

AMERICAN COLLEGE PROGRAM



Université de Fribourg - Universität Freiburg

SURVEY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUMMER PROGRAM - SWITZERLAND (June 21 - July 19, 2020)

Academic Purpose

The *Survey of International Organizations (SIO)* provides students with an overview of the goals, functioning and significance of key international organizations in today's fast changing global environment. The course examines the achievements and failures of some of the world's most important economic, political and humanitarian organizations from an interdisciplinary perspective. The goal of the course is to equip participants with a well-rounded set of analytical tools that help them assess both the future role of international organizations in the 21st century and their past and present effectiveness in addressing important global challenges, including global economic crises, pandemic poverty, infectious diseases, climate change, wars, arms races, aid and development.

The structure of the *SIO* revolves around regular coursework and relevant field visits. The interdisciplinary course relates to various areas of study, including economics, political science, international relations and international law. The course program is divided into 4 main modules, i.e. International Law and Human Rights, International Economic Relations, The European Institutions, and Policy and Advocacy. Class meetings are held for four days, with a fifth day of each week reserved for a study trip allowing students to see the day-to-day operation and meet with senior representatives of major international organizations (schedule permitting), such as the United Nations, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labor Organization, the World Trade Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization and (all based in Geneva), as well as the E.U. Parliament, the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France. Students are granted opportunities to meet multiple experts from academic, politic and business environment.

The *SIO* offers students an intellectually stimulating, innovative and diverse program of study in a safe environment, with maximum exposure to the cultural and political life of contemporary Switzerland, Europe and the world of international diplomacy. Since lively discussion and instant exchange of opinions play an important role during all activities, the course provides students with a great opportunity to broaden their mind and see the current world key issues from the global perspective.

This is a 10 ECTS course, check with your home institution to see what their ECTS policy is. In addition to the course work, students may need to undertake a 2 ECTS guided research project to qualify for financial aid. If you are interested in doing additional research, contact us.

Course fees cover the following:

- Over 90 hours of contact time (lectures, small group discussions, site visits) and two individual tutorials for guided research project (if applicable)
- Breakfast and accommodation

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- Study-visits to the UN, UNHCR, ILO, WTO, WIPO, European Parliament, European Court of Human Rights, and the European Council (incl. transportation and hotel accommodation)

Interdisciplinary Focus, Multicultural Tradition, Unforgettable Experience

Successful operation in today's increasingly interdependent world, in particular in international organizations, requires interdisciplinary thinking. This course, through its interdisciplinary focus and method, provides participants with the intellectual tools necessary to thrive in today's rapidly global environment.

The course takes place in Fribourg, Switzerland - a charming medieval city in the heart of Europe, surrounded by majestic mountains, romantic lakes and nurturing forests. Fribourg is famous for its bilingualism (French and German), its long-standing multicultural and humanistic tradition (allowing the world's diverse races, religions and cultures to co-exist peacefully), and for its delicious Fondue (an intriguing hot soup made of melted cheese). This perfect location gives students also the unique opportunity to travel independently during the weekends to discover other charming places in Switzerland as well as in other European countries (like France, Italy or Germany). Both the stimulating course as well as the fascinating cultural environment in which it will take place provides the best guarantee for an unforgettable summer experience.

Sample Course Modules and Topics (see attached program)

International Law & Human Rights

- Human Rights
- The Role of International Organizations
- International Development
- The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- The United Nations Conference on Disarmament
- The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

International Economic Relations

- Multilateral Systems
- Swiss-US Economic Relations, Challenges and Perspectives
- Intellectual Property Rights in an International Context
- Local Currencies and Global Imbalances
- International Labor Organization
- The World Trade Organization

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The European Institutions

- The History and Main Developments of the European Union
- The European Neighborhood Policy and its Global Ramifications
- Institutional Law of the European Union
- The European Integration and Direct Democracy
- European Union Parliament
- Council of Europe
- European Court of Human Rights

Policy and Advocacy

- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Labor Market Impacts of the Economic and Financial Crisis
- Environmental Humanities, Sustainability and Justice
- Advocating Freedom of Expression
- Fundamentals of International Diplomacy

Course Schedule

Lectures are held daily from 9:00-12:00 and or 13:30-16:30, with discussions groups held in after the afternoon sessions. The remainder of the time is allotted to research, reading and preparation. Participants are given ample time to explore Fribourg, Switzerland, and Europe.

