

Geneva Global Studies Program

Course Catalog: <http://www.unige.ch/gsi/bari.html>

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Global Studies Institute (GSI-International Relations)

International Geneva

This core course is required.

Thanks to the high concentration of international actors, Geneva is known as one of the capitals of global governance and therefore is a privileged place to analyze and critically assess its current dynamics. Moreover, the International Geneva attracts every year a lot of students coming from all around the world interested in learning more about the world of the international organizations and non-governmental organizations. It is however difficult to understand what is really at stake. Without a

basic and comprehensive background, the wealth of information is not sufficient for grasping what the main issues of global governance are. The objective of this module is to fill this gap by adding academic training to general information. On the one hand, the students will benefit from the extensive experience of well-known officials belonging to international organizations and non-governmental organizations. On the other hand, an analysis from professors will be offered. The pedagogical approach is based on interdisciplinarity (history, political science, economy and law). The following topics will be analyzed: 1. Historical paths of the International Geneva 2. Human Rights (United Nations Committee for Human Rights/United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) 3. Humanitarian Action/Humanitarian Law (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs /International Committee of the Red Cross /Federation of Red Cross societies) 4. International Trade and Development (World Trade Organization, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development/ United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) 5. Migrations, Refugees (International Organization for Migration/Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) 6. Global Health (World Health Organization) 7. Other UN specialized agencies (International Labour Organization, International Telecommunication Union, World Intellectual Property Organization).

[Economic Analysis in International Organization](#)

The course is an introduction to some major economic and development issues dealt with by international organizations. It provides some key factual, methodological and analytical elements that should contribute to a better understanding and appreciation of current work of international organizations and the underlying policy debates and motivations. Each lecture treats a specific topic that is part of the post-2015 Development Agenda.

Each lecture is organized in three parts. It starts with a series of well-established stylized facts. These facts are then used to illustrate a crucial methodological/conceptual issue related to the topic treated. The last part is dedicated to deeper analysis that reflects ongoing policy debates.

[Environmental Diplomacy](#)

This seminar explores the origins and dilemmas of diplomacy pertaining to the protection of humanity's natural environment (resources, habitat). Definitions, collective discussions of crucial texts, brief oral presentations, and interpretation of a few primary sources will form the basis of work. Besides initiating researchers into undertaking historical research, the main purpose is to enhance our understanding of how environmental diplomacy works. What are the issues, who are the main actors, what are their strategies, and how can we explain the outcomes of environmental diplomacy?

[International Environmental Law](#)

The protection of the global environment has become one of the major challenges of the international system. This course will explore the main concepts and principles of international environmental law. It will look at how international environmental law has emerged and developed, in particular by emphasizing the role and contribution of international courts and tribunals. The course will also deal specifically with the legal regimes that have been shaped in order to preserve the global environment in different fields (climate change, biodiversity, desertification, water, ozone, chemical products, air pollution, genetically modified organisms, nanotechnologies, etc.). With the emergence of the concept of sustainable development, international environmental law is now at the crossroads of different regimes. In this context, the course will analyze the relationship between international environmental

law and international trade (and/or investment) law as well as the relationship between international environmental law and human rights.

[International Institutional Law](#)

The establishment and development of international organizations is a major phenomenon of contemporary international society. This course aims to familiarize students with the law of international organizations: the founding treaties; the role of States; the functioning of the institutions; and terms of production and implementation of the law. The course will also develop a reflection on the functions of international organizations in contemporary international society within places of governance or regulation of the international community and within simple structured mechanisms of coordination of interstate relations. Active participation of students during the session is required.

[Law and Practice of EU Foreign Policy](#)

This advanced course in the Bachelor program on international relations focuses on the European Union and its role on the international scene. It aims at providing an overview of EU Foreign Policy in its variety. It addresses in particular the legal and policy framework of the EU external action providing an analysis of the competences and tools available to the EU to conduct its foreign policy, i.e. the conclusion of international agreements and the participation of the EU to other international organizations. The course also covers specific policies in which the EU plays an important role, such as Common Commercial Policy (CCP) and Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). The interaction between the EU and other international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Trade Organization will also be studied.

[Legitimate Force](#)

In 1919, sociologist Max Weber put forward an apt definition of the modern state: 'a human community that (successfully) claims the monopoly of the legitimate use of physical force within a given territory'. As this definition has come to dominate Western thought, we will explore the contours and boundaries of this idea with an attention on what sorts of force can be considered to be legitimate. To do so, we will look at the concept of legitimacy itself, positing that it indeed has a shape of legality, morality and efficacy that can steer our examination. Consequently, we will use international law as a preliminary guide for the cross-border exercise of force. And since the legitimacy of the government is hypothesized here to be a target in asymmetrical conflict, we will investigate contemporary force employed by the state for counterterrorism and discuss its legitimacy: i.e. detention, war-making, torture, the use of drones and invasions of privacy.

[Politics of Contemporary Africa](#)

This course provides an introduction to the study of politics in contemporary Africa. The focus will be on the historical dynamics of state formation since the establishment of colonial rule and on the relations between state and society. Students will be brought up to date with current debates on politics and the state in Africa. The course is structured both chronologically and thematically. We start with the legacies of colonial rule and move on to the formation of one-party states in the Cold War context, the crisis of modernization and the implementation of neo-liberal policies, the post-1990 democratization dynamics and their consequences, civil wars and the 'failure' of the State in the 1990s, and the current rhetoric of 'Africa Rising'.

