

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration
Professorship for International and European Politics
(Prof. Dr. Monika Heupel)



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Office hours: by arrangement

Winter Term 2020/21

Seminar (BA):

International Institutions and their Role in Global Governance

ECTS: 6

Date: Tuesdays, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Room: the course will take place via the online platform Zoom

The globalized world is characterized by an increasing number of transnational challenges and problems like climate change, financial crises or security threats that cannot be solved by national states unilaterally. Therefore, states create international institutions that enable cooperation among them in the international system. Nowadays, almost all areas of international politics are regulated by international institutions and their number and scope continues to expand. However, international institutions are organized in very different ways and show mixed results in achieving their goals.

The aim of this undergraduate seminar is to develop a toolbox that allows students to analyse international institutions and their role in global governance systematically. In order to do so, this seminar is divided into two thematic fields. First, we will focus on different theoretical approaches towards analysing international institutions. Second, we will apply those approaches to central international institutions and to specific cases in which they are actively involved. Thus, the seminar enables students to deepen their theoretical knowledge of international institutions as well as their empirical knowledge of central issue areas like security, trade, financial relations, environment and energy governance.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The working language of this course is English. Presentations and coursework must also be completed in English.
- In order to have sufficient basic knowledge of International Institutions previous participation in the introductory lecture (Einführungsvorlesung) or an equivalent is required.
- Regular attendance and knowledge of the required texts is expected.
- To obtain 6 Credit Points participants will have to give a presentation and write a term paper (10 to 12 pages).
- **Please note:** The number of participants is limited. Student registration via FlexNow! is required. Registration information can be found on the website of the Chair of International Political Relations: <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/polib/news-internationale-politik/>. Please note that your registration is binding. The lecturer has no influence on your registration. If you have any question regarding your registration, please contact our secretary Ms. Claudia Genslein (claudia.genslein@uni-bamberg.de or F21/3.18)

Course Outline

1. 03/11/2020 Introduction to the Seminar/ Distribution of Work
2. 10/11/2020 Face-to-face meeting

Theoretical Perspectives

3. 17/11/2020 Mapping the Theoretical Landscape – An Overview
4. 24/11/2020 Rational-Choice Institutional Perspective:
International Institutions as Solutions to Cooperation Problems
5. 01/12/2020 Social Constructivist Perspective: The Role of Ideas and Knowledge

International Institutions and Case Studies

6. 08/12/2020 International Security:
The UN and the UN Security Council
7. 15/12/2020 The Role of the UN in Rwanda 1994
8. 22/12/2020 International Trade:
The World Trade Organization (WTO)
9. 12/01/2021 Dispute Settlement in the WTO: The Shrimp-Turtle Case
The TRIPS –Agreement and Access to Medicine
10. 19/01/2021 International Financial Relations:
The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank
11. 26/01/2021 Environmental Governance:
Governing Climate Change: From Kyoto to Paris
12. 02/02/2021 International Health Governance:
World Health Organization (WHO) and its response to (coronavirus) pandemic
13. 09/02/2021 Evaluation and Term Paper Preparation
- 31/03/2021 **Term Paper Deadline**