Assigned Readings

All assigned readings (*please check the annex*) are gathered in the especially prepared online SIO Course Reader.

Exams

All exams take place in class and grades are final. Midterm Exam: This 150 minute exam consists of a few short "fact checking" questions and two complex essay questions. Final Exam: This 180 minute exam consists of some short "fact checking" questions and three complex essay questions.

Grades

The midterm exam will account for 30% of the final grade. The in-class presentation will count for 10%. The final exam will account for 40%, while participation in class, discussion groups, and meetings with diplomats will account for 20%. There is paper requirement for the students from certain universities (10-12 page). It is possible to take the course pass/no pass. The passing grade is a C-.

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Accommodation & Food

Students will be accommodated in the “Cité St-Justin”, student housing directly adjacent to campus. Each student will have a private or shared room, furnished with a bed, desk and chair, and a sink. Bathroom facilities are shared. Students may choose from a wide range of eating options, as many restaurants are in close proximity to campus as well as to the dormitory. Breakfast and lunch meal (le menu étudiant) is at Mensa (University Cafeteria).

Travel Expenses

N.B. Travel expenses beyond those related to the numerous study-visit trips to Geneva and Strasbourg are not covered by the course fees.

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Assigned Readings

Module 1 - International Law & Human Rights

International Human Rights Law: An Introduction

- LANGLOIS, J. A. *Normative and Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights*.
- SMITH, R. K. M. *Human Rights in International Law*.

The Role of International Organizations & Global Solutions

- ZAGEL, G. M. *International Organizations and Human Rights: The Role of the UN Conventions in overcoming the Accountability Gap*, *Nordic Journal of Human Rights*, 36:1, 74-90.
- HEUPEL, M./HIRSCHMANN, G./ZURN, M. (2017) *International Organizations and Human Rights: What direct authority needs for its legitimation*, *Review of International Studies*, Vol. 44, part 2, pp. 343-366.
- PETERS, A. *International Organizations and International Law in: The Oxford Handbook of International Organizations* Edited by Jacob Katz Cogan, Ian Hurd, and Ian Johnstone.

Policy Making Considerations; the Perspective of Swiss Parliament

- *The Swiss Confederation – a brief guide 2019*, Federal Chancellery.

Module 2 - International Economic Relations

The World Trade Organization: A Peculiar Actor in Global Economic Governance

- CHARNOVITZ, S. (2011) A post-Montesquieu analysis of the WTO. In: Cottier, T. & Elsig, M. (eds). *Governing the World Trade Organization : Past, Present and beyond Doha : World Trade Forum*. Cambridge University Press.
- SANTANA, R., *70th Anniversary of the GATT*, 9(2) *TRADE L. & DEV.* 1 (2017).
- HAHN, M., LIECHTI-McKEE, R., PAYASOVA, T., SCLAPHFER, A., IMELL, B. *The Jurisprudence of the World Trade Organization in 2016*, 27 *Swiss. Rev. Int'l & Eur. L.* 265, 298 (2017)

The Role of a National Intellectual Property Office in an International Context

- CONLEY, J., *Trademarks, Not Patents: The real competitive advantage of the Apple iPod*.
- MACNEIL, B., *Copyright in the Digital Age: A Vital Tool for Artists*.
- *Hooked on Innovation*
- *Copyright in the Digital Age: A Vital Tool for Artists*, WIPO.
- KING, K., *The Value of Intellectual Property, Intangible Assets and Goodwill*.

How foreign aid is used strategically by donor countries

- ALESINA, A. & DOLLAR, D. (2000) Who gives foreign aid to whom and why? *Journal of Economic Growth*. 5 (1). pp. 33-63.
- DREHER, A., FUCHS, A. (2012) Rogue aid? On the importance of political institutions and natural resources for China's allocation of foreign aid, VOX CEPR's Policy Portal.
- KUZIEMKO, I. & WERKER, E. (2006) How much is a seat on the Security Council worth? Foreign aid and bribery at the United Nations. *Journal of Political Economy*. 114(5). pp. 905-930.

