| **Georgetown University, BLS** **BLHV 2105: International Organizations****Spring 2024** |
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**Credits:** 3

**Dates:** January 10 - May 11, 2024

**Location**: Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies (SCS) utilizes the Coursera platform for this course. As an online course, all course content will be provided and exchanged on the Coursera platform.

**Instructor:** Professor Paul Christopher Manuel

**Contact Information:** [bls-support@georgetown.edu](mailto:bls-support@georgetown.edu)

*Note: This mailbox is monitored on a frequent and ongoing basis. Please use this email address for all technology and course-related questions, and your inquiry will be directed to the appropriate person.*

**Office Hours:** By appointment only

| **Course Description** |
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This course offers a broad introduction to international organizations, a subfield of international relations concerned mainly with how global organizations help states avoid conflict (war) and promote cooperation (peace). The course is structured around four key themes: first, the theories and history of international organizations; second, questions about security. war and peace; third, global economic issues and finally, humanitarian, and environmental issues. The course will pay particular attention to the United Nations and to regional international organizations such as the European Union.

Please note: The materials provided or made available to students enrolled in this course, including documents, images, audio, and video materials made available to you, are protected by copyright law. You may use those copyrighted materials only in connection with your work in the course. Any other use of those materials, including any further copying, distribution, or dissemination of the materials, is prohibited by law.

| **Course Learning Objectives** |
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By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Understand the historical, theoretical foundations, and role of international organizations in global governance and apply them to real world scenarios.
2. Assess international peace, security, and the effectiveness of organizations in conflict prevention.
3. Analyze global economic structures and dynamics.
4. Recognize the influence, dynamics, and role of non-state actors in the international arena.
5. Explore global governance in relation to environmental sustainability.
6. Understand and analyze human rights, democracy, and the complexities of global governance.

| **Required Materials for Purchase** |
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* Mingst, K. A., McKibben, H. E. (2021). [Essentials of International Relations](https://a.co/d/7oC7XcK) (9th ed.). United Kingdom: W.W. Norton.

You can rent the epub (Kindle) version of the book through Amazon.com.

* Karns, M. P., Mingst, K. A., & Stiles, K. W. (2015). [International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance](https://wrlc-gu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01WRLC_GUNIV/1hdki3o/cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC6191481) (3rd ed.). Lynne Rienner Publishers.

You can purchase paperback version of the book on [Amazon.com](https://a.co/d/iMHXs51).

Other assigned readings will be available on our course website.

| **Overview of Course Structure** |
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This course consists of 13 modules plus the orientation module which are taken over a 15-week term. Each module length is either one week or multiple weeks as designated in this syllabus.

| **Assignments** |
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Your course grade will be based on your completion of the following activities and assignments. You will read full details about each of them in the Coursera course. Each assignment category will be weighted according to the percentages below.

| **Midterm Exam** The midterm covers the material from the part of the course. You will have the option to answer any two out of five provided essay questions. | **25%** |
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| **Discussion Board Posts** At the end of each module you will be asked to answer some reflection/critical analysis questions. Participation in the class discussion sections is an important component of the work for the class. Your reflections and questions in the discussion sections should be based on a careful consideration of the assigned readings for that week. The quality of your contributions to discussions is more important than quantity. | **13%** |
| **Reading Quizzes (1% each)** At the end of each module you will be asked to take a short reading comprehension quiz. | **12%** |
| **Research Paper** In Module 13, you will be asked to submit a research paper. For your research paper, you will be asked to respond to ONE of the four questions. Your term paper should provide careful and concise reviews of class readings, as appropriate to the topic you choose (which may include recommended as well as required texts for the class, based on the question you choose) and the analysis of the readings should go beyond a summary of the readings toward critical commentary and a discussion of the thematic issue. | **25%** |
| **Final Exam** The final examination covers the material from the entire course and consists of long essay questions. | **25%** |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** |

#### **Submission Policy**

Submit all assignments to the Coursera course site. **Assignments submitted through email are not acceptable** and will be considered missing/and or late. Please also retain a personal copy of all assignments submitted until the end of this course is complete and you’ve received your final grade.

#### **Late Work Policy**

Students are expected to submit their assignments by the time on the date indicated on Coursera and the syllabus. Please contact the instructor at least 3 business days in advance if you know that you are going to be late or miss an assignment due date. The instructor will review late submission requests and circumstances on a case-by-case basis and will make a determination if an extension is warranted. Prior notice will provide time for discussing and identifying an alternative due date (if the extension is warranted). If the extension is granted, the instructor can deduct up to 10% of the grade of the assignments submitted late and limit the extension to a maximum of 7 days. If an assignment that has been given an extension is not handed in by the time the allotted extension time has elapsed, it will receive a zero.

**Statement on AI Use**

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material. Failure to do so constitutes a violation of academic integrity. Instances of suspected plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will be dealt with under the Georgetown Honor Code.

Additionally, students should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise unreliable. Students should be aware that the misuse of AI may also stifle independent thinking and creativity, as well as limit their capacity to learn independently in this course. Please engage with these resources responsibly, and with integrity.

