

Global Governance: Power, Structure, Agency

25 July – 19 August 2022

CATEGORY Social Sciences, Politics & History

COURSE STRUCTURE

You will receive a total of 45 hours of academic lessons (one lesson equals 45 minutes; 15 hours per week). Lessons will comprise lectures, group work, discussion sessions, and excursions.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE (Track B)

- Monday: 9 am – 10.30 am & 11 am – 12.30 pm
- Wednesday: 9 am – 10.30 am & 11 am – 12.30 pm
- Thursday: 1.30 pm – 3 pm & 3.30 pm – 4.15 pm

COURSE LANGUAGE

This course is taught in English, including the readings. For the understanding of the texts and the discussions in class, language-level B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) is required.

TARGET GROUP

Undergraduate students of all subjects with an interest in German social sciences, politics, economy, and history.

CREDITS = 5 ECTS

All courses are accredited according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Learning extends beyond your course! As a participant in HUWISU, you are invited to join our cultural and social programs. We offer a fine selection of interesting extra-curricular activities that aim to give all participants an unforgettable stay in Berlin. Through excursions, social gatherings, and sport activities, we are providing you with the opportunity to get to know the city, the university, and your classmates and to meet students from all parts of the world. The costs for these offers are included in the program fee.

Below, you find examples of previously offered cultural activities. You will be informed about the respective cultural program after your enrolment via email as well as during the course period.



POLITICAL AND HISTORICAL GUIDED TOURS

- Federal Chancellery (Bundeskanzleramt)
- German Parliament (Bundestag)
- House of Representatives (Abgeordnetenhaus)
- Topography of Terror exhibition
- Political Archive of the Federal Foreign Office

CULTURAL GUIDED TOURS

- Kreuzberg Tour
- Museum Island (Museumsinsel)
- Berlin Cathedral (Berliner Dom)
- Daytrip to Potsdam
- Exhibitions

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

- Welcome Get-Together
- Beach Volleyball
- Farewell Party

EXPECTATIONS & POLICIES

Preparation for lively discussions in the classroom: be on time, have at least the required readings completed, and points in mind for discussion or clarification.

Assignments: complete all assignments according to the specified requirements on the schedule including handing them over to the lecturer.

Commitment in class: pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions (classmates', lecturers).

Academic guidelines: Comply with academic integrity policies (such as no plagiarism or cheating, nothing unethical) especially the academic honor code and the student code of conduct.

Attendance policy: No unexcused absences are permitted. Students must contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work – to excuse absence please contact the HUWISU office.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will give an overview of how global governance works in a world of networks, diluted power, fragmented organizational structures, renewed great power competition, and exceeded planetary boundaries. The focus will be on the actors, institutions and ideas of world politics today – from the UN family and Agenda 2030 to Great Powers to thematic alliances such as the OECD.

Some hope Germany will take on the mantle of “leader of the free world”. While it is true that Germany has entered a phase of “new responsibility” in its foreign policy, and remains strongly committed to the liberal order and global sustainability, it is becoming more and more difficult for such powers to project its influence into the global order. The course will take this German perspective as a starting point to try to understand the state of global governance more broadly.

Who are the indispensable nations? Who are the spoilers? What kind of cooperation is needed to save the planet? Whose Global Order is it? How to save the world?

We will look at multilateralist and unilateralist behavior of states, and also at recent efforts to bring more sustainability to global governance. We will also identify non-Western visions of global governance. Finally, the course will revolve around the question of how to make the global liberal institutionalist order (and ultimately, our planet) more resilient in the face of new authoritarian challenges – after all, this is what Germany and other countries like it are striving to do.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- understand core concepts of global governance and power in International Relations
- enrich them with a specifically German worldview of international cooperation
- apply these concepts to the institutions and organizations of our present global order
- analyze foreign policy ideas and behavior of pivotal states in world politics
- come up with concrete policy recommendations for their own countries

READINGS

Required:

Reading materials will be available via Moodle during the course.

Suggested:

Ian Bremmer: *Every Nation for Itself*, Penguin 2012.

Ivo H. Daalder / James M. Lindsay: *The Empty Throne*, Public Affairs 2018.

G. John Ikenberry: *A World Safe for Democracy*, Yale 2020.

Ivan Krastev: *The Light that Failed*, Penguin 2020.

Oliver Stuenkel: *Post-Western World*, Polity 2016.

The websites of both FOREIGN POLICY and FOREIGN AFFAIRS are not only a great source on current developments in the world regions, they also offer good coverage of the main institutions of global governance: www.foreignpolicy.com ; www.foreignaffairs.com

ASSIGNMENT INFO

In order to gain 5 ECTS, you are required to attend class regularly, read all assigned texts, hold a brief presentation (20 min) and most importantly: to participate actively in our discussions. The topic of your presentation will be decided during our first class meeting. In addition, you ought to hand in an essay of at least 2.000 words as follow-up work of the course.

The final grade will be composed by evaluating the in-class presentation (30%) and the essay (40%). Active participation during class discussions will be taken into account as well (30%). A minimum of 80% class attendance is required.

Full ECTS points will only be awarded if all of the mentioned components are fulfilled.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Mr. Christian E. Rieck is Assistant Professor in Contemporary History and International Relations at the University of Potsdam and also teaches regularly at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Madrid.

Previous posts in applied research include the foreign policy think tank at Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the European Foresight Program at the technology think tank Stiftung Neue Verantwortung, the Latin American Institute of the German Institute for Global and Area Studies GIGA, as well as a Carlo Schmid Fellowship at the United Nations in Mexico City.

Christian has also taught international relations, global governance and foreign and development policy at renowned universities throughout Europe and Latin America as well as in Canada, Thailand and Singapore – and continues to be a country tutor at the Academy for International Cooperation at GIZ in Bonn. He was a member of the Think Tank 20 process of the G20.

The area studies specialist holds a postgraduate degree in Latin American Studies by the University of Oxford. Before that he studied law and economics in Bayreuth and Seville, then European and international public law at HU Berlin as well as at the European University Institute in Florence. His work on European integration was awarded, among others, the Prize on the Future of Europe from the German Council on Foreign Relations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

A detailed syllabus containing the concrete topics, research questions, readings and assignments for every class will be made available online before the start of the course.

The course will include three talks and discussions by guest speakers from relevant federal ministries, think tanks, embassies and the Bundestag.

The course and its syllabus are subject to change. Last update: March 2022