



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2023

### 8,394: Consultancy Project: Cyprus - an Unsolvable Conflict?

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (20%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (20%)

Examination time: term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,394,1.00 Consultancy Project: Cyprus - an Unsolvable Conflict?](#) -- Englisch -- [Heusgen Christoph](#) , [Davis James Warren](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

Prior to taking this course, students must be well versed in the disciplines of International Affairs and have some experience in working in diverse teams towards an agreed upon resolution. It is beneficial to have knowledge in project management as well as some experience in presentation skills.

It is strongly recommended that students complete the MIA Morning course prior to taking the Consultancy Project course. The knowledge and skillsets acquired in the MIA Morning workshops will be extremely relevant and applicable in obtaining a successful outcome in this course.

#### Learning objectives

During a Consultancy Project course, students

- demonstrate ability to evaluate and classify a problem and find a solution from its onset to its conclusion;
- acquire and foster skills in the application of theoretical concepts to real-life situations;
- gain experience with actual issues in the practitioner's world that arise in the course of the consultancy project;
- foster their creativity and various skills, including teamwork, project, communication, research, writing, presentation.

Students who participate in this course will, afterwards, be able to:

- understand the origins and contemporary obstacles to solving the ongoing conflict over the Western Sahara;
- choose and apply an appropriate method to analyze specific problem settings;
- translate academic findings to the policy world by learning how to write a policy brief;
- reflect critically on the links between theory and practice and how each relates to the other in the field of international affairs.



## Course content

Participants in this "consultancy project" will be tasked with designing constructive approaches to promoting progress in the resolution of the Cyprus conflict for our "client," the United Nations Special Representative.

The Cyprus conflict is an ongoing dispute between Greek and Turkish Cypriots. Although the Republic of Cyprus is the only political authority recognised as legitimate in international law, the northern part of the island is under the de facto administration of the self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus established after a Turkish invasion of the northern part of the island in 1974. Turkey has stationed military forces there ever since.

The conflict extends beyond the boundaries Cyprus and involves numerous international actors, including the United Nations, the guarantor powers of the Zürich and London Agreements (Greece, Turkey, and the United Kingdom), the European Union, and the United States.

On November 4, 2021, Mr. Colin Stewart of Canada was appointed by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres as his new Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Mr. Stewart also serves as Deputy to the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Cyprus.

Mr. Stewart most recently served as Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) (2017-2021). He has over 28 years of experience in peace and security and international affairs and previously served as Deputy Head and Chief of Staff of the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU) in Addis Ababa, and held appointments in several United Nations field missions, including as Acting Chief of Staff and Chief of Political Affairs at the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) (2007 to 2009). He was a Canadian diplomat from 1990 to 1997.

## Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

Students will work in small groups on a challenge presented to them by their 'client'. Students are responsible for a mid-term presentation which should introduce students' approach as well as highlight and discuss any roadblocks or difficulties faced. At the end of the course, students will present an in-depth analysis of the problem and a recommended solution.

**This course mainly consists of independent study (in groups) and one-to-one meetings between lecturers and groups. However, there will be several in-class lectures and presentations:**

- The course starts off with an introduction lecture that discusses in-depth the expectations of the course. Students are also introduced to their client and are briefed on the problem. This kick-off session also serves the formation of student groups.
- Students then work independently on their project, in their groups.
- At mid-term student groups present the chosen approach to analyze the question and their progress (as well as roadblocks and difficulties) to the academic lecturer, their 'client' and other student groups. Students receive feedback.
- Groups then continue to work independently and present an in-depth analysis of the problem and their recommendations toward the end of the course.

## Course literature

Course instructors will provide recommended references, including academic journal articles, on relevant topics during the course.

## Additional course information

This course will be supervised by Professors James W. Davis and Christoph Heusgen.

Prof. Davis is Professor of International Politics in the Department of Political Science. His research focuses on questions of international security and international organization.

Prof. Christoph Heusgen was the German Ambassador (Permanent Representative) to the United Nations where he successfully managed Germany's candidacy for a rotating seat on the Security Council where he has twice served as President.



## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/4)

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (20%)

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

Midterm Presentation

##### 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

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

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

Final Presentation

##### 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

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

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)



Examination time: term time

## Remark

Final Report

## 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

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## 4. Examination sub part (4/4)

### Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (20%)

Examination time: term time

### Remark

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

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## Examination content

Students are expected to participate fully in all aspects of the course including group work and presentations.

**Midterm Presentation (20%):** Student groups present their approach in addressing the question, brief on their progress, including any roadblocks or difficulties that may have been encountered. All group members will be given the same grade.

**Final Presentation (30%):** Student groups present an in-depth analysis of the problem and their recommendations to the client. All group members will be given the same grade.

**Final Report (30%, max. 5'000 words):** Structured as a policy brief targeted at the client, reports typically give summaries of relevant research, suggest possible policy options, and propose particular courses of action. Next to an explanation of the problem and the results of the research undertaken, it outlines the methods used and the theories applied to analyze the problem. The brief might include graphs, charts, or other visual aids that make it easier to digest the most important information. All group members will be given the same grade.



**Reflection Paper (20%, max. 1'000 words):** Targeted at the academic lecturer, this paper invites students to reflect on their groups' individual journey, from defining the problem to coming up with a solution. It allows them to consider the challenge to apply what they have learned in a classroom setting to contemporary problems in a real-world setting. The reflection paper should be submitted individually and will be graded on an individual basis.

## Examination relevant literature

Course instructors will provide recommended references, including academic journal articles, on relevant topics during the course.

### 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).