Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2022

3,310: National Model United Nations

ECTS credits: 6

Overview examination/s
(binding regulations see below)
Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (50%)
Examination time: term time
Decentral - Active participation (25%)
Examination time: term time
Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)
Examination time: term time

Attached courses
Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer
3,310,1.00 National Model United Nations (March 2023: NMUN in New York) -- Englisch -- Brühwiler Claudia Franziska, Wörner Jana Maria

Course information

Course prerequisites
This course mainly serves as a preparation for students who participate for HSG in National Model United Nations in New York in spring 2023. Students should only take this course if they have the intention of participation in the NYC spring course.
Students should apply for this course by July 20.

Learning objectives

Content component: Students gain solid knowledge about the United Nations and how small states can pursue their interests in the context of General Assembly meetings.

Performance component: Students represent a small state at the National Model United Nations Conference 2023 and apply their knowledge in committee negotiations.

Course content

The course carries on for two terms (fall term 2022 and spring semester 2023). Some sessions in fall term introduce the students to the United Nations in general, its workings, and its problems; the skills needed for successful participation in NMUN are also trained (research, writing and drafting, public speech, representation, etc.) by various means (simulations, negotiations, etc.). In spring term, students mainly prepare participation in the simulated UN General Assembly conference, which takes place in New York and where students act as the delegates of the UN member state assigned to HSG. Students may expect to have a say in the selection of the country which they would like to represent in New York (while the final assignment is made by the organizers of the NMUN by the beginning of November; our influence is limited in this regard).

A faculty advisor (Claudia Brühwiler) and a head delegate (Yael Staehelin) support the students in their effort. However, students are expected to engage very actively in the course; a high level of commitment as well as the ability to work in teams under pressure are indispensable. English language knowledge is a prerequisite, as it is the working language of the course (as well as of NMUN). Students are expected to make a coordinated, sustained effort to raise funds to finance the trip to New York.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design
Structure:

The class will alter between weekly meetings and block meetings, with the latter giving Delegates enough time to get used to the conference format and run simulations. Some class sessions take place in fall term; additional meetings take place in spring term depending on need. Day trips are planned, most likely to take place in fall 2022 (and, of course, the week-long trip to New York), but are subject to confirmation. Further information on NMUN is available at <www.nmun.org> or our webpage: <www.nmun.ch>.

Teaching design: A variety of didactic approaches will be used in this class. Simulations of committee sessions provide students with hands-on experience and allow them to hone their negotiation and speaking skills. Traditional input lectures, games, and student-led discussions enrich the learning experience.

Course literature

Reading materials will be made available electronically as the course proceeds. In addition, students will have to read The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction.

Additional course information

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form
Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (50%)
Examination time: term time

Remark
Position Paper, 2 page-paper

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/specifed 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
Aids will be discussed in class and made available to all Delegates.
2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form
Decentral - Active participation (25%)
Examination time: term time

Remark
passive and active course attendance

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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3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination time and form
Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (25%)
Examination time: term time

Remark
Poster Presentation

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
The format of both the posters and the hand-outs will be defined in class.

Examination languages
Question language: English
Answer language: English

Examination content

- Poster Presentation [25% of final grade]: in groups of 4 poster, presentation, and hand-out on select aspect of «our»
country’s culture, history, politics etc.

- Position Paper [50% of final grade]: 2 page-paper to be submitted to the NMUN conference; written in groups of two; usually needs to be written during the Christmas break; deadline depends on NMUN timeline
- Participation [25% of final grade; passive and active course attendance, including presentation of conference achievements plus taking care of your responsibilities as a co-organizer]

**Examination relevant literature**

Some readings will be made available on Canvas (for fall term: no later than December 22, 2022). In addition, students are expected to read *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*. Details will be sent out via e-mail.

**Please note**

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and take 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, 25 August 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- 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, 7 November 2022).