



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2024

### 8,386: Dynamics of Government and Non-Government Organizations

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Analog written examination, Analog, Individual work individual grade (100%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: Term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,386,1.00 Dynamics of Government and Non-Government Organizations](#) -- English -- [Schedler Kuno](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

No prerequisites for this course.

#### Learning objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Gain insights into the dynamic landscape of managing government and non-government organizations, identifying challenges, and formulating effective solutions.
- Comprehend the institutional pressures exerted on these organizations and analyze organizational responses to environmental influences.
- Master the key concepts of neo-institutional organizational theory and employ appropriate theoretical lenses to understand the functioning of governments, state-owned enterprises (SOEs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and non-profit organizations (NPOs).
- Acquire knowledge founded in scientific principles that can be directly applied in practice, providing a solid foundation for future career endeavors.

#### Course content

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of how government and non-government organizations strategically position themselves within their environments. It delves into their adaptive strategies in response to external requirements and expectations, as well as their proactive efforts to shape their surroundings. Managing and leading such organizations is often more intricate compared to their private counterparts.

The course leverages neo-institutional organizational theory as its conceptual foundation. This theory elucidates how institutional conditions within a specific environment influence organizations and, reciprocally, how organizations respond to these institutions.

Concrete case studies are employed to dissect and analyze the challenges faced by government and non-government organizations. Through these studies, students gain profound insights rooted in scientific principles, directly applicable to real-world scenarios.

More precisely, the course is organized into three blocks of contents.

##### **Block 1: Foundations of Organizational Complexity**

- Explores terminology and concepts utilizing neo-institutional organizational theory.



- Examines the increasing similarity and prevalence of government and non-government organizations.
- Investigates perspectives of key players in their environments.

## Block 2: Internal Functioning of Organizations

- Analyses internal operations of both government and non-government entities.
- Highlights decision-making logics and addresses conflicts between non-profit missions and profitability.
- Provides practical insights for leadership and management.

## Block 3: Change and Development of Organizations

- Explores dynamics of change and development.
- Examines learning processes, failure factors in change projects, and the transfer of ideas across organizations.
- Considers the influence of local conditions on development paths.

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

This course takes place every week and incorporates lectures and case discussions. Students are expected to attend all sessions of lectures and participate actively in discussions. Readings must be completed prior to sessions, as lectures generally build on the required materials. Attendance of lectures is essential for the successful completion of the course.

## Course literature

A digital reader with required readings and cases for discussion will be made available on StudyNet.

## Additional course information

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## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

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

##### Examination modalities

Examination type	Analog written examination
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written exam
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	100%
Duration	90 mins.

##### Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

##### Remark

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##### Examination-aid rule

Closed Book



The use of aids is prohibited as a matter of principle, with the exception of pocket calculator models of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and, in case of non-language exams, bilingual dictionaries without any handwritten notes. Any other aids that are admissible must be explicitly listed by faculty members in the paragraph entitled "Supplementary aids" of the course and examination fact sheet; this list is exhaustive.

Procuring any aids, as well as ensuring their working order, is the exclusive responsibility of students.

## Supplementary aids

No examination aids.

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## Examination content

At the end of the course, students undertake a written exam consisting of open-ended questions on the main contents of the course. The exam is scheduled for the last session of the course, occurring on May 13th, 2024.

## Examination relevant literature

Assessment is based on lecture slides and required readings (available on StudyNet before the last lecture at the latest). Suggested readings, while not subject to examination, are provided for students interested in further exploration of the literature.

### 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).