
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS in Fall 2019 (PO2032)

Course Code	PO2032	Professor(s)	Sharon Weill
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	GL-18
Class Schedule	TF: 13:45-15:05 in C-102	Office Hours	By appointment
Credits	4	Email	sweill@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2019	Office Tel. Ext.	

Course Description

In the first part of the course we will study leading international organizations and their role in world's governance. We will focus on their origin, politic, structure and impact. Particular interest is to be given to United Nations' organs as well as major non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Through case studies we will approach different topics such as collective security, migration and refugees, human rights and global justice.

In the second part of the semester, we will be doing working groups; each group will develop a final project that will include a presentation, a written paper and an exposition on a chosen institution.

During the semester we will visit the OECD in Paris. In addition, guest speakers will be invited to share their professional experience.

Course Learning Outcomes

To increase the student's understanding of international institutions in the context of globalization and global governance

To improve skills of political and historical analysis. This will include the interpretation of primary and secondary sources.

To improve written communication skills. Lucid, well-structured written work.

Clear analytical thinking as demonstrated by contributions to in-class discussions and argumentation developed in written work.

Succinct, well-organized oral expression.

Creativity in developing own/original views.

General Education

Course Outline

Week 1 (3 and 6 of September)

- I. Introduction
- II. Theoretical Foundation

Presentation: 10 minutes presentation of each chapter

- Liberalism (Chapter 7-8)
- Realism (Chapter 6)
- Rational choice theory (Chapter 9)
- Constructivism (Chapter 10)
- Critical approach Chapter 11 (Marxism Chapter 12; feminism Chapter 13)

Week 2 (10 and 13 of September)

- I. The United Nations: Origin and structure

Reading:

- The UN system (Chapter 16)
- The UN General Assembly (Chapter 17)

- II. The Security Council: War and Collective Security

- The UN Charter 1945: Art. 2 (4), 41-42, 51

Readings:

The war in Afghanistan:

Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001), available at:

https://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/terrorism/res_1373_english.pdf

The war in Syria:

Letter dated 23 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, UN doc S/2014/695

Available at:

https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2014_695.pdf

Humanitarian intervention

Security Council Resolution (intervention in Libya)

Counter terrorism:

SCR foreign fighters (2014)

Further readings:

Humanitarian intervention and R2P (Chapter 38)

Report of the UN Secretary General on RTP:

Implementing the responsibility to protect Report of the Secretary-General, January 2009, UN DOC, A/63/677

Available at : https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/files/SG_reportA_63_677_en.pdf

Week 3 (17 and 20 of September)

I. The UN and the protection of human rights

The High commissioner of Human Rights, Geneva; UN treaties

Readings:

- Human rights Chapter 36
- Human rights treaty bodies (UNHCHR) pages 31-41

<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/NgoHandbook/ngohandbook4.pdf>

II. UN treaty bodies: report presentations

Preparation: open the link:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/pages/home.aspx>

Click on the box: human rights by country

Choose a country/under the rubric treaty bodies choose the Human rights committee, concluding observation or the Committee against torture concluding observation.

Be ready to present the report in class.

Week 4 (23 and 27 of September) – No Classes

Catch up classes will be set.

Week 5 (1 and 4 of October)

I. Humanitarian protection and the role the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Guest lecturer, regional Legal Adviser, ICRC

II. NGOs

Working groups: Choose one report of an NGO and answer the questions.

(Methodology, finding, impact)

Readings :

Textbook, Chapter 25, Civil Society and NGOs

Week 6 (8 and 11 of October)

I. Refugees and Migration

Readings:

Chapter 53, Refugees and Migrants

II. UN High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR)

https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/ready-to-help_9789264311312-en#page19

Reading:

UN HCR, 2019 report

<https://www.unhcr.org/publications/fundraising/5a0c05027/unhcr-global-appeal-2018-2019-full-report.html>

<http://reporting.unhcr.org/operations>

Presentations by group (role play):

Africa/ The Americas / Asia and the Pacific / Europe/ Middle East and North Africa

Week 7 (15 and 18 of October)

Submission of the papers

I. The pursuit of global justice

Readings:

The pursuit of Global justice (Chapter 37)

II. The ICC

18 October (Friday) Mid-semester grades due

Week 8 (22 and 25 of October)

I. The European court of Human rights

Preparation:

<https://www.echr.coe.int/Pages/home.aspx?p=press/factsheets&c=>

Chose a topic of your interest and read a case.

Be ready to present the case in the class.

II. Visit to the OECD (TBC)

Week 9 (29 of October)

Film

30 October - 3 November (Wednesday to Sunday) Fall Break (no classes)

Part II of the semester: Working group/final project

TOPICS:

- The United Nations and collective security

Humanitarian intervention /counter terrorism/defense war

- Human Rights
- Refugees and Migration
- Humanitarian protection (MSF and the ICRC)
- International courts
- Transitional justice
- Development – OSCE/FMI

Week 10 (5 and 8 of November)

Working groups

Week 11 (12 and 15 of November)

Working groups

Week 12 (19 and 22 of November)

Working groups

Week 13 (26 and 29 of November)

Working groups/ Presentations

Week 14 (3 and 6 of December)

Presentations and exposition

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
International organization and global Governance	Thomas G Weiss and Rorden Wilkinsin (eds)	Routledge, second edition, 2018	ISBN-13: 978-1138236585	No

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

The final course grade will be based on:

Class attendance & participation - 15 %

Presentation and work in class - 20%

Mid term short paper - 25 %

Final group project - 40 %

Other

Chapters' presentations: 10 minutes

Week 1 (8 chapters)

1. Liberalism, Chapter 7-8
2. Realism, Chapter 6
3. Constructivism, Chapter 10
4. Critical approach, Chapter 11
5. Marxism, Chapter 12
6. Feminism, Chapter 13
7. Rational choice theory, Chapter 9

Week 2

Chapter 16, The UN system

Chapter 17, The UN General Assembly

Week 3

Chapter 36, Human rights

Week 5

Chapter 25, Civil Society and NGOs

Week 6

Chapter 53, Refugees and Migrants

Week 7

Chapter 37, The pursuit of Global justice