



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2021

### 7,384: The UN Sustainable Development Goals from a Legal Perspective

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

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

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Active participation (10%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (30%)

Examination time: term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,384.1.00 The UN Sustainable Development Goals from a Legal Perspective](#) -- Englisch -- [Egli Patricia](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

There is no specific prior knowledge required, however, students should be prepared to work with legal texts and literature.

#### Learning objectives

- Firstly, the students learn about the historical background and the development of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
- Secondly, the students will write papers to analyze the legal status of the SDG and their implementation on international level. In addition, there will be student papers on the legal status of the SDG and their implementation in Switzerland.
- Thirdly, the students present the main insights of their papers on the legal status of the SDG and their implementation. In addition, each student reads the paper of another student and interviews her/him after her/his presentation about the main challenges regarding the chosen paper topic.

#### Course content

On 25 September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development in the form of a resolution. The central element of the Agenda 2030 are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which define the social, economic and environmental goals to be achieved by the 193 member states of the UN by 2030. In principle, the resolutions of the General Assembly of the UN have no binding effect. However, a differentiated analysis shows that the SDGs are not only a declaration with political content, but also have legal dimensions.

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

The course is structured in three parts:

- Part 1: Kick-off: Teaching of the theoretical basics.
- Part 2: Individual writing of the term paper.
- Part 3: Break: Presentation of the results of the term paper and interviews.

The course approaches the topic in such a way that the basics (historical development of the SDG, contents of individual SDGs and general legal aspects) are examined in a kick-off meeting (part 1). On the basis of these theoretical principles, students then write a paper and deal either with the legal status and implementation of a specific SDG on international or national level in



Switzerland (part 2). The allocation of the predefined paper topics is done on a preference system per doodle. Finally, the individual conclusions are analyzed and discussed in detail in student presentations (part 3). Each student will also read the paper of another student (randomly allocated) and interview her/him after her/his presentation about the main challenges regarding the presented topic.

## Course literature

Reader available on StudyNet.

Students are expected to use additional literature for the papers.

## Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in AS2021, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform Zoom.
- The lecturer informs via StudyNet on the changed implementation modalities of the course.

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

- The presentations and interviews are conducted online.

## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/3)

##### Examination time and form

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

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

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##### Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Written work must be written without outside help according to the known citation standards, and a declaration of authorship must be attached, which is available as a template on the StudentWeb.

Documentation (quotations, bibliography, etc.) must be carried out universally and consistently according to the requirements of the chosen/specified citation standard such as e.g. APA or MLA.

The legal standard is recommended for legal work (cf. by way of example: FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R., SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (the latest edition in each case), or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The reference sources of information (paraphrases, quotations, etc.) that has been taken over literally or in the sense of the original text must be integrated into the text in accordance with the requirements of the citation standard used. Informative and bibliographical notes must be included as footnotes (recommendations and standards e.g. in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (latest edition)).

For all written work at the University of St.Gallen, the indication of page numbers is mandatory, regardless of the standard chosen. Where page numbers are missing in sources, the precise designation must be made differently: chapter or section title, section number, article, etc.

##### Supplementary aids

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## Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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## 2. Examination sub part (2/3)

### Examination time and form

Decentral - Active participation (10%)

Examination time: term time

### Remark

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### Examination-aid rule

Active classroom participation

In the "Active classroom participation" examination form, regular participation in class is assessed.

The assessment criteria can be as follows:

- Requests to speak enrich the discussion (productive) / requests to speak disturb the discussion (counterproductive);
- Requests to speak are correct/requests to speak are incorrect;
- Requests to speak are frequent/average/rare;
- No requests to speak, but students follow the lesson/no requests to speak and students do not noticeably follow the lessons.

### Supplementary aids

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## Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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

### Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (individual) (30%)

Examination time: term time

### Remark

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### 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

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## Examination content



The examination content is based on the reader, on the inputs and discussions in the lectures, and on own research. The topics for the papers will be assigned in the first weeks of the semester. The paper of another student in order to prepare the interview will be assigned randomly after the student papers were turned in.

## Examination relevant literature

Reader available on StudyNet at the start of the semester.

Students are expected to use additional literature for the papers.

### 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, 26 August 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 18 October 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 18 October 2021);

Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 8 November 2021).