



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2024

6,322: Spring Project: International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Written work, Digital, Individual work individual grade (70%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Presentation, Analog, Group work group grade (30%)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[6,322.1.00 Spring Project: International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations](#) -- English --
[Casalini Francesca](#) , [Schedler Kuno](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

This course is a part of the "Spring Projects" and is designed for students in either their 4th or 6th term of the BIA curriculum. To derive maximum benefit, it is recommended that students have identified a preliminary topic for their Bachelor thesis in the area of International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations, although this is not mandatory.

Learning objectives

Throughout this seminar, students will enhance their proficiency in social science research methods, with a particular emphasis on qualitative approaches. The course aims to empower students to investigate compelling phenomena within the realms of International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations. The primary outcome is the ability to construct a well-structured research proposal for their Bachelor thesis. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Critically assess existing knowledge and identify interesting and relevant phenomena for research within the field of International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations.
- Conduct a comprehensive literature review, synthesizing existing research, and formulate a pertinent and captivating research question while developing a robust research framework.
- Demonstrate comprehension of qualitative research methods, encompassing key data collection and analysis techniques, and their application to specific studies.
- Effectively present their results in a clear, logical manner, both visually and verbally.

Course content

The course is centered around designing and implementing a qualitative research study to explore intriguing phenomena within the context of International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations. Key topics covered during lectures include:

- Understanding the nature and goals of a typical research project.
- Structuring and designing a research project effectively.
- Distinguishing between qualitative and quantitative research.
- Exploring various data collection methods employed in qualitative research.
- Data analysis with qualitative data: memos, coding, constant comparison.



- Presenting and writing: how to write the introduction, how to present data, how to discuss results and write the conclusions.
- Giving and receiving feedback.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

This course takes place every week and is based on hands-on, student-oriented collaborative learning approach. At the beginning of the course, students are provided with a set of qualitative data from real-life cases in International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations and step-by-step develop an applied study. Under the guidance of the lecturer, students also prepare the research proposal for their Bachelor thesis.

Course literature

The course is based on the seminal book "The craft of research", which students can either purchase or borrow from the library: Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., Williams, J. M., Bizup, J., & Fitzgerald, W. T. (2016). The craft of research, Fourth Edition. University of Chicago press

A digital reader with further sources is made available on StudyNet.

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Written work
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written work
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	70%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Bachelor thesis' research proposal

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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2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Presentation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	30%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Group project with in-class 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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Examination content

The course is assessed on both an individual and group basis, emphasizing practical application in scientific work. Students' performance is evaluated through two hands-on assignments:

Group Applied Project (Weight: 30%): At the beginning of the course, students are divided into small groups (2-3 participants) and provided with a set of qualitative data from real-life cases in International Organizations, Government, and Non-Profit Organizations and step-by-step, under the guidance of the lecturer, develop an applied study. Students present their work in one presentation session in class. The group applied project constitutes 30% of the final course grade.

Individual Research Proposal (Weight: 70%): Students are required to craft a research proposal for their Bachelor thesis. Submission is due three weeks after the course concludes. The individual research proposal contributes 70% to the final course grade.

Examination relevant literature

Examination is based not on the contents and tools learned during the course themselves, but mainly on their application. Therefore, the book "The craft of research" and the additional materials made available through StudyNet serve as a guidance for students while developing their own research project.



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 13 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, 25 January 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 18 March 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 13 (Monday, 25 March 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: Starting with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 08 April 2024).