

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

Course and contact information

Instructor:	Dr. Danijela Dudley
Office Location:	Clark Hall 449
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Office Hours:	Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00-1:00pm
Class Days/Time:	Mondays & Wednesdays 1:30-2:45pm
Classroom:	DMH 149A
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. 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, protecting human rights, and promoting economic development.

Course format

This is an in-person class with regularly scheduled meeting times. We will meet each Monday and Wednesday at 1:30-2:45pm in DMH 149A.

Students must have access to an electronic device (computer, laptop, tablet) and reliable internet connection to access course materials and submit assignments. 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 page to access course materials, complete assignments, and check for announcements.** Make sure that Canvas has your current email address. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources](https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/software-tools/teaching-tools/canvas/student-resources/index.php) page (<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/software-tools/teaching-tools/canvas/student-resources/index.php>). For technical problems with Canvas, please contact [eCampus](https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/how-we-can-help/contact-us.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/how-we-can-help/contact-us.php>).

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 (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 (exams, quizzes, and case study);

CLO 3: Evaluate and critically analyze the role of key international organizations in shaping international political outcomes in various issue-areas (case study, UN simulation, and analysis);

CLO 4: Understand the interactions, and decision-making processes that occur in the complex world of international organizations (UN simulation and UN analysis);

CLO 5: Conduct original research, critically analyze the literature, and propose original solutions to contemporary problems (assessed through case study, country profile, and UN simulation);

CLO 6: Discuss and debate major issues related to international organizations (UN simulation and participation).

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 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.. (2019). *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.

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.

Course requirements and assignments

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, fill-in-the-blanks, short-answer, and essay questions. Exam 1 (Wednesday October 5 at 1:30pm) will cover the material from weeks 1-7; exam 2 (Wednesday November 16 at 1:30pm) will cover the material from weeks 8-13.

Quizzes (10% of the course grade)

There will be 2 quizzes which will vary in format and may include short answer, map, essay, and multiple choice questions. Specifics on the format and the material to be covered will be provided one week before each quiz. Quizzes will be administered in class on September 12 and October 19.

Case study (10% of the course grade)

You will write a 1,000-word case study on a current issue of your choice. You will select one ongoing (international) issue deserving attention of one inter-governmental organization (IGO) and 1) analyze the issue and its effects on world politics, 2) explain and critically analyze the IGO’s response, and 3) consider possible solutions. More detailed instructions will be provided in a separate handout.

United Nations simulation (15% of the course grade)

Students will participate in a simulated United Nations negotiation. Each student will be assigned a country and must work within the United Nations to advance their country’s interests through negotiations with other countries on a peace and security issue affecting the world. You are expected to research your assigned country’s policies and positions on the issue in question. UN simulation will be held in class on November 21, November 28, November 30, and December 5.

Country profile (10% of the course grade)

In preparation for the UN simulation, each student is expected to research their assigned country’s policies and positions and submit a 700-word country profile. The profile should explain 1) the general political situation in the country, 2) its relationship with and attitude toward the issue being discussed, and 3) relationship with and involvement in the United Nations. Additional details will be provided in a separate handout.

UN analysis (15% of the course grade)

Based on the material learned throughout the semester and the outcome of the UN simulation, each student will write a 1,000-word analysis of the United Nations and its effectiveness. You will assess your experience as a member of the United Nations and as a delegate of your selected country. In addition, you will evaluate the effectiveness of the United Nations in managing global affairs. Additional guidelines will be provided in a separate handout.

Participation (10% of the course grade)

Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings, ready to discuss them, and prepared to participate in class activities. Class meetings will regularly include discussions and various

group or individual activities (such as completing a short write-up related to that day’s topic, finding a solution to an issue, researching contemporary examples of an issue discussed in class, and similar). Students may be called by name to address concepts from the readings and lectures. Your participation grade will be based on the frequency and quality of your contributions to class discussions and participation in and completion of in-class activities.

Final examination or evaluation

[University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) (<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 UN analysis, which is due during the assigned final exam period.

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

Assignment	% of grade	Due date(s)	CLOs
Exams	30% total	October 5 November 16	1-2
Quizzes	10% total	September 12 October 19	1-2
Case study	10% total	September 28	2,3,5
Country profile	10% total	November 2	5
UN simulation	15% total	November 21 – December 5	3-6
UN Analysis	15% total	December 13	3-4
Participation	10% total	recorded each class meeting	6

Late work

Please read carefully as late policies vary by assignment type:

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 quiz/exam for you.

Case study, country profile, and analysis can be submitted up to 24 hours late without penalty. After that, late submissions will incur a 10% penalty for each started 24-hour period. Important note: the 24-hour grace period exists to account for any emergencies that may prevent you from submitting the assignment when it is due. Please note that if an assignment is due on Wednesday, you should only submit it on Thursday if you have an emergency on Wednesday. No extensions will be offered for emergencies that occur on the grace period day (the day after the assignment was due).

