

San José State University
Political Science Department
Political Science 152a: International Organizations and NGOs
Fall 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Danijela Dudley
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Office Hours: Monday 1:30-2:30pm, Wednesday 10:00-11:30am, and by appointment
Class Day/Time: Monday & Wednesday 12:00-1:15pm
Classroom: Hugh Gillis Hall 116

Course Description

From the catalog: Examines the structures and functions of different types of international organizations (such as the UN, NATO, regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations), and their role in maintaining international peace and security, promoting human rights and economic development, and protecting the environment.

International organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, play an increasingly prominent role in efforts to resolve a wide range of global problems and are important elements in the current system of global governance. This course explores institutional structures, political processes, and impact of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations within the larger context of world politics.

The course will examine the structures and functions of different types of international organizations (such as the United Nations, NATO, the European Union, and non-governmental organizations) and explore their role in maintaining international peace and security, promoting human rights and economic development, and protecting the environment. From this course, students will develop an understanding of the field of international organizations and international relations in general. They will understand the evolution of international organizations as well as their institutional structures, decision-making processes, roles, and functions in the contemporary world.

Course Website (CANVAS)

Course materials including the syllabus, handouts, additional readings, assignments, and grades will be posted on the CANVAS course page accessible to registered students at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1: Demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical approaches to the study of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (assessed through exams and quizzes);

CLO 2: Identify and distinguish different types of international organizations and demonstrate knowledge of the structure and functions of key international organizations (assessed through exams and quizzes);

CLO 3: Evaluate and critically analyze the role of key international organizations in shaping international political outcomes in different issue-areas such as international peace and security, human rights, development, and environment (assessed through quizzes and final exam);

CLO 4: Understand the interactions, negotiations, and decision-making processes that occur in the complex world of international organizations (assessed through UN simulation);

CLO 5: Conduct original research, critically analyze the literature, and propose original solutions to contemporary problems as they relate to international organizations (assessed through UN simulation and research paper);

CLO 6: Discuss and debate major issues related to international organizations (assessed through UN simulation and participation).

Political Science Program Learning Outcomes (PSPLO)

Upon completion of the Political Science major program, students should be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

PSPLO 1 Breadth: Students should possess a broad knowledge of the theory and methods of the various branches of the discipline.

PSPLO 2 Application and Disciplinary Methods: Students should be able to formulate research questions, engage in systematic literature searches using primary and secondary sources, evaluate research studies, and critically analyze and interpret influential political texts. Students should be able to apply these techniques to identify, understand, and analyze domestic and international political issues and organizations.

PSPLO 3 Communication Skills: Students should master basic competencies in oral and written communication skills and be able to apply these skills in the context of political science. This means communicating effectively about politics and/or public administration, public policy, and law.

PSPLO 4 Citizenship: Students should acquire an understanding of the role of the citizen in local, state, national, and global contexts and appreciate the importance of lifelong participation in political processes.

Required Texts

Karns, Margaret, Karen Mingst, & Kendall Stiles. (2015). *International Organizations: The Politics & Processes of Global Governance*, 3rd edition. Lynne Rienner Publishers: Boulder, London. ISBN13: 978-1-62637-151-4.

The text is available for purchase from the Spartan Bookstore or from various online retailers.

Other required readings will be posted on the Canvas course page.

Library Liaison

The library liaison for Political Science is available to answer questions and provide one-on-one help using the library for research. His name is Paul Kauppila and he can be reached by phone at (408) 808-2042 or by email paul.kauppila@sjsu.edu.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Because this is a four-unit course, you can expect to spend a minimum of nine hours per week, in addition to time spent in class, on scheduled tutorials, assignments, or activities. This additional unit will allow for more in-depth investigation and engagement with course topics. Careful time management will help you keep up with readings and assignments and enable you to be successful in all of your courses.

Midterm exam: There will be one midterm exam which will consist of a variety of question types (multiple-choice, short-answer and/or essays). It will cover readings, lectures, discussions, and videos from weeks 1-7.

Quizzes: There will be three quizzes which will vary in format and may include short answer, multiple choice, essay questions, and map tests. Specifics on chapters covered in each quiz will be provided one week before each quiz. They will be given either at the beginning or at the end of the class so arrive on time and stay until the end of the class.

