



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2023

6,306: Business and Politics: A Risk Perspective

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)

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) (50%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[6,306,1.00 Business and Politics: A Risk Perspective](#) -- Englisch -- [Habegger Beat](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Students should be interested in the relations between business and politics and have a basic understanding of public policy and management studies.

It is also recommended to attend specific skills training such as Writing Policy Briefs (8,365,1.00) or Effective Writing: Topic Sentences (8,360,1.00) in the context of the "MIA mornings".

Learning objectives

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the perspective of analyzing political developments through the lens of companies.

Students will learn

- how companies are embedded in an external environment shaped by governments and other political and social actors
- different forms of political risk and how companies consider them in their (risk) management approaches
- a simple framework for identifying and analyzing political risks and possible mitigation strategies
- about useful information sources and tools that support in assessing political risks.

Course content

Companies are affected by decisions of governments that influence their ability to make profits. Companies engage with their external environments as it is uncertain how policy will look like, how it will change, and how the future will eventually play out. Due to this uncertainty, and the human agency involved in politics, we can conceptualize this situation in the form of risk. The focus on *political risk* thus means looking at politics from the perspective of a company. The lens through which a political risk analyst looks at political developments is therefore different from what the same analyst would do in academia or when working for a government or a non-governmental organization.

In this course, students will learn how companies are embedded in an external "non-market environment" and the risks that emanate from actions taken by governments and other social and political actors. They will be introduced to simple frameworks for analyzing political risks, information sources and practical tools, and effective mitigation strategies.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design



The course will be held as a block seminar in the Spring semester break. It will be preceded by a two-hour kick-off session that will introduce some basic concepts and administrative information. In order to successfully pass the course, attendance throughout the block seminar is mandatory.

The course will feature guest speakers who will introduce various perspectives on political risks. Examples include political risk and security, political risk and trade, or geopolitical risk. Practical applications will be introduced through real-world cases that students will prepare and discuss in class. An individual reflection paper will allow students to document their learning experience.

Course literature

There is no required textbook. The course instructor will provide recommended references, including journal articles on relevant topics prior to the kick-off session.

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

To be submitted after the block seminar.

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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Nature of examination

analog

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

To be held during the block seminar.

Examination-aid rule



Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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Nature of examination

analog

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (50%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Individual reflection paper

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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Nature of examination

analog

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

The examination consists of a group paper, a group presentation, and an individual reflection paper, each on a specific topic as assigned in class. Information about the required format and length of the group paper and the individual reflection paper will be provided at the kick-off session. The same applies to the group presentation to be held during the block seminar.

Examination relevant literature

There is no required textbook. The course instructor will provide recommended references, including journal articles on relevant topics prior to the kick-off session via Canvas.



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, 26 January 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 20 March 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 20 March 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 10 April 2023).