

**San José State University**  
**Political Science Department**  
**Political Science 152A: International Organizations and NGOs**

### **Course and Contact Information**

Instructor:	Dr. Danijela Dudley
Office Location:	virtual (via zoom)
Email:	danijela.dudley@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00-2:00pm via zoom, and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	online
Classroom:	online
Prerequisites:	Pols 4 recommended

### **Course Description**

From the catalog: Examines the structures and functions of different types of international organizations (such as the UN, NATO, regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations), and their role in maintaining international peace and security, promoting human rights and economic development, and protecting the environment.

International organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, play an increasingly prominent role in efforts to resolve a wide range of global problems and are important elements in the current system of global governance. This course explores institutional structures, political processes, and impact of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations within the larger context of world politics.

The course will examine the structures and functions of different types of international organizations (such as the United Nations, NATO, the European Union, and non-governmental organizations) and explore their role in maintaining international peace and security, and promoting human rights and economic development. From this course, students will develop an understanding of the field of international organizations and international relations in general. They will understand different types of international organizations as well as their institutional structures, decision-making processes, roles, and functions in the contemporary world.

### **Course Format**

This course is an asynchronous online course delivered through the Canvas learning management system—all readings, lectures, and assignments are delivered and will be completed online. **Students must have access to a computer and reliable internet connection to be successful in this course.**

While this course does not have a zoom component, students will need an electronic device with a webcam for office hours and for two groups activities on zoom. For office hours and group activities, students are required to turn on their video. SJSU has a free [equipment loan program](https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php) available for students (<https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php>).

## Canvas Course Page

Course materials such as syllabus, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) (<http://sjsu.instructure.com>). **You are responsible for regularly accessing the Canvas course website to read any required materials and complete assignments. You are also responsible for regularly checking Canvas for any announcements.** Make sure that Canvas has your current email address. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources) ([http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student\\_resources](http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources)). For technical problems with Canvas, please contact [eCampus](https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/>).

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1: Demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical approaches to the study of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (assessed through exams and quizzes);

CLO 2: Identify and distinguish different types of international organizations and demonstrate knowledge of the structure and functions of key international organizations (assessed through exams, quizzes, and group activities);

CLO 3: Evaluate and critically analyze the role of key international organizations in shaping international political outcomes in different issue-areas such as international peace and security, human rights, and development (assessed through exams, quizzes, case study, and group activities);

CLO 4: Understand the interactions, and decision-making processes that occur in the complex world of international organizations (assessed through group activities and discussion board posts);

CLO 5: Conduct original research, critically analyze the literature, and propose original solutions to contemporary problems involving international organizations (assessed through case study);

CLO 6: Discuss and debate major issues related to international organizations (assessed through group activities and discussion board posts).

## Political Science Program Learning Outcomes (PSPLO)

Upon completion of the Political Science major program, students should be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

PSPLO 1 Breadth: Students should possess a broad knowledge of the theory and methods of the various branches of the discipline.

PSPLO 2 Application and Disciplinary Methods: Students should be able to formulate research questions, engage in systematic literature searches using primary and secondary sources, evaluate research studies, and critically analyze and interpret influential political texts. Students should be able to apply these techniques to identify, understand, and analyze domestic and international political issues and organizations.

PSPLO 3 Communication Skills: Students should master basic competencies in oral and written communication skills and be able to apply these skills in the context of political science. This means communicating effectively about politics and/or public administration, public policy, and law.

PSPLO 4 Citizenship: Students should acquire an understanding of the role of the citizen in local, state, national, and global contexts and appreciate the importance of lifelong participation in political processes.

## **Required Texts/Readings**

### **Textbook**

Pease, Kelly-Kate S.. (2018). *International Organizations: Perspectives on Global Governance* (6th edition). New York: Routledge. ISBN: 9780815380467.

The text is available for purchase from the Spartan Bookstore or from various online retailers. Other readings and videos will be available through Canvas.

## **Course Requirements and Assignments**

This course is divided into 9 modules, grouped by topics. Most modules last two weeks, but this varies during exam weeks (see course schedule at the end of this syllabus). Most of the modules contain assigned readings, lecture videos, a discussion board thread, a quiz, and/or activity. Please note that some modules will have both a quiz and an activity and some will have only one of these.

### **Discussion board posts and replies (15% of the course grade)**

You will participate in 7 graded threaded discussions throughout the semester (there are other non-graded discussions). In each graded discussion you will be expected to make 3 posts: your initial post (minimum 200 words) and replies to at least two of your classmates (minimum 100 words each).

The nature of discussion topics will vary. You may be asked to analyze a concept from assigned readings, to watch a video and comment on it, to find contemporary examples of concepts discussed in class, and similar. Please note that many discussion topics will require some prep work; as a result, I recommend checking discussion thread instructions as soon as they are available (generally a week before your initial post is due).

