



UNIWERSYTET
Andrzeja Frycza Modrzewskiego
w Krakowie

SUBJECT CARD

1. Basic information

Subject	International Organizations
Faculty	Faculty of Law
Field of studies	International Relations
Specialization	international business
PRK level	6 PRK
Education level	first-cycle studies
Form of studies	full-time studies
Group of activities	—
Number of ECTS points	3
Type of subject	obligatory
Total number of hours	30 h
Didactic cycle	2024/2025 winter
Academic semester	5
Academic year	3
Education profile	general academic
Year of implementation	2026/2027
Language of instruction	English
Teacher(s)	prof. dr hab. Jerzy Zdanowski

Semester, number of ECTS points, type of subject, number of hours

Semester	Lecture
5	30 godz. 3 ECTS

2. General 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. Introductory requirements

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 outcomes

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.
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 process 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.
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.

5. Course program

Lecture (30 h)

Code	Detailed description of the 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. Didactic methods

Lecture	
M17	Multimedia presentation
M20	Lecture

7. Student workload

Number of hours under supervision	Student workload
Lecture	30 h
Including e-learning:	0 h

Student's own work	
	45 h

Total workload	
Total number of hours for the course	75 h
Total number of ECTS points	3 ECTS

8. Conditions for course completion

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. Literature

Basic literature

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 literature

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

11. Information about academic teachers

The person responsible for the card

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