University of St.Gallen

Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2016

7,395: Internet Governance

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s
(binding regulations see below)
Central - Written examination (50%, 60 mins.)
Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (50%)

Attached courses
Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer
7,395,1.00 Internet Governance -- Englisch -- Kurbalija Jovan

Course information

Course prerequisites
The main pre-requirement is that students will need to organise and support a visit to Geneva. Please note that travel and accommodation costs are not covered. Sessions 2, 3, 4 and 5 will be delivered in Geneva. This will require students to spend their Friday/Saturday in Geneva. Last year, this trip included:
- early Friday morning train St. Gallen – Geneva
- one night accommodation in Geneva
- departure on Saturday afternoon (18.00) by train from Geneva to St. Gallen

Course content

The course will examine the impact of the Internet on international relations and diplomacy. It will provide a policy and theoretical context for pressing issues of our time that are likely to influence your future professional work.

For example: Who governs the Internet? How do we protect personal and diplomatic privacy? What is the impact of digital surveillance on national security? What is the importance of data as a new economic commodity? How does the Internet's economic model affect international relations (e.g. the role of Google and Facebook)? What is the distribution of power in digital geo-politics? What is the role of the main players in digital diplomacy?

The course will address these and other questions in the following sequence:

First, we will provide a broader historical context for the interplay between diplomacy and communication technologies (e.g. telegraph, radio, telephone) and the relevance of the past when dealing with technology for the Internet era.

Next, we will discuss a methodological framework for analysis of the impact of the Internet on international relations centred on the emerging **environment** for diplomatic activities, new **topics** on diplomatic agendas, and new **tools** for diplomatic activities.

The analysis of the emerging **environment** for diplomatic activities will focus on changes in the concepts of power and sovereignty as well as on the impact of the Internet on interdependence in modern international relations.

The main part of the course will discuss new, Internet-influenced **topics** on diplomatic agendas. It will map the main issues, players, and processes in global digital politics and Internet governance. A particular focus will be on the questions of cybersecurity, e-commerce, and data protection. We will discuss new digital **tools** for diplomatic activities, starting by mapping the use of e-tools (social media, search engines, drafting platforms) in negotiations, information analysis, drafting, reporting, and public diplomacy.

Course structure

The course will consist of six sessions, each lasting four hours. The first session will be held at the University Campus in St. Gallen. The next four sessions will be held during a two-day study visit to Geneva. The study visit will include highly interactive sessions with international officials, diplomats and Geneva-based experts involved in digital policy. The last – sixth – session will be held at the University Campus in St. Gallen. The course methodology will include lectures, presentations by students, discussions, and interactive simulation exercises on 'Negotiating internet policy resolution'.

Self-study will play a major role with required weekly reading on the one hand and the preparation of presentations and simulation exercises on the other.

Course literature

- Kurbalija J, Introduction to Internet Governance, Malta: DiploFoundation, 2014, 6th edn. [Available online at:

  http://igbook.diplomacy.edu].

- Kurbalija, J, "The Impact of the Internet and ICT on Contemporary Diplomacy", in Pauline Kerr and Geoffrey Wiseman, Diplomacy in a Globalizing World Theories and Practices, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2012, pp. 150–159.

- Kurbalija, J, "From Harmonising Cyberpolicies to Promoting Twiplomacy: How Diplomacy Can Strengthen Asia-Europe's Digital Connectivity", in Sunkyoung Lee (ed.), Connectivity: Facts and Perspectives. Volume II: Connecting Asia and Europe. Singapore: Asia-Europe Foundation, 2016, pp. 59-115.

Additional required and recommended reading will be provided on the first day of class.

Additional course information

You can contact Jovan Kurbalija at jovank@diplomacy.edu

University of St.Gallen

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form
Central - Written examination (50%, 60 mins.)

Remark

--

Examination-aid rule
Open Book
Students are free to choose aids but will have to comply with the following restrictions:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments **TI-30 series** are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as electronic dictionaries, notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids

Examination languages
Question language: English
Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form
Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (50%)

Remark
alternative: participation in Oxford-style debate

Examination-aid rule
Practical examination
No examination-aid rule is necessary for such examination types. The rules and regulations of the University of St. Gallen apply in a subsidiary fashion.

Supplementary aids

--

Examination languages
Question language: English
Answer language: English

Examination content

Relevant topics to the examination:

- Internet governance: what are the issues, who governs the Internet, how is the Internet governed)
- Global digital politics and a new economic model based on data as a new economic commodity.
- How does the Internet's economic model affect international relations (e.g. the role of Google and Facebook)?
- What is the distribution of power in digital geo-politics and geo-economics?
- What are the roles of the main players in digital diplomacy?
- What is an impact of the Internet on the concepts of power and sovereignty as well as on the impact interdependence in modern international relations.
- What are the impacts of the Internet on diplomatic practice including use of new social media tools, data-mining and other techniques for public diplomacy, negotiations and reporting activities.

Examination relevant literature

- Kurbalija J, Introduction to Internet Governance, Malta: DiploFoundation, 2014, 6th edn. [Available online at:

  http://igbook.diplomacy.edu].

- Kurbalija, J, "The Impact of the Internet and ICT on Contemporary Diplomacy", in Pauline Kerr and Geoffrey Wiseman, Diplomacy in a Globalizing World Theories and Practices, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2012, pp. 150–159.

- Kurbalija, J, "From Harmonising Cyberpolicies to Promoting Twiplomacy: How Diplomacy Can Strengthen Asia-Europe's Digital Connectivity", in Sunkyoung Lee (ed.), Connectivity: Facts and Perspectives. Volume II: Connecting Asia and Europe. Singapore: Asia-Europe Foundation, 2016, pp. 59-115.

Additional required and recommended reading will be provided on the first day of class.

Please note

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc.

When will the fact sheets become binding?

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 25 August 2016
- Information about decentral examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 17 October 2016
- Information about central examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 07 November 2016

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.