Your posts should be well written and directly answer the question(s) being asked. Each initial post should have: 1) a clear thesis that summarizes your answer to the question; 2) a detailed explanation of your thesis supported by evidence (such as examples); and 3) proper APA citation of any sources used, whether from assigned readings or from additional research (please note that all sources must be cited both in text and in references and that plagiarized posts will be penalized). Please make sure that long posts are separated into logical paragraphs (in other words, do not post a wall of text).

Posts and replies are graded based on their 1) content (originality of the posts and the extent to which they answer the question(s) being asked and provide detailed and relevant explanation and examples); 2) formatting (posts are broken down into sensible paragraphs; all sources are cited properly both in text and in references); 3) civility (posts are written in language appropriate for academic discussions and don't use profanities, offensive remarks, personal attacks, and similar; replies to classmates are respectful); and 4) timeliness (late initial posts are penalized 25% for each started 24-hour period; late replies to classmates are not allowed and no makeups are allowed).

Deadlines and detailed instructions for each discussion thread are available on Canvas. Please note that I may reply to your posts if I have comments or concerns. My responses are intended to improve your thread, and as such should not be taken as personal attacks.

### **Activities (20% of the course grade)**

There will be 4 online activities which will vary in their nature and will consist of the following:

2 groups discussions on zoom: for two online activities, you will work in groups of 4. Your group will meet on zoom, discuss a specific topic, and find/propose a solution to a problem. You will record the meeting and submit it on Canvas.

Peer review: you will read drafts of case studies written by other students in your group and will provide detailed feedback.

Plagiarism tutorial and quiz: you will complete a plagiarism tutorial and will take a plagiarism quiz.

For each activity detailed instructions will be posted on Canvas one to two weeks before they are due.

### **Exams (30% of the course grade)**

There will be 2 exams which will consist of a variety of question types and may include multiple-choice, short-answer, and/or essay questions. Exam 1 will cover the material from modules 1-4. Exam 2 will cover the material from modules 6-8.

Both exams will be administered on Canvas. They will be open-notes and open-book exams, but you will not be allowed to collaborate with other students in completing them. Both exams will be timed.

### **Quizzes (15% of the course grade)**

There will be 5 quizzes which will vary in format and may include short answer, multiple choice, and essay questions. Specifics on the format and the material to be covered will be provided one week before each quiz. Quizzes are open-notes and open-book, but you are not allowed to collaborate with classmates in completing them. Quizzes will be timed.

### **Case Study (20% of the course grade)**

You will write a case study research paper on a case of your choice. You will select one current or recent international case deserving attention of one or more international organizations (IOs) and analyze the issue and its importance for world politics, explain and critically analyze the IO's response, and offer suggestions for future responses to similar cases. The case study should be 1,500-1,700 words. More detailed instructions will be provided in a separate handout available on Canvas.

You will submit a paper proposal which will include your thesis, a brief description of how you intend to develop your argument, and a preliminary list of references of at least 4 sources you intend to use in your paper. You will also participate in a peer-review of paper draft.

### **Final Examination or Evaluation**

University policy S17-1 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) states that "Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment." The culminating activity in this course is a case study paper which is due during the assigned final exam period.

### **University Policy Regarding Workload**

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus." Because this is a four-unit course, you can expect to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week on scheduled tutorials, assignments, and/or activities. This additional unit will allow for more in-depth investigation and engagement with course topics. Careful time management will help you keep up with readings and assignments and enable you to be successful in all your courses.

## Assignment weights and due dates (dates subject to change with fair notice)

**Note on assignment deadlines:** all assignments are due by 5:00pm on the day they are assigned.

Assignment	% of grade	Due date(s)	CLOs
Discussion board posts and replies	15% total	August 31 (post), September 3 (replies) September 8 (post), September 11 (replies) September 22 (post), September 25 (replies) October 6 (post), October 9 (replies) October 27 (post), October 30 (replies) November 10 (post), November 14 (replies) November 24 (post), November 30 (replies)	4, 6
Activities	20% total	September 14 October 12 November 2 November 30: case study draft; December 3: peer review	2-4, 6
Exams	30% total	October 23 December 7	1-3
Quizzes	15% total	September 4 September 18 October 2 November 6 November 20	1-3
Case study	20% total	December 10	3,5

### Late Work

**Discussion board (initial posts):** initial posts can be submitted late but will incur a 25% penalty for each started 24-hour period (starting at 5:01pm on the day they are due).

**Discussion board (replies to classmates):** no late replies to classmates are allowed. The thread will close at 5:01pm on the day replies is due and no further submissions will be allowed.

