

Approval date: 15/06/2022

COURSE GUIDE

**International Organisations (21211G2)**

<b>Grado (Bachelor's Degree)</b>	Grado en Ciencias Políticas y de la Administración	<b>Branch</b>	Social and Legal Sciences
----------------------------------	--	---------------	---------------------------

<b>Module</b>	Estudios de Ámbito Internacional	<b>Subject</b>	Organizaciones Internacionales
---------------	----------------------------------	----------------	--------------------------------

<b>Year of study</b>	3º	<b>Semester</b>	1º	<b>ECTS Credits</b>	6	<b>Course type</b>	Elective course
----------------------	----	-----------------	----	---------------------	---	--------------------	-----------------

**PREREQUISITES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are no prerequisites to register in the course. Nonetheless, it is advisable to:

- Have previously read the course in “International Relations”.
- Keep up with what is happening in the world by regularly reading a current events news source.
- Have a general knowledge of International Law.
- Bear in mind this is a lecture-based class with as much question and answer during each class period as possible. That means you must complete the required reading before the class date to which it is attached. In order to help you keep current on the readings, periodic, in-class reading quizzes shall be used for assessing your progress.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT (According to the programme’s verification report)**

- Structure and functioning of International Organizations.
- Diplomatic relations and international civil service.

**SKILLS**

**GENERAL SKILLS**

- CG01 - Capacity for analysis and synthesis.
- CG02 - Organizational and planning skills.
- CG03 - -
- CG05 - Information management skills.
- CG06 - Problem solving skills.
- CG07 - Decision-making ability.
- CG08 - Ability to work in a team.
- CG09 - Interpersonal relationship skills.



- CG10 - Recognition of diversity and multiculturalism.
- CG11 - Critical thinking skills.
- CG12 - Development of autonomous learning.
- CG13 - Adaptation to new situations.
- CG14 - Ability to develop creative activities.
- CG15 - Leadership skills.
- CG16 - Knowledge of other cultures and customs.
- CG18 - Motivation for quality.
- CG19 - Development of the ability to carry out a process well based on guidelines.

### SUBJECT-SPECIFIC SKILLS

- CE03 - Describe, explain and analyze the structure and functioning of political institutions.
- CE11 - Analyze international and European Union policy.
- CE16 - Be interested in current theoretical and methodological debates on the need to move towards more pluralistic, integrative and comprehensive approaches in Political Science and Administration.
- CE17 - To acquire a critical and analytical attitude towards political events.
- CE18 - To appreciate the importance of collaborating, participating and getting involved in the analysis of political processes, actors and institutions, as a guideline for the improvement of decision making.
- CE19 - To foster an open, flexible and understanding attitude towards the complex, dynamic, social and ideological nature of politics and public administrations.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

#### Knowledge and understanding

- Identify and explain the main defining characters of international organizations. To be able to show knowledge and understanding of the different types of organizations in order to grasp their political, economic, and social contexts.
- Understand the contents and limits of the International Organization's legal status, both in international and domestic law; their different nature; and their main types.
- Acquire and demonstrate a sound opinion on the studied Organizations and their activities.

#### Competence and skills

- Pursue argumentative reasoning in writing and orally;
- Improve critical thinking and writing skills • Apply theoretical concepts in the study of empirical processes;
- Demonstrate the ability to describe the legal, social, political, and economic forces that shape IOs.

#### Judgment and approach

- Compare different IOs, different material, and regional ambits;
- Explain the significance of global problems being perceived by different IOs
- Use knowledge of international affairs in a practical problem-solving way to address



issues of immediate international concern

## PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### THEORY SYLLABUS

This syllabus is based on Prof. Diego J. Liñán's «Organizaciones internacionales» course. It has been adapted and translated by Prof<sup>a</sup> Amelia Díaz.

