Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2021

8,358: Institutional Complexity in Global Governance

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s
(binding regulations see below)
Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (20%)
Examination time: term time
Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)
Examination time: term time
Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)
Examination time: term time
Decentral - Active participation (15%)
Examination time: term time

Attached courses
Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer
8,358,1.00 Institutional Complexity in Global Governance -- Englisch -- Westerwinter Oliver

Course information

Course prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this class. Familiarity with the basics of international relations theory and research design will be an advantage.

Learning objectives

The goal of this course is to enable students to read and understand theoretical arguments about formal and informal international institutions in the complex environment of contemporary global governance as well as research designs developed to empirically test these arguments. Students will learn how to begin to understand the multifaceted interactions among different types of global governance institutions, one of the most vibrant areas of current research on global governance. The course will also support students in developing their own research and writing. The assignments for the course are designed to move you toward identifying researchable questions for study, preparing a research design to pursue these questions, and execute and write up the research needed to answer them.

Course content

In this course, we will read, discuss, and engage the modern literature on international institutions, regimes, and organizations as well as global governance more generally. We will particularly focus on understanding different types of formal and informal forms of global governance and how they interact with each other in complex institutional environments.

International politics is increasingly institutionalized in all issue areas. Understanding the dynamics of international conflict and cooperation therefore requires that we understand the sources and consequences of institutionalization in world politics. In addition to intergovernmental agreements and organizations, we will also cover institutions in which states cooperate without the assistance of formal organizations as well as institutional arrangements in which states and non-state actors, such as companies and non-governmental organizations, work together to address global problems.
The course will be theory-driven, with each session devoted to studying a particular theoretical framework or family of frameworks used by scholars to understand formal and informal global governance institutions and institutional complexity in world politics. In addition to theoretical arguments, each session will engage with empirical applications of these theories. We will address most of the major issue areas in international politics, including political economy, security, and environmental issues.

Course structure

The course will take place in the spring semester 2021. There will be no classes during the semester break. The format of the course will be handled according to the global and local circumstances. If safe presence teaching is not consistently feasible, the course will be taught in an online format using Canvas and Zoom. The exam requirements will not be affected by the format of the course.

Course literature

The syllabus will provide a full list of mandatory and optional readings for the class.

Additional course information

For additional information about the course, please contact Oliver Westerwinter (email: oliver.westerwinter@unisg.ch).

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in SpS2021, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform Zoom.
- The recordings of the course are available for 30 days.
- The lecturer informs via StudyNet on the changed implementation modalities of the course.
- There are no changes necessary to the examination information.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/4)

Examination time and form
Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (20%)
Examination time: term time

Remark
Response paper

Examination-aid rule
Term papers

Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship which is a published template in StudentWeb.

The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the chosen citation standard such as APA or MLA.

For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende, newest edition respectively, or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into texts in
accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien, newest edition respectively).

For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers is mandatory independent of the chosen citation standard. Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.

**Supplementary aids**

**Examination languages**

Question language: English
Answer language: English

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**2. Examination sub part (2/4)**

**Examination time and form**
Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)
Examination time: term time

**Remark**
Presentation

**Examination-aid rule**
Presentations
In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

**Supplementary aids**

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**Examination languages**

Question language: English
Answer language: English

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**3. Examination sub part (3/4)**

**Examination time and form**
Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (40%)
Examination time: term time

**Remark**
Research design paper

**Examination-aid rule**
Term papers

Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship which is a published template in StudentWeb.

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**Examination content**

In this course, we will read, discuss, and engage the modern literature on international institutions, regimes, and organizations as well as global governance more generally. We will particularly focus on understanding different types of formal and informal forms of global governance and how they interact with each other in complex institutional environments.

International politics is increasingly institutionalized in all issue areas. Understanding the dynamics of international conflict and cooperation therefore requires that we understand the sources and consequences of institutionalization in world politics. In addition to intergovernmental agreements and organizations, we will also cover institutions in which states cooperate without the assistance of formal organizations as well as institutional arrangements in which states and non-state actors, such as companies and non-governmental organizations, work together to address global problems.

The course will be theory-driven, with each session devoted to studying a particular theoretical framework or family of frameworks used by scholars to understand formal and informal global governance institutions and institutional complexity in world politics. In addition to theoretical arguments, each session will engage with empirical applications of these theories. We will address most of the major issue areas in international politics, including political economy, security, and environmental issues.

**Examination relevant literature**

The syllabus will provide a full list of mandatory and optional readings for the class.
Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers’ websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 28 January 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 22 March 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 22 March 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 14 (Thursday, 8 April 2021).