**Activities:** late plagiarism quiz will be penalized 25% for each started 24-hour period (starting at 5:01pm); **group discussions and peer reviews will not be accepted late and cannot be made up**, regardless of the excuse.

**Exams and quizzes:** exam and quiz make-ups are only given in cases of medical or family emergencies, in accordance with the university's policy on excused absences. In these cases, proper documentation must be provided. Please note that if you are making up an exam or a quiz, it will be different from the exam taken by the rest of the class. As a result, you must notify me immediately if you have an emergency because I will need additional time to write a new exam for you.

**Case study:** case study paper can be submitted late but will incur a 25% penalty for each started 24-hour period (starting at 5:01pm on the day the paper is due).

## Grading Information

All assignments are graded based upon a percentage system, which can be converted to letter grades. For example, if an assignment is out of 100 points, 97-100 is an A+, 93-96.9 is an A, 90-92.9 is an A-, and so on. All assignments and exams total 100% of the course grade. The same letter grade distribution applies to the final course grade as it does for each assignment.

Grade	Percentage
A plus	97 to 100%
A	93 to 96.9%
A minus	90 to 92.9%
B plus	87 to 89.9 %
B	83 to 86.9%
B minus	80 to 82.9%
C plus	77 to 79.9%
C	73 to 76.9%
C minus	70 to 72.9%
D plus	67 to 69.9%
D	63 to 66.9%
D minus	60 to 62.9%

## Discussion Board and Group Activities Protocol

The purpose of discussion in this course is to provide a forum in which students can safely and supportively ask questions, present and debate their ideas, receive and interpret new information and perspectives, and develop and clarify their thinking. While you will likely be passionate about some issues discussed in class, it is essential to be respectful to others and their opinions. Offensive remarks or attacks of personal nature will not be tolerated.

## Public Sharing of Instructor Material

**Students are prohibited from distributing, sharing, or posting class lectures, slides, exams, or any other instructional materials.** Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, exams, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. [University policy S12-7](#) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

## Academic Dishonesty

Students who are suspected of cheating during an exam/quiz/assignment will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

## Library Liaison

The library liaison for Political Science is available to answer questions and provide one-on-one help using the library for research. His name is Paul Kauppila and his email is [paul.kauppila@sjsu.edu](mailto:paul.kauppila@sjsu.edu).

## University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policies concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc., and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## Course Communication and Help

If you have questions or need help with class, don't hesitate to talk to me. Here are several ways to contact me:

**Office hours:** the best way to communicate with me is during my office hours. I will have office hours via zoom on Mondays and Wednesdays 1-2pm. The link will be posted on Canvas. When you click on the link, you will be placed in a virtual waiting room. If I am not already talking to another student, you will be immediately allowed into the meeting. If I am in a meeting with another student, you will wait until I am done and can let you into the "office." When logging into the office hours, make sure your zoom name is your actual name as it appears on the class roster.

I recommend using office hours for most issues, as this is the best way to get the most complete answers to your questions. If you are not available during my office hours, let me know what your schedule looks like and we'll figure out an alternative time to meet.

**Email:** email should be used only for quick inquiries. I will generally reply to your emails within 24 hours, except on weekends and holidays (I don't check my email on weekends or holidays). Please note that email should not be used for substantive issues where extensive communication is needed (such as discussing paper topics or explaining concepts from the material) or for confidential issues (such as discussing grades, personal issues, and similar, because email is not considered a confidential form of communication).

**Q&A discussion thread:** I will keep a Q&A discussion board on canvas for the entirety of the semester. Any questions that might also be of concern to other students should be posted there (nothing confidential please). For example, questions about paper format, structure/requirements of different assignments, deadlines, and similar, would be beneficial to other students as well. I will check the Q&A discussion board several times per week (on weekdays). If you know the answer to a question posed by another student, feel free to reply.

**Casual hour:** on several occasions throughout the semester, I will host a "casual hour" on zoom. These will be less formal office hours that will be open to all students at the same time (you will not be placed in a waiting room and can simply join and leave as you please). This time can be used to discuss anything you want, such as review the material, discuss current events, explain assignments, or anything else. Dates and times of each casual hour will be posted on Canvas.

## The Fine Print

Information in this syllabus can be changed with fair notice. Any changes will be announced through Canvas. It is your responsibility to sign into Canvas regularly and check for any important announcements and updates

# POLS 152A/International Organizations and NGOs

## Fall 2020 Course Schedule

### Notes on course reading assignments:

“Pease” refers to the main course textbook. Other readings either have links which you can use to access them or have been uploaded to the Canvas course page.

The best way to keep track of assigned readings is to follow the modules on Canvas. Everything is uploaded/listed in the appropriate module.

Please note page numbers for assigned readings: if no page numbers are listed, you are required to read the entire chapter/article. If page numbers are listed, you are only required to read those pages.