Case Study: You will write an 8-10 page case study on a case of your choice. You will select one current or recent international case deserving attention of one or more IOs and analyze the issue and its importance for world politics, explain and critically analyze the IO's response, and offer suggestions for future responses to similar cases. More detailed instructions are provided in a separate handout available on Canvas. You will submit a paper proposal no later than November 13. The proposal should include your thesis, a brief description of how you intend to develop your argument, and an annotated bibliography of at least three sources you intend to use in your paper. Paper proposal is graded on a credit/no credit basis. A 'no credit' grade on the proposal will lower your case study grade by 10%.

United Nations Negotiations: Students will participate in simulated negotiations and decision-making within the United Nations. Each student will be assigned a country and must work within the United Nations to advance his/her country's interests through negotiations with other countries on issues of peace and security, human rights, development, the environment, and similar. You are expected to research your assigned country's policies and positions on the issue in question. In preparation for the meetings, each student will be required to submit a 3-4 page country profile. Additional details are available in a separate handout posted on CANVAS. Please note that missed UN negotiation cannot be made up, so plan accordingly.

Participation: Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and ready to discuss them. Contributing to class discussions and participating in class activities demonstrates your desire to understand the material; it also helps your learning process and material retention. Your participation grade will be based on both frequency and quality of your contributions to class

discussions and in-class activities. Students may be called by name to address concepts from the readings. As participation evaluates your contribution to class discussions, any disruptive behavior such as using cell phones, talking to your classmates, interrupting others' statements, arriving to class late or leaving early, and similar, counts as negative contribution to class discussion and will adversely affect your participation grade.

Final Exam: University Policy S17-1 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) states “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.” Final exam in this course will be cumulative and will cover course readings, lectures, and discussions for the entire term. It will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Students will not be allowed to take the final exam early.

Assignment weight and tentative dates (dates subject to change with fair notice)

Assignment	% of Course Grade	Date	CLO
Midterm Exam	15%	October 09	1 & 2
Case Study	20%	December 04	5
UN Negotiation	15% total: 5% country profile 10% negotiation	October 16 October 28-November 06	4, 5, & 6
Participation	15%	Recorded each day	6
Quizzes	10% total	September 16 September 30 November 20	1, 2, & 3
Final Exam	25%	December 16	1, 2, & 3

Grading Policy

All assignments are graded based upon a percentage system, which can be converted to letter grades. For example, if an assignment is out of 100 points, 97-100 is an A+, 93-96.9 is an A, 90-92.9 is an A-, and so on. All assignments and exams total 100% of the course grade. The same letter grade distribution applies to the final course grade as it does for each assignment.

Grade	Percentage
A plus	97 to 100%
A	93 to 96.9%
A minus	90 to 92.9%
B plus	87 to 89.9%
B	83 to 86.9%
B minus	80 to 82.9%
C plus	77 to 79.9%
C	73 to 76.9%
C minus	70 to 72.9%
D plus	67 to 69.9%
D	63 to 66.9%
D minus	60 to 62.9%

Late Work

Late assignments and exam make-ups will be allowed only in case of medical or family emergency for which proper documentation is provided. If you miss an exam, you must contact me immediately to schedule a make-up. **Missed participation and UN negotiations cannot be made up.** Late paper proposals, country profiles, and case studies will be penalized 10% for each 24-hour period for the first 5 days. After 5 days, the paper will receive 0. Final exam will be held on the day scheduled by the University. Final exam make-ups for which proper documentation is provided will be held on the final make-up day, as determined by the University. **Final exam will not be given early** under any circumstances, so plan accordingly.

Use of Electronic Devices

Please **turn off cell phones** before entering the classroom. **Absolutely no use of computers, phones, or any other electronic devices during class except for medical reasons.** While technology can be very useful in our daily lives it can also cause unnecessary distraction during class both to those using it and to those around them. Thus, bring a pen and a notebook for taking notes. Exceptions to this policy will only be made for medical reasons. Please bring proper documentation before class if you need an approval to use electronic devices.

Classroom Courtesy

The purpose of discussion in this course is to provide a forum in which students can safely and supportively ask questions, present and debate their ideas, receive and interpret new information and perspectives, and develop and clarify their thinking. While you will likely be passionate about some issues discussed in class, it is essential to be **respectful** to others and their opinions. Remember, a “good argument” does not mean a confrontation or a fight. Rather, a good argument consists of a political contention supported by well- researched evidence, leading to a well-developed conclusion. Offensive remarks or attacks of personal nature will not be tolerated! Please **come to class on time and stay for the entire period.** Late arrivals and/or early departures are disruptive and as such will affect your participation grade.