Swiss-US Economic Relations: Challenges and Perspectives

- DAHINDEN, M., *Swiss-American Relations: A view from Washington*
- BUISSIONNIER, A., WINTERHALTER, F., *Operating in a country that embraces tomorrow's new technological paradigm*
- BOSCH, R., SALADINO, L., *The Swiss Financial Center: Combining Innovation and Stability – A Regulatory Perspective*
- JANIK, M., *Hyperscale cloud: The Gotthard Tunnel into a digital future*

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- REPPAS, R. GRAMPP, M., BRANDES, D., ZOBRIST, L., How well Prepared are Switzerland and the US for driving digital innovation?

Local Currencies and Global Imbalances: the Roots of the Current Economic Crisis

- ROSSI, S. (2009) International payment finality requires a supra-national Central-Bank money: reforming the international monetary architecture in the spirit of Keynes. *China-USA Business Review*. 8 (11).
- ROSSI, S. (2010) The 2007-9 Financial Crisis: an Endogenous-Money View. *Studi e Note di Economia*. Anno XV. n. 3. pp. 413-430.
- ROSSI, S. (2011) Can It Happen Again? Structural policies to avert further Systemic Crises *International Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 40, no. 2, Summer 2011, pp. 63-80.

Module 3 - The European Institutions

Workshop: European Union

Institutional Law of the European Union

- CRAIG, P. (2011) Institutions, Power, and Institutional Balance. In: Craig, P. & Burca (eds). *The Evolution of EU Law*, Oxford University Press.
- MASCOLO, G. & LEICK, R. (2012) European Luminaries Reflect on Euro. "Seventeen Countries Were Far Too Many". *Spiegel Online*, 9th November.
- SWISS CONFEDERATION. FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (2019) *The European Union*.

European Integration and Direct Democracy: Anti-European Movements on the Surge?

- EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. (2014) *Press Release: Expulsion of an Ecuadorian whose wife and daughter are to stay in Switzerland would be unjustified*. ECHR 201. July 2014.
- EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. (2014) *Press Release: French ban on the wearing in public of clothing designed to conceal one's face does not breach the Constitution*. ECHR 191 (2014). July 2014.
- EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. (2014) *Press Release: Judgements concerning Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Turkey*. ECHR 199. July 2014.
- HUG, S. & SCIARINI, P. (2000) Referendums on European Integration: Do Institutions Matter in the Voter's Decision?. *Comparative Political Studies*. 33(1). pp. 3-36.
- KAUFMANN, B. *The European Referendum Challenge: From French Revolution to European Integration. Facts, Views, and Prospects*, International Symposium on Initiatives, Referendums, and Direct Democracy.

EU-Swiss Relations

- KULEWSKA, E., (2013) *Do the Swiss not want to join the EU? Swiss Referenda on European integration*, Research Gate
- FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, *Switzerland and the European Union*
- EU, *The European Economic Area (EEA), Switzerland and the North*

Module 4 - Policy and Advocacy

Corporate Service & Responsibility ("CSR") across the "Supply Chain"

- CARROLL, A. & SHABANA, M. K. (2010) The Business Case for Corporate Social Responsibility: A Review of Concepts, Research and Practice. *International Journal of Management Reviews*. pp. 85-105.
- GRANT THORNTON INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS REPORT (2011) *Corporate Social Responsibility: the Power of Perception*.
- KEYS, T., MALNIGHT, T. & VAN DER GRAAF, K. (2009) Making the most of corporate social responsibility. *McKinsey Quarterly*.

Global Compact

- UN Global Compact. Available from: <http://globalcompactfoundation.org/about-ungc.php> [Accessed: 26th June 2015]

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■ SCHERER, A.G. & PALAZZO, G. (2011). The new political role of business in a globalized world: A review of a new perspective on CSR and its implications for the firm, governance, and democracy. *Journal of Management Studies*, 48 (4). pp. 899-931.

■ *THE ECONOMIST* (2015) Corporate social responsibility. The halo effect. June 27th. Available from: <http://www.economist.com/news/business/21656218-do-gooding-policies-help-firms-when-they-get-prosecuted-halo-effect?frsc=dg%7Ca> [Accessed: 26th June 2015]

Policy and Advocacy in the 21st Century