#### **Instructor Feedback/Turnaround**

If you have a concern and send me a message, you can expect a response to your email within 3 business days. Please allow 4-7 business days for assessment submission feedback.

| **Grading** |
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Each type of assignment has a detailed grading rubric that you will reference as you complete your assignments. I will grade all of your work using these rubrics.

A: 92.5% to 100%

A-: 89.5% to 92.4%

B+: 86.5% to 89.4%

B: 82.5% to 86.4%

B-: 79.5% to 82.4%

C+: 76.5% to 79.4%

C: 72.5% to 76.4%

C-: 69.5% to 72.4%

D+: 66.5% to 69.4%

D: 62.5% to 66.4%

F: 62.4% and below

| **Time Commitment** |
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Online courses meet the same academic standards as on-campus courses. Each week is equal to the same level of participation, commitment, and academic rigor as a face-to-face class. For a 15-week, 3-credit course, you should allocate *6-10 hours per week*. For a 13-week, 3-credit course, you should allocate *8-12 hours per week*.

| Weekly Schedule |
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All discussion board posts must be submitted by Friday at 11:59 PM ET each week. Additionally, you are required to respond to a peer's post by the following Monday at 11:59 PM ET.

Please complete all reading quizzes by Friday at 11:59 PM ET weekly.

The midterm will be accessible throughout the entire week and must be completed by March 1 at 11:59 PM ET.

Both the Final Exam and the Final Paper are to be submitted by May 10 at 11:59 PM ET.

| Date | Assignments Due | |
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| **Module 1**  10/01-21/01  2 weeks | **Approaches to Understanding International Organizations**   1. **Discussion Board Post 1**   Initial Post: Friday, Jan 19,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Friday, Jan 19, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 1 Reading Quiz** - Friday, Jan 19, 11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 2**  22/01-28/01 | **The Historical Context of Contemporary International Organizations:**  **From the Treaty of Westphalia (1648) to the Congress of Vienna (1815)**   1. **Discussion Board Post 2**   Initial Post: Friday, Jan 26,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, Jan 29, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 2 Reading Quiz -** Friday, Jan 26, 11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 3**  29/01-04/02 | **The Theoretical Foundations of Global Governance**   1. **Discussion Board Post 3**   Initial Post: Friday, Feb 02,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, Feb 05, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 3 Reading Quiz -** Friday, Feb 02,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 4**  05/02-11/02 | **The Levels of Analysis Question**   1. **Discussion Board Post 4**   Initial Post: Friday, Feb 09,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, Feb 12, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 4 Reading Quiz -** Friday, Feb 09,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 5**  12/02-18/02 | **The State System and Its Weakness**   1. **Discussion Board Post 5**   Initial Post: Friday, Feb 16,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, Feb 19, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 5 Reading Quiz -** Friday, Feb 16,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 6**  20/02-25/02 | **War, Security, and the United Nations**   1. **Discussion Board Post 6**   Initial Post: Friday, Feb 23,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, Feb 26, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 6 Reading Quiz** - Friday, Feb 23,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 7**  26/02-01/03 | **Mid-Term March 1 - Available the entire week** | |
| **Spring Break March 2 - 10** | | |
| **Module 8**  11/03-17/03 | **The Search for Peace and Security: International Cooperation, International Law, and the Geneva Conventions**   1. **Discussion Board Post 7**   Initial Post: Friday, March 15,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, March 18, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 8 Reading Quiz** - Friday, March 15,11:59 PM ET.   March 15 | |
| **Module 9**  18/03-28/03  Two weeks | **International Political Economy**   1. **Discussion Board Post 8**   Initial Post: Friday, March 22,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, March 25, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 9 Reading Quiz** - Friday, March 28,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Easter Break March 28 - April 1** | | |
| **Module 10**  02/04-07/04 | **Regional Intergovernmental Organizations and Non-governmental Organizations**   1. **Discussion Board Post 9**   Initial Post: Friday, April 05,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, April 08, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 10 Reading Quiz -** Friday, April 05,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 11**  08/04-14/04 | **Non-State Organizations, Intergovernmental Organizations, and Human Rights**   1. **Discussion Board Post 10**   Initial Post: Friday, April 12,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, April 15, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 11 Reading Quiz -** Friday, April 12,11:59 PM ET. | |
| **Module 12**  15/04-21/04 | **Intergovernmental Organizations and the Environment**   1. **Discussion Board Post 11**   Initial Post: Friday, April 19,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, April 22, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 12 Reading Quiz -** Friday, April 19,11:59 PM ET.   Synch session: Apr 19 | |
| **Module 13**  22/04-28/04  29/04-11/05  3 weeks | **Human Rights, Democracy Promotion, and Dilemmas**   1. **Discussion Board Post 12**   Initial Post: Friday, April 26,11:59 PM ET.  Response to a peer: Monday, May 06, 11:59 PM ET.   1. **Module 13 Reading Quiz** - Friday, May 04,11:59 PM ET. 2. **Final Exam** - May 10th 3. **Final Research Paper** - May 10th | |

| **Course Policies** |
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The course will follow SCS Course Policies in the following areas:

Attendance Policy

Citation Policy

Communication Policies

The Honor Pledge

Netiquette And Classroom Guidelines

Incomplete and Withdrawal Policies

Accommodation Policy

Technical Requirements

Student Support and Help

You can review these policies and other student resources in the Orientation Course.