UN simulation and participation: please note that because of the nature of these assignments, no extensions can be granted for UN simulation and class participation. If you have a documented emergency which prevents you from completing one or more days of UN simulation, make sure to talk to me as soon as possible (ideally before you miss any simulation days) to figure out a plan for moving forward.

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%

Classroom 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. Class meetings will not be recorded.

Please arrive to class on time and stay for the entire period. Late arrivals and/or early departures are disruptive to everyone. Absolutely no use of cell phones during class.

Attendance

Attendance, in and of itself, will not be graded. However, regular attendance is crucial to your success in this course. Lectures will emphasize the most important points, help you make sense of the readings, and will contain information on issues/concepts that did not receive adequate attention in the readings. While they will address some themes presented in the course readings, they will also include additional information that you may not find in the readings but which you will be expected to know for exams, quizzes, and assignments. In addition, class meetings will be an opportunity to ask questions about the material and course assignments, clarify expectations, and similar.

Finally, while attendance is not graded, participation in class discussions and activities is graded: if you are not present, you can't participate and engage with in-class activities.

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 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. Essy Barosso-Ramirez, library liaison for political science, can be reached via email at essy.barosso-ramirez@sjsu.edu and via phone at 408-808-2041.

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>), 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.

Office hours and email policy

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

Office hours: the best way to communicate with me is during my office hours. I will have regular office hours on Mondays 12-1pm in Clark 449. 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 one business day (generally 24 hours except on weekends and 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.

The fine print

Information in this syllabus can be changed with fair notice. Any changes will be announced in class or 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 2022 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.

POLS 152A Fall 2022 Course Schedule Subject to change with fair notice		
Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	August 22 August 24	Course introduction <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read course syllabus The basics: Introduction to global governance <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karns, Mingst, Stiles. (2015). <i>International organizations: the politics and processes of global governance</i>. Read pages 1-19 and 25-32 (on Canvas)• Pease, chapter 1, pages 1-4• Pease, chapter 2, pages 16-18
2	August 29-31	International organizations and theories of international relations <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pease, chapter 3, pages 47-73• Pease, chapter 4, pages 76-88 and 100-103
3	September 5	Labor Day, no class on September 5

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Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	September 7	<p>The United Nations</p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 2, pages 18-24 • Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease. (2018). <i>The United Nations and changing world politics</i>. Read pages 2-17 (on Canvas) <p><u>Assignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country selection for UN simulation
4	September 12-14	<p>The United Nations (continued)</p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter of the United Nations. Read chapters 1-8 • Albright, Madeleine. (2012). Who Broke the U.N.? Foreign Policy. <p><u>Podcast:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Economist Asks: Is the United Nations Fit for Purpose. (2022). <i>The Economist</i>. <p><u>Assignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #1: September 12 at 1:30pm
5	September 19-21	<p>Regional intergovernmental organizations</p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 2, pages 25-30 • Pease, chapter 6, pages 157-180 • Wright. (2016). What does NATO do, anyway? <i>The New Yorker</i>.
6	September 26-28	<p>Non-governmental organizations</p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 2, pp. 37-40 • NGOs: A long and turbulent history. <i>The Global Journal</i>. • Martens. (2002). Mission Impossible? Defining Nongovernmental Organizations. <i>Voluntas</i>. (on Canvas) <p><u>Assignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study due September 28 by noon

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Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
7	October 3 October 5	Catching up and exam 1 review Exam 1 October 5 at 1:30pm
8	October 10-12	Peace and security <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 5, pp. 107-154 • <i>United Nations peacekeeping operations: Principles and guidelines.</i> (2008). Read pages 17-43 (on Canvas)
9	October 17-19	Peace and security (continued) <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations. (2022). Peace and security. <u>Video:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghosts of Rwanda. PBS Frontline. <u>Assignment:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #2: October 19 at 1:30pm
10	October 24-26	Human rights and humanitarian affairs <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 10, pp. 289-323 • United Nations Human Rights Council. Basic facts about the UPR. • Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights (1966), and International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights (1966) <u>Video:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desperate journey: Europe's refugee crisis. Human Rights Watch.
11	October 31 – November 2	Global economic relations: trade <u>Readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 7 <u>Assignment:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country profile due November 2 by noon

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Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
12	November 7-9	<p>Global economic relations: development</p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pease, chapter 8 • United Nations. (2022). The Sustainable Development Goals Report. Read pages 2-25 (on Canvas)
13	November 14 November 16	<p>Catching up and exam 2 review</p> <p>Exam 2 November 16 at 1:30pm</p>
14	November 21 November 23	<p>UN simulation (in class)</p> <p>Thanksgiving holiday, no class on November 23</p>
15	November 28-30	UN simulation (in class)
16	December 5	UN simulation (in class)
	December 13	UN analysis due Tuesday December 13 by 12:15pm