

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

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

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Room: F21/03.38

Office hours: by arrangement



Winter Term 2021/22

Projektseminar (BA/MA):

National Model United Nations: “How the United Nations works”

This seminar is designed to support the delegates of the National Model United Nations (NMUN) project at the University of Bamberg. The aim of this seminar is to help students to acquire a sound understanding of how the United Nations (UN) can be conceptualised as an international organisation. This is an important prerequisite to empirically analyse what the UN actually does. In the first part of the seminar, we will focus on the institutional structure of the organisation, identify the key actors in the UN system and introduce fundamental principles of international law. In a second step, students get to know the major policy fields of the UN: International Peace & Security, Human Rights and Development. In the last part of the seminar, students familiarise themselves with more practically relevant skills for working within the UN: patterns of UN decision-making, the art of negotiation and the role of UN jargon.

Date: Wednesdays, 16:00–18:00 c.t.

Room: TBA (with reservation depending on the rate of infection and administrative requirements)

Lecturer: Anja Lippstreu, M.A.

ECTS: 6/8

Eligibility Requirements:

- Participation in this seminar is only for members of Bamberg’s NMUN 2022 delegation, for whom, however, participation is mandatory. For information on the application process please visit: www.uni-bamberg.de/nmun
- The working language of this course is English.
- Regular attendance of meetings, critical reading of the assigned literature and active participation in class and group assignments are expected.
- To obtain a certificate (6 ECTS), participants have to pass a written mid-term examination and submit their NMUN position paper at the end of the seminar. B.A. and M.A. students obtaining 8 ECTS have to write an additional short research paper (2.000 words).

Course Outline

1. 20/10/2021 Introduction to the Seminar

The Institutional Setup of the UN: Actors, Organs and International Law

2. 27/10/2021 What is the UN? Public Perceptions and Political Science Concepts
3. 03/11/2021 The Constitution of the International Community?
The UN Charter and International Law
4. 10/11/2021 Who Does What? UN Organs and the Wider UN System
5. 17/11/2021 Reforming the UN: The History of the Organisation

The UN at Work: Issue Areas and Major Policy Fields

6. 24/11/2021 Security I: The UN as a Global Policeman? From Collective to Human Security
7. 01/12/2021 Security II: The UN Sanctions System: From Comprehensive to Targeted Sanctions
8. 08/12/2021 'To Reaffirm Faith in Fundamental Human Rights'?
The UN Human Rights Regime
9. 15/12/2021 Berlin excursion – No session¹
10. 22/12/2021 A (Sustainable) Global Partnership for Development?
The UN Development Strategy
11. 12/01/2022 **Mid-term Written Exam**

Foreign Policy, Diplomacy, and Negotiation

12. 19/01/2022 How to Do a Foreign Policy Analysis?
13. 26/01/2022 UN Decision-Making and the 'Art of Negotiation'
14. 02/02/2022 'Blue Speak'? UN Language, Drafting Resolutions and the Diplomatic Public Address
15. 09/02/2022 Closing Session
- 15/02/2022 **Research Paper Deadline (optional)**

¹ With reservation depending on the actual date of the Berlin excursion.