#### Part I. General theory of international organizations (IO)

- Topic 1. Definition, nature, and general characters
  1. Emergence and growth of IOs
  2. Defining and classifying IOs
  3. Legal theory and IOs
- Topic 2. International organizations as subjects of International Law
  1. The legal position of IOs
    1. International legal personality
    2. Powers
    3. Privileges and immunities
    4. Dissolution, succession, adaptation
  2. Constitutions of IOs
  3. Issues of membership
    1. Admission
    2. Financing
    3. Withdrawal
    4. Expulsion, suspension, and related techniques
    5. State succession and membership
  4. Standard-setting by IOs
- Topic 3. Internal and external relations of International Organizations
  1. Institutional structures
    1. Organs and their decisions
    2. Creating subsidiary organs
    3. Delegation
  2. The international civil service
  3. Accountability
  4. External relations

#### Part II. Universal organizations: united nations system

- Topic 4. Origins and structure of United Nations Organization
  1. The creation of the UN
  2. San Francisco Conference: the UN Charter
  3. Purposes and principles
  4. Institutional structure
  5. Membership
- Topic 5. Main functions of United Nations Organization
  1. Peace and Security
  2. Development and economic co-operation
  3. Promotion and protection of human rights
  4. Codification and development of International law
  5. The Millennium Summit



- Topic 6. The UN system
  1. De-centralization and co-ordination
  2. Specialised agencies
  3. Other related organizations

### Part III. Regional organizations

- Topic 7. Political co-operation
  1. Council of Europe (CoE)
  2. Organization of American States (OAS)
  3. African Union (AU)
  4. Co-operation organizations in the Arabic Muslim world
  5. Other co-operation organizations in Asia and Oceania
- Topic 8. Economic co-operation and integration
  1. Organization For Economic Co-operation And Development (OECD)
  2. European Union (EU)
  3. American organizations (NAFTA, MERCOSUR, Andean Community, UNASUR)
  4. Other regional economic co-operation and integration organizations
- Topic 9. Security and defence
  1. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
  2. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
  3. Security and defence dimension of the European Union
  4. Other regional organizations and security and defence arrangements

### PRACTICAL SYLLABUS

Practical activities include, amongst others (to be detailed once the semester has started, depending on the number of students enrolled):

1. Group seminars
2. Pop-quizzes and discussions to assess the level of knowledge and understanding of the syllabus.
3. Group presentations and essays on given topics. The lecture and seminar timetable shall be published during the second week of classes

### RECOMMENDED READING

#### ESSENTIAL READING

- KLABBERS, J.: Advanced Introduction to the Law of International Organizations, Elgar Advanced Introductions series, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, 2015.
- CONFORTI, B.; FOCARELLI, C.: The Law and Practice of the United Nations, 5th rev. ed., Legal Aspects of International Organization Vol. 57, Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden, 2016.

#### COMPLEMENTARY READING

- DAVIES, M. and WOODWARD, R.: International Organizations. A companion, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, 2014.
- HURD, I.: International organizations: politics, law, practice, Cambridge University



Press, 2020.

- KLABBERS, J: An Introduction to International Organizations Law, 4th ed., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2022
- KLABBERS, J: The Cambridge Companion to International Organizations Law, Cambridge University Press, 2022.
- KLABBERS, J. and WALLEND AHL, A.: Research handbook on the law of international organizations, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, 2011.
- The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations, Edited by Thomas G. Weiss and Sam Daws, 2nd ed., Oxford Handbooks in Politics and International Relations, Oxford University Press, 2018.

## RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES/TOOLS

- [United Nations](#) (UN)
- [African Union](#) (AU)
- [Council of Europe](#) (CoE)
- [European Union](#) (EU)
- [Organization of American States](#) (OAS)

Other useful links:

- [UN Resources of the Dag Hammarsköld Library](#)
- [Publications of the European Society of International Law](#)
- [Resources of the American Society of International Law](#)
- [Links to a wide variety of resources ranging from news wires and newspapers to Government home pages and international institutions](#)

## TEACHING METHODS

- MD01 - Lecture/exhibition
- MD02 - Discussion and debate sessions
- MD05 - Field practicum
- MD07 - Seminars
- MD08 - Simulation exercises
- MD09 - Analysis of sources and documents
- MD10 - Group work
- MD11 - Individual work

## ASSESSMENT METHODS (Instruments, criteria and percentages)

### ORDINARY EXAMINATION DIET

Assessment in the course is carried out in the form of continuous assessment. Continuous assessment means assessing students' progress throughout their course, evaluating their course assignments, and participation in classes and seminars (literature review quizzes, role play, group projects, and presentations; all assignments are designed not just to test what you know, but to help you develop your knowledge, skills, and confidence), as well as through an end-of-term assessment). The course shall be evaluated by means of:



- Exams to be determined by the course instructors (either written or oral exams or a combination of both). This assessment component shall make for 60% of the final grade.
- Summative assessment: attendance, participation, dissertations, presentations. In particular, active participation in review-debate-quiz sessions, as well as individual and group assignments. This assessment component shall make for 40% of the final grade. Compulsory attendance applies to review sessions, seminars, and discussion classes. Lack of attendance or lack of effective and fruitful participation will be reflected in the final grade.

