



Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University

SUBJECT CARD

1. Basic information

Subject	International Organizations
Faculty	Faculty of Law
Field of study	International Relations
Specialisation	International Business
PQF level	6 PQF
Level of studies	first-cycle studies
Form of studies	full-time studies
Group of activities	-----
Number of ECTS credits	5
Subject type	obligatory
Total number of hours	30h
Didactic cycle	2023/2024 winter
Academic semester	5
Academic year	3
Education profile	general academic
Year of implementation	2025/2026
Language of instruction	English
Person responsible for the subject	prof. dr hab. Jerzy Zdanowski (e-mail: jzdanowski@uafm.edu.pl)

Semester, number of ECTS credits, class type, number of hours

Semester	Lecture
5	30h 5 ECTS

2. Subject objectives

C1	The goal of this course is to introduce students to the International Organizations theory and the use of this theory to understand international relations. The course aims to show the analytic tools available to understand how International Organizations work, their effects, and how they could be better designed. Two groups of IO - International Governmental Organizations and International Non-Governmental Organizations - are discussed.
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3. Prerequisites

This course is addressed to upper-level undergraduate students who are expected to have knowledge about the general history of International Relations in the 20th century.

4. Learning content

W1	Knowledge: The student knows the institutions, political, economic, and social organizations, their environment and mutual relations, and their role in the contemporary world. He/she student knows financial mechanisms operating in the sphere of international relations and the rules of cooperation between international institutions and national authorities and economic operators both on the national and international levels.	EUK6_W2
U1	Skills: The student has extensive knowledge of historical and contemporary international structures and institutions and can use the theoretical knowledge to find, collect, and proces data necessary to analyze international relations. He/she properly uses applicable legal rules, principles, and customs to solve specific tasks related to the functioning of the contemporary world.	EUK6_U2
K1	Social competence: The student knows the peaceful means of settlement of international disputes and uses knowledge of human rights in international relations and domestic policies. She/he understands the need to acquire and update the knowledge of international relations throughout her/his life.	EUK6_KS2

5. Curriculum content

Lecture (30 h)

Code	Topic blocks (semester: 5)
Wyk1	Introduction: The State and International Organizations (IO); sovereignty; definition of "International organizations". 2 hours
Wyk2	The sovereignty of state and globalization. Is globalization undermining the sovereign state system? The place of IO in world politics. The history of the League of Nations. 3 hours
Wyk3	Three traditions of thought in understanding the problem of international order: realism, internationalism, and universalism. Power and interdependence. Does military power still matter in international relations? 3 hours
Wyk4	Two general approaches to the study of IO: the regime approach ("black box" approach) and the institutional approach. The question of the bureaucratic structure of an IO (what it can do and cannot do). 3 hours
Wyk5	Efficiency and ideas, or rationalist (neoliberal institutionalist) and reflectivist (constructivist) methodologies. The dilemma of collective action ("a prisoners' dilemma")
Wyk6	The United Nations and its system. Structure. The UN, sovereignty, and power. The GA. The Security Council. The Secretariat. ECOSOC, the ICJ, and the Trusteeship Council. 3 hours
Wyk7	Collective security. The case of the occupation of Iraq by U.S. forces in 2003. Does the UN need some significant reforms? 3 hours
Wyk8	Human rights and humanitarian aid. 3 hours
Wyk9	Money and trade. The IMF, the World Bank, and the WTO. 3 hours

Wyk10	The role of IO in development. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). 2 hours
Wyk11	Types of NGOs and the role of chosen NGOs in contemporary international relations. 2 hours

6. Teaching methods

Lecture	
M17	Multimedia presentation
M20	Lecture

7. Student workload

Form of student activity	Student workload	8.
Lecture	30h	
Including the e-learning method:	0 h	
Student's own work		
	95h	
Total workload		
Total number of hours for the course	125 h	
Total number of ECTS credits	5 ECTS	

Evaluation criteria

Course completion criteria:

Passing the mid-exam during the semester and the final written exam with a minimum of 51% of points.

Lectures (Final exam / Final pass)	
Grade 5:	Minimum of 91% of points on the final exam.
Grade 4,5:	Minimum of 81% of points on the final exam.
Grade 4:	Minimum of 71% of points on the final exam.
Grade 3,5:	Minimum of 61% of points on the final exam.
Grade 3:	Minimum of 51% of points on the final exam.

9. Reading materials

1. V. Rittberger, B. Zangl, A. Kruck, H. Dijkstra — International Organization, London, 2019, Red Globe Press [parts]
2. L. Hooghe, T. Lenz, G. Marks — A Theory of International Organ, Oxford, 2019, Oxford University Press [parts]
3. Yearbook of International Organizations 2022-2023, Brussels, Brill, 2022 [available in pdf].

Supplementary materials

1. The Europa Directory of International Organizations 2022, Europa Publications, Routledge, London, 2022

10. Information about academic teachers

Lecturer(s) prof. dr hab. Jerzy Zdanowski (e-mail: jzdanowski@uafm.edu.pl)