

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	International Organizations and Geopolitical Issues	COURSE CODE:	POLS 500
PREREQUISITES:		SEMESTER:	SPRING 2017
INSTRUCTOR:	Jimmyn PARC, PhD	CREDITS:	3
EMAIL:	jimmynparc@gmail.com	SCHEDULE:	Tuesdays 17:30-20:30

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- This course helps students understand international organizations and their functions. Based on the acquired knowledge, this course tries to analyze the current reasons as to why international organizations have difficulties to achieve their missions.
- One class has two sessions: One from an expert who is engaged in international organizations directly and the other is wrap-up and intensive discussion.
- After analyzing reasons, students will talk about the relations with the business and possible solutions based on good analytical models.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students are required to learn business models to better analyze the real world activities.
- Presence in class is mandatory. More than 2 absences will lead to a failing grade.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students should be able to learn how to organize data, analyze them and prepare professionally in front of the class. This course is designed to prepare students for analytical and consulting skills.

MANDATORY TEXTBOOK:

- There are reading materials assigned for each class. Students must read the materials before class, so class can be conducted with discussion rather than by straight lecture.
- It is also recommended that students regularly read good business and economic publications such as WSJ, NYT, Economist, and other articles. Students are recommended to share their interests on real world case studies in class or in weekly summary (format example is in the end of this document).

EVALUATIONS:

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- Professionalism (25%)
- Class Contribution (25%)
- Final Group Presentation (25%)
- Final Exam (25%)

Grades will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

- Professionalism: Attendance and professional behavior in class. Students who miss more than two classes may not receive a grade. Two times of lateness will be counted as one absence. Any disturbance in class will also be reflected in your grade.
- Class Contribution: Students are required to read their assigned reading materials and hand in weekly summary before the class starts (form of Word/ no hand-written material). They are required to give critical evaluation on the weekly summary to share with classmates in class. Each group will be assigned with several reading materials. The presentations (20-25 min) should include possible extensions and real world business case studies. This is to let other students understand readily the reading materials.
- Final Group Presentation: Students are required to give final presentation to show their analytical and consulting skills as a group. The format is not fixed but it should be based on the reading materials covered in class. Every student in the groups should give a presentation. This can be also an extension to their class presentations or weekly summaries.
- Final Exam: The exam will be two hours long. The exam questions will be based on everything covered in class, including class presentations and discussions. This is to test analytical and consulting skills of students.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Dates	Session Content (Reading/Homework)
Session 1 (Jan. 31)	Introduction
Session 2 (Feb. 7)	<p>The World Trade Organization and geopolitical issues (1-hour special lecture by guest + 2-hour regular lecture)</p> <p>Prof. Tae-ho BARK: former Trade Minister of the Republic of Korea/ Professor at the Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University (candidate for director general of the WTO in 2013)</p> <p>WTO website: https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/tif_e.htm (from tariffs to plurilaterals)</p> <p>Kent Jones: http://www.voxeu.org/article/towards-new-wto-institutional-approach</p>
Session 3 (Feb. 14)	<p>The United Nations and geopolitical issues</p> <p>UNCTAD at 50s: http://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/osg2014d1_en.pdf</p>
Session 4 (Feb. 21)	<p>The World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) and geopolitical issues (1-hour special lecture by guest + 2-hour regular lecture)</p> <p>Prof. Patrick MESSERLIN: former Senior Economist at World Bank / Professor of economics, Sciences Po Paris</p> <p>The World Bank Group A to Z 2016, World Bank Publications (2015).</p>
Session 5 (Feb. 28)	<p>UNESCO and geopolitical issues (1-hour special lecture by guest + 2-hour regular lecture)</p> <p>Dr. Laurence Mayer-Robitaille: Programme Specialist, UNESCO</p> <p>Cuccia, T., Guccio, C. and Rizzo, I., (2015). The effects of UNESCO World Heritage List inscription on tourism destinations performance in Italian regions. Economic Modelling.</p> <p>Kozymka, I., (2014). The Diplomacy of Culture: The Role of UNESCO in Sustaining Cultural Diversity, Palgrave Macmillan.</p>
Session 6 (Mar. 7)	<p>OECD and geopolitical issues (1-hour special lecture by guest + 2-hour regular lecture)</p> <p>Dr. Sébastien MIROUDOT: Senior Trade Policy Analyst in the Trade in Services Division of the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate</p> <p>The precursor-The OECE: http://www.oecd.org/general/organisationforeuropeaneconomicco-operation.htm</p> <p>The OECD at 50s: http://www.oecd.org/about/47747755.pdf</p>
Session 7 (Mar. 14)	Final group presentations
Session 8 (Mar. 28)	Final exam

WEEKLY SUMMARY:

- Students must hand in weekly summary before the class starts (hard copy only!).
- Any students that will miss the class should hand in via their classmates.
- The format is as below.
- Weekly summary should be only one page!

Your name

Week number (eg., Week 01)

Summary of the assigned readings

- Uniqueness
- Main points

Evaluation

- Constructive evaluation
- Case studies