I recommend you complete the readings in the order they are listed.

### Note on assignment submission deadlines:

All assignments are due by 5:00pm on the day they are assigned. Late penalties (for assignments which can be submitted late) apply to all submissions starting at 5:01pm.

<b>POLS 152a Fall 2020 Course Schedule</b> <b>Subject to change with fair notice</b>		
<b>Module</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
0	August 19-21	<p><b>Course introduction</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read course syllabus and welcome messages on Canvas</li> </ul>
1	Aug 24-Sept 4	<p><b>The basics: Introduction to global governance and theories of international relations</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karns, Mingst, Stiles. (2015). <i>International organizations: the politics and processes of global governance</i>. Read pages 1-19 and 25-32 (on Canvas)</li> <li>• Pease, chapter 1</li> <li>• Pease, chapter 2, pages 16-18</li> <li>• Pease, chapter 3, pages 55-60 and 67-72</li> <li>• Pease, chapter 4, pages 84-88 and 100-102</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Discussion board #1:</b> posts due August 31, replies due September 3</p> <p><b>Quiz #1:</b> September 4</p>



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Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
2	Sept 8-18	<p><b>The United Nations</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pease, chapter 2, pages 18-24</li> <li>• Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, &amp; Pease. (2018). <i>The United Nations and changing world politics</i>. Read pages 2-17 (on Canvas)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Charter of the United Nations</a>. Read chapters 1-8</li> <li>• Albright, Madeleine. (2012). <a href="#">Who Broke the U.N.?</a> <i>Foreign Policy</i>.</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Discussion board #2:</b> posts due September 8, replies due September 11</p> <p><b>Activity #1</b> (recorded group discussion): due September 14</p> <p><b>Quiz #2:</b> September 18</p>
3	Sept 21-Oct 2	<p><b>Regional intergovernmental organizations</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pease, chapter 2, pages 25-30</li> <li>• How to save Europe. (2017). <i>The Economist</i>. (on Canvas)</li> <li>• Pease, chapter 6, pages 157-180</li> <li>• Wright. (2016). <a href="#">What does NATO do, anyway?</a> <i>The New Yorker</i>.</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Discussion board #3:</b> posts due September 22, replies due September 25</p> <p><b>Quiz #3:</b> October 2</p>
4	Oct 5-16	<p><b>Non-governmental organizations</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pease, chapter 2, pp. 37-40</li> <li>• <a href="#">NGOs: A long and turbulent history</a>. <i>The Global Journal</i>.</li> <li>• Kerstin. (2002). Mission Impossible? Defining Nongovernmental Organizations. <i>Voluntas</i>. (on Canvas)</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Discussion board #4:</b> posts due October 6, replies due October 9</p> <p><b>Activity #2</b> (plagiarism quiz): due October 12</p>

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Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	Oct 19-23	<p><b>Exam review and exam</b></p> <p><b>Exam 1: October 23</b></p>
6	Oct 26-Nov 6	<p><b>Peace and security</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pease, chapter 5, pp. 107-154</li> <li>• <i>United Nations peacekeeping operations: Principles and guidelines.</i> (2008). Read pages 17-43 (on Canvas)</li> <li>• United Nations. (2020). <a href="#">Peace and security</a>.</li> </ul> <p><u>Videos:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Ghosts of Rwanda</a>. PBS Frontline. Watch all 7 video excerpts.</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Discussion board #5:</b> posts due October 27, replies due October 30</p> <p><b>Activity #3</b> (recorded group discussion): due November 2</p> <p><b>Quiz #4:</b> November 6</p>
7	Nov 9-20	<p><b>Human rights and humanitarian affairs</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pease, chapter 10, pp. 289-323</li> <li>• United Nations Human Rights Council. <a href="#">Basic facts about the UPR</a>.</li> <li>• <a href="#">The Universal Declaration of Human Rights</a>. (1948).</li> <li>• <a href="#">International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</a>. (1966).</li> <li>• <a href="#">International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</a>. (1966).</li> </ul> <p><u>Videos:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Desperate journey: Europe's refugee crisis</a>. Human Rights Watch.</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Paper proposal:</b> due November 9</p> <p><b>Discussion board #6:</b> posts due November 10, replies due November 14</p> <p><b>Quiz #5:</b> November 20</p>

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Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
8	Nov 23-Dec 4	<p><b>Global economic relations</b></p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pease, chapter 7</li> <li>• Pease, chapter 8</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p><b>Discussion board #7:</b> posts due November 24, replies due November 30</p> <p><b>Activity #4</b> (peer review): case study drafts due November 30, review due December 3</p>
9	December 7	<b>Exam 2: December 7</b>
	December 10	<b>Case study: due December 10</b>