Model United Nations Seminar

The principle objectives of the seminar are as follows :

- Becoming accustomed to the United Nations rules of procedure
- Gaining in-depth knowledge on contemporary United Nations issues
- Developing practical skills in negotiation, public speaking, writing & research.

The Model United Nations (MUN) seminar is an interactive course developed by Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN). MUN is the simulation of a United Nations committee or agency, where each participant represents a State or organization and advances their policies as they debate contemporary global issues. The seminar will be divided in two parts: theoretical and practical. In the first part of the semester, various theoretical element of MUN will be studied every week in the form of a traditional lesson with obligatory readings. This is to help the students understand the important elements of MUN simulation. In the second part of the semester, several contemporary global issues will be debated every week in mini-simulations. Each theme discussed is presented beforehand in a study guide prepared by groups of students from the beginning of the semester. Before every simulation, every student must prepare position papers corresponding to the State they are representing. The seminar simulates the United Nations General Assembly. The 3 topics of debate for this semester are: the question of Palestine, protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind and measures to eliminate international terrorism.

Digital Technologies, Europe and International Relations

This course explores the impact of digital technologies on international affairs. It provides some key factual and analytical elements that should contribute to a better understanding and appreciation of this new field of study. Digital technologies are increasingly recognized as a defining feature of contemporary world affairs. The web, social media, but also blockchain and AI affect public engagement and governance at European and international levels.

Geneva School of Economics and Management (GSEM)

International Macroeconomics

The aim of the course is to provide a good knowledge of the international financial system, of the factors determining large capital flows and the challenges that financial integration poses to economic policy. Competence is developed regarding: the functioning of financial markets; current account sustainability; exchange rate determination; financial crises. Students will acquire the basic skills for international macroeconomic analysis with special attention to policy issues.

The course is an introduction to macroeconomic issues and policies in open economies. After presenting the main concepts related to the external accounts, the first part deals with the implications of financial market integration, focusing on current account and global imbalances, the accumulation of foreign reserves, asset trade and portfolio diversification. The second part starts from equilibrium pricing in international financial markets, covered and uncovered interest parity conditions, and then reviews models of exchange rate determination in the short- and the long-run, their empirical validity and

implications for monetary policy. It also addresses important topics in international finance, such as: the choice of the exchange-rate regime; the determinants of international capital flows and sovereign yield spreads; currency crises; financial contagion; current account sustainability and sovereign debt crises. The course is completed by a seminar that takes place every two weeks.

[Microeconomics I](#)

By the end of the course, a student will be able to understand the basic concepts and techniques of microeconomic theory, and use these tools to think about a number of applied questions and policy-related issues such as competition and environmental policies.

Microeconomic theory is essential to the economist's toolkit. As a result, studying and understanding it is one of the key elements in the professional training of an economist. The course aims to introduce students to some of the fundamental ideas and tools of microeconomic theory. It covers topics such as consumer theory, producer theory, market equilibrium with perfect competition, monopoly, simple oligopoly models, general equilibrium, welfare, externalities, public goods'.

[Microeconomics II](#)

By the end of the course, a student will be able to understand the basics of Game Theory, solve simple problems, and use these techniques to think about a number of questions relevant for solving practical problems.

Game theory is the study of the interaction of rational decision makers. This theory has become a fundamental tool in the study of social interaction in economics, political science, management, sociology, computer science and other disciplines. This course is an introduction to game theory and strategic thinking. Ideas such as dominance, backward induction, Nash equilibrium, commitment, credibility, asymmetric information, adverse selection, and signaling are discussed and applied to examples drawn from economics, politics and management.

[Probability I](#)

The course gives the foundations of probability theory. First, the bases of probability theory are introduced (e.g., set theory, definition of sample space, axioms, definition of probability and its main properties). Then, the random variables, both discrete and continuous, are formally defined together with the quantities characterizing them (e.g., expected value as a measure of location and variance as a measure of dispersion). Moreover, the concept of transformation of a random variable is defined and different methods are introduced to derive the probability of the transformed random variable. The concepts of convergence in probability and convergence in distribution are introduced along with the weak law of large number, the central limit theorem. Finally, the bivariate discrete random variable is introduced. An illustrative lecture about numerical methods for simulation of random variable concludes the course.

[Introduction to Econometrics](#)

The aim of this class is to introduce the basic tools of econometric analysis. The class will focus on estimations using Ordinary Least Square, and the usual statistical tests associated with it. We will also focus on the empirical side of econometric analysis, and use real-world data to answer simple questions.

International Management

This course develops a fundamental understanding of the inherent dynamics of international management and explores the global environment within which business operate. It provides a comprehensive overview of the management decisions in the global environment and challenges student to analyze complex situations and develop recommendations for strategic decisions independently. Students learn to independently research an area relevant to international management and then to collate, synthesize, and structure an argument based on their understanding. Topics covered include international management techniques and decisions as well as successful and less successful strategies.