Attendance

Attendance, in and of itself, will not be graded. However, regular attendance is crucial to your success in this course. Lectures will address some themes presented in the course readings, **as well as additional information** that you will not find in the readings, but which **you will be expected to know** for exams. Additionally, although attendance is not graded, participation makes a significant portion of your grade. If you are not present, you cannot participate.

Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>) requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course. Recording in this class is allowed **only with my written permission**, and is granted only on a class by class basis if the student justifies the need to record lectures. Students must obtain a written permission of any guest speaker and every class member in order to record presentations or class discussions.

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated

material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Political Science Departmental Writing Policy

Students of political science should develop the ability to write in clear, grammatical English. Spelling and grammar count! Students must take care that appropriate citations are used. Direct quotations must be so indicated with quotation marks and a specific reference to the page in the source from which it was taken. Failure to cite your sources constitutes academic misconduct which carries with it serious sanctions. A tutorial on citations is available at the library website at <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/writeandcite>.

For assistance with writing, please see me or visit the SJSU Writing Center located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>. Make sure to review these policies and resources.

The Fine Print

Information in this syllabus can be changed with fair notice. Any changes will be announced in class and/or via announcements through Canvas (<https://sjsu.instructure.com/>).

It is your responsibility to sign into Canvas regularly and check for any important announcements and updates.

POLS 152a Fall 2019 Course Schedule Subject to change with fair notice	
Week/Date	Topic, Readings, Assignments
August 21	Course introduction READ course syllabus
WEEK 1 August 26-28	Global governance; Theoretical approaches to IOs READ: Chapter 1, pp. 2-19, Chapter 2, pp. 44-61, & Chapter 3, pp. 75-88
WEEK 2 September 2 September 4	Labor Day, no class The United Nations READ: Chapter 4, pp. 109-129

POLS 152a Fall 2019 Course Schedule (continued)
Subject to change with fair notice

Week/Date	Topic, Readings, Assignments
WEEK 3 September 9-11	The United Nations (continued) READ: Chapter 4, pp. 129-160
WEEK 4 September 16-18	Regional organizations: the EU READ: Chapter 5, pp. 177-195 How to save Europe: The future of the European Union. (2017, March 25). <i>The Economist</i> . (available on Canvas) Quiz 1 September 16
WEEK 5 September 23-25	Regional organizations: NATO READ: Chapter 5, pp. 161-175 Wright, Robin. (2016, July 22). What Does NATO Do, Anyway? The New Yorker. https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/what-does-nato-do-anyway
WEEK 6 September 30- October 2	Non-Governmental Organizations READ: Chapter 6, pp. 239-244, 252-260, 268-277 Quiz 2 September 30
WEEK 7 October 7 October 9	Catching up and midterm review Midterm exam October 9
WEEK 8 October 14-16	International Peace and Security READ: Chapter 8, pp. 279-288, 295-304, 309-322 Country profile due October 16
WEEK 9 Oct. 21-23	International Peace and Security (continued) READ: Chapter 8, pp. 304-309, 322-333, and 344-348
WEEK 10 October 28-30	United Nations Negotiations
WEEK 11 November 4-6	United Nations Negotiations
WEEK 12 November 11 November 13	Veteran's Day, no class Human Rights READ: Chapter 10, pp. 467-486 Case study proposal due November 13

POLS 152a Fall 2019 Course Schedule (continued)
Subject to change with fair notice

Week/Date	Topic, Readings, Assignments
WEEK 13 November 18-20	Human Rights (continued) READ: Chapter 10, pp. 486-525 Quiz 3 November 20
WEEK 14 November 25 November 27	Economic Development READ: Chapter 8, pp. 379-403 Thanksgiving holiday, no class
WEEK 15 December 2-4	Economic Development (continued) READ: Chapter 9, pp. 431-456 Case study due December 4
WEEK 16 December 9	Concluding thoughts and final review
Monday December 16	Final Exam 9:45am

Final Notes

If you have any questions or need help with class don't hesitate to talk to me. For quick inquiries it is best to email me at [danijela.dudley@sjsu.edu](mailto:danjela.dudley@sjsu.edu). For any substantive issues it is best to stop by my office in Clark Hall 404F. If you can't make it during my office hours, I will gladly work with you on finding other time to meet. I hope you enjoy the class!