The grading system will reflect a numeric mark, according to article 5 of R. D. 1125/2003, September 5th, regulating the European Credit System and the grading system in official university degrees, valid in the whole Spanish territory. The final mark obtained by a student will be the average grade of all assessment activities applicable to a particular course. Students are strongly advised to carefully read the “Description of assessment”, available in PRADO.

NOTA BENE: Students who are not able, or not willing, to pass the exam may obtain a certificate of attendance. They **MUST** inform the lecturer at the beginning of the term and prove attendance to at least 80% of the lectures and seminars. Failure to do so at the beginning of the term precludes the issuance of such a certificate. • Students must be aware that, in order to pass the course, they have to pass the written exam, scheduled at the end of the term. There won't be any exception to this rule. Accordingly, it is useless to ask for any particular arrangement, such as “other type of assessment”, “an additional paper”, a different exam date, etc.

This course amounts to a total of 6 ECTS credits (45 lecture and seminars hours / 150 students' independent work hours) during the second term (September 2022- February 2023). The workload is divided as such: a) 30 hours of Lectures over 15 weeks b) 15 hours of Seminars over 15 weeks c) 150 hours of independent student research, reading, writing, tutorial, and virtual activities over 15 weeks In view of the plan adopted by the School of Political Science and Sociology, students will be split into two groups upon enrolment and will attend classes, both theoretical and practical, in said formation, either on-site or via videoconference, in accordance with the schedule published by the School on its official website. Please note that there will be no special arrangements on an individual basis. Students who are unable to attend the course throughout the entire term (including exams in June (first call) or July (resits) are strongly advised not to enroll.

### EXTRAORDINARY EXAMINATION DIET

Students shall sit an oral online exam. This will be conducted by means of an individual interview, during which the teachers shall ask both theoretical and applied questions covering the overall syllabus. The exam call shall indicate the time, tools, and means students may need to attend the online exam, as well as the assessment criteria. This exam shall account for 100% of the final grade.

### SINGLE FINAL ASSESSMENT (evaluación única final)

All students that have not followed the continuous assessment and been granted the right to sit the final exam shall be assessed by means of an oral exam. Teachers shall ask a minimum of three main questions, one for each part of the syllabus. Questions will cover the overall syllabus. The exam call shall indicate the time, tools, and means students may need to attend the oral exam, as well as the assessment criteria. This exam shall account for 100% of the final grade.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All teaching activities will encourage students' participation and commitment. They will be the following:

1. Lectures. Description: The lectures provide a broad overview of a topic, highlighting the main concepts included in the syllabus.
2. Classes or Seminars. Description: Classes or seminars are small group discussions and provide an opportunity to explore a topic in greater depth, leaving room for practical activities and coursework assessment. Teaching consists of a mixture of lectures and classes/seminars, running in parallel, in which students will work through questions and problems raised in the lectures and present and discuss their own results. Lectures are attended by all those taking the course. Classes or seminars are smaller, comprising at most half of the students enrolled at a given time. Within classes, however, certain activities shall be designed for a more reduced group of students. Lectures are not compulsory but are strongly recommended — with the exception of students that may require a certificate of attendance, in which case they must attend at least 80% of the total number, of course, hours, both lectures and seminars alike (see below, “Form of assessment”). Classes and seminars, however, are entirely mandatory and you will be expected to prepare and fully participate in every class you attend.
3. Individual activities (autonomous learning). Description: a) Activities intended to expand or deepen certain syllabus contents (e.g. a glossary); b) Autonomous study; c) Assessment activities (tests, oral presentations, exams) Aim: To foster the students' capability of planning, developing, and assessing their own learning efforts, as well as adapting them to their particular situation and/or interests.
4. Academic supervision. Description: inter-action “supervisor—student”. Aim: a) To offer support for the student's autonomous learning; b) to expand or deepen particular aspects of the syllabus content; c) to offer advice related to the student curriculum.

