by email to the professor on the night before the class.

**b.**  Kevin P. Gallagher, Understanding developing country resistance to the Doha Round. *Review of International Political Economy* 15(1): 62-85, 2008.

John S. Odell, Breaking Deadlocks in International Institutional Negotiations: The WTO, Seattle, and Doha. *International Studies Quarterly* 53(2): 273-299, 20oxfam

Read the items under this Oxfam file. http://www.oxfam.org/en/campaigns/agricultureOne presenter (…) will summarize and critique the arguments they contain, suggesting 5 policies that could remedy the food crisis.

The class as a whole writes a short policy memo based on this format

<http://www.oxfam.org/en/grow/policy/averting-tomorrows-global-food-crisis>

and then emails it to the instructor on the night before class

**11. Transnational Development Networks**

**a.** Diane Stone "Private philanthropy or policy transfer? The transnational norms of the Open Society Institute." *Policy & Politics* 38.2 (2010): 269-287.

Diane Stone "Transfer and translation of policy." *Public Policy,* 13. 6. (2012).

**b.** Michael Kpessa and Daniel Béland. "Transnational actors and the politics of pension reform in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Review of International Political Economy* 19.2 (2012): 267-291.

Patrick Develtere and Tom De Bruyn. "The emergence of a fourth pillar in development aid." *Development in practice* 19.7 (2009): 912-922.

Policy op-ed draft (hard copy due in class)

Template for the letter: *Financial Times*

**12. International environmental regimes, transnational civil society and human rights**

**a.** Kelemen, R. Daniel, and David Vogel. "Trading places: The role of the United States and the European Union in international environmental politics." *Comparative Political Studies* 43.4 (2010): 427-456.

Jie Chen "Transnational Environmental Movement: impacts on the green civil society in China." *Journal of Contemporary China* 19.65 (2010): 503-523.

**b.** Herbertson, Kirk, Kim Thompson, and Robert Goodland. "A Roadmap for Integrating Human Rights into the World Bank Group." *Washington, DC: World Resources Institute* (2010).

Sarfaty, Galit. "Why Culture Matters in International Institutions: The Marginality of Human Rights at the World Bank." *American Journal of International Law* 103 (2009): 647-683.

Pros and cons the claims made in this World Bank documentary on the environment

<http://youtu.be/OfTnpK1tZJ0>

**13. Alternatives?**

**a.** Cornel Ban "Brazil's liberal neo-developmentalism: New paradigm or edited orthodoxy?" *Review of International Political Economy* ahead-of-print (2012): 1-34.

Justin Yifu Lin "New structural economics: a framework for rethinking development." *The World Bank Research Observer* 26.2 (2011): 193-221.

**b.** Anthony Bebbington and Denise Humphreys Bebbington “An Andean Avatar? Post-Neoliberal and Neoliberal Strategies for Securing the Unobtainable” *New Political Economy*, 16 91): 131-145.

Jamie Peck and Jun Zhang. "A variety of capitalism… with Chinese characteristics?." *Journal of Economic Geography* (2013).

**14. Reforming Development IOs**

Hall, Peter A. "Brother, Can You Paradigm?." *Governance* 26.2 (2013): 189-192.

*Structure of the presentation*

The policy issue being addressed

Literature review

The results of the research

The solution(s) in brief

The solution(s) unpacked.

