



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2020

10,404: International Organizations in Complex Institutional Environments

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (60%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Oral examination (individual) (40%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[10.404.1.00 International Organizations in Complex Institutional Environments](#) -- 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

In the first session of the course, we will specify the details for the subsequent sessions. 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

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in AS2020, 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;
- The presentations (as part of the examination) will be on-line via Zoom.

There are no other changes necessary to the examination information.

Students who plan to take this course as an *optional* course and *without an examination* should not register via the bidding system. They should register directly with the lecturer.

Students who plan to take this course as a *regular* course or as an optional course *with an examination* should register via the bidding system. Enrolment in a course is binding: students have to attend the course and take the exam.

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

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (60%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Research 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

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Oral examination (individual) (40%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Presentation of research paper draft

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

Examination content

Your final grade will be determined by a research paper (60%) and an in-class presentation (40%). For the research paper, you are required to design and execute your own research project. The topic of the research paper has to be related to the topic of the course. More details on the specific requirements for the research paper will be made available at the beginning of the course. For the presentation, you will present an outline of your research paper with some preliminary results. Additional details will be available at the beginning of the course. The research paper should not be longer than 8,000 words. The in-class presentation will be limited to 20 minutes.

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 (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 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 34 (Thursday, 20 August 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 12 October 2020);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 44 (Thursday, 29 October 2020).