

International Organizations and Economic Diplomacy

International Economy and Business MSc program

Autumn term, 2020/2021 Academic Year

Lecturer(s):	Ágnes SZUNOMÁR Judit RICZ
Department:	Institute of International, Political, and Regional Sciences Department of World Economy
Office hour:	Ágnes Szunomár, Tuesdays 11.40 – 13.10 (e-mail registration required) Judit Ricz, Mondays 13.30 – 15.10 (e-mail registration required)
Course type	Core
Credits	6
Number of hours per semester	90-minute lecture and 90-minute seminar a week
Time of class	Tuesdays from 08.00 – 11.20 (Lecture and seminar)
Venue	Lecture: C104 Seminars: C104
Availability:	Phone number: 482-7406 Room: new building C005 for Ágnes Szunomár and Judit Ricz Email addresses: agnes.szunomar@uni-corvinus.hu judit.ricz@uni-corvinus.hu

Aims, objectives and description of the course

The aim of course is to discuss the practice of international organizations and global governance in today's world economy and some related theoretical issues. The question of global governance is a key issue in international relations, and the organizations discussed in this course all represent initiatives aimed to create such arrangements in their respective issue-areas. These organizations effect international politics, economics and business, therefore anyone wishing to work in such fields needs to have a thorough understanding of their operation. Organizations such as the United Nations (and its specialized agencies), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), shall be, among others, analysed. Based on theoretical considerations on international cooperation, the operation, achievements and drawbacks of these organizations will be discussed using several case studies.

Learning outcomes

By completing this course, you will

- Understand the basic concepts and theories related to international organizations and economic diplomacy;
- Develop analytical skills to assess related issues and problems;
- Learn about different policy solutions and about their effectiveness in healing various global governance issues;
- Develop your ability to think critically;
- Demonstrate a command of key concepts for understanding international organizations;

- Explore and assess a number of contemporary challenges and issues in economic diplomacy, including the reasons for their complexity;
- Analyse the nature of and evaluate the significance of a range of actors in the world economy;
- Advance reasoned and factually supported arguments both orally and in writing.

Methodology to be used

Lectures will be interactive with an aim of involving students in active participation and discussions. Seminars will be based on discussing case studies based on provided chapters and articles.

By ‘methodology’ is meant those rules, procedures or postulates that permit valid or at least testable claims to be made. The main methods employed in this course are:

- Conceptual analysis – the formation and employment of meaningful symbols to denote items in a particular class and the interaction between different items.
- Descriptive analysis – the identification of empirical conditions that may be relevant to the development of principles, and awareness of the continuity and discontinuity between prescription and description.
- Causal explanation – explanation of the relationship between one event and another, where the second event is a consequence of the first. This includes the importance of being clear about the distinction between necessary and sufficient conditions and of specifying, independent, dependent and intervening variables.

The seminar format entails significant (mandatory) weekly preparation, in which participants must critically assess, discuss, and critique assigned readings. The overall quality of the sessions will depend to a great extent on the quality of students’ preparation.

Detailed class schedule, 1st – 14th week:

Date of class (lecture - seminar)	Topics to be discussed, readings required for the class
1 st week (8 Sept.)	Lecture: Introduction Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 1, 3 Seminar: Guidelines for group presentations, forming groups and choosing topics
2 nd week (15 Sept.)	Lecture: Theoretical approaches to international cooperation Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 2 Seminar: Presentations
3 rd week (22 Sept.)	Lecture: Basic principles and organization of the United Nations. Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 4 Seminar: Presentations
4 th week (29 Sept.)	Lecture: Global Economic Governance I. Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 8 Seminar: Presentations
5 th week (6 Oct.)	Lecture: Global Economic Governance II. Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 8 Seminar: Presentations
6 th week (13 Oct.)	Lecture: Nonstate Actors Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 9; Seminar: Presentations
7 th week (20 Oct.)	Lecture: Regional organisations I. Reading: Karns – Mingst chapter 5 (pp. 161-195) Seminar: Presentations
8 th week (27 Oct.)	Autumn break

9 th week (2-6 Nov)	Intensive week 3*2*90 3 November and/or 5 November Guest presentations of (or depending on COVID-19 situation potentially visits to) international organizations or NGO's with offices in Budapest Case studies
10 th week (10 Nov.)	Lecture: Regional organisations II. Reading: Karns – Mingst Chapter 5 (pp. 195-238) Seminar: Presentations
11 th week (17 Nov.)	Endterm essay Seminar: consultation upon request
12 th week (24 Nov.)	No class
13 th week (1 Dec.)	No class
14 th week (8 Dec.)	No class

Assignments:

Regular and active class participation is also required. Students are required to make a presentation (with PPT and handout) and write an endterm exam throughout the semester.

Assessment, grading:

The final grade is composed as follows:

- Endterm essay: 50%
- Presentation and seminar activity: 50%

Based upon these results a final grade is proposed for each student, and subject to acceptance or rejection. If a student chooses to reject this proposal, he or she is required to write the final exam in the examination period. This accounts for 50%, as the scores for seminar activity are non-negotiable, as these are non-repeatable. Final grades are awarded according to the standard ECTS grading scale (see below), and grades are non-negotiable.

Percentage achieved	Hungarian Grade	Explanation
90-100	5	Excellent
80-89.9	4	Good
70-79.9	3	Satisfactory
60-69.9	2	Sufficient
0-59.9	1	Failed

Attendance sheets will be taken. Anyone missing more than 3 seminars (illness included) will automatically fail the course (in cases of vis major please contact the course leaders).

Compulsory readings:

The material of the lectures and seminars is compulsory. Nothing will be asked during the exam that was not discussed during a lecture or a seminar.

Lectures will loosely follow the textbooks by

- Karns, M. P. – Mingst, K. A. – Stiles, K. W. (2015): *International Organizations. The Politics and Processess of Global Governance.* (third edition) Boulder and London: Lynne Rienner.
- Mingst, K. A. – Karns, M. P. (2016): *The United Nations in the 21st century.* Boulder: Westview Press.

Further recommended readings:

- Current issues of the journal 'International Organization' and the magazine 'Foreign Affairs'.
- Szent-Iványi, B., and Lightfoot, S. (2015), *New Europe's New Development Aid.* Routledge.

Essential and useful course resources and lecture slides will be available through the University electronic learning platform 'Moodle.' These resources include required readings where necessary, guidance and materials for seminar preparation. Please note however, that these slides are only crude outlines of the lectures, and they do not substitute notes taken in class or reading the textbook.

Students should check the course site on Moodle on a regular basis as some required readings will be uploaded as well as other important information. Students are required to work together in teams during the preparation for the group presentations.

It is in our interest that you receive the best possible grade on this course. Due to this, we will both be available throughout the semester for consultation, either by e-mail, during our office hours or by appointment.

All comments and feedback concerning lectures, slides, readings, topics etc. are welcome.