



UNSW Course Outline

POLS5121 International Organisations and Global Politics - 2024

Published on the 12 May 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : POLS5121

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Social Sciences

Delivery Mode : Multimodal

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Examines the role of international organisations in global politics. Explores the effectiveness of

security arrangements at the regional and global levels. Analyses the roles of international organisations in global economic governance. Evaluates the relevance of international organisations in providing solutions to the social and humanitarian challenges facing humanity at the beginning of the 21st century.

Course Aims

1. This course will introduce students to the historical development of international organisations in different thematic areas;
2. This course will identify the various ways in which different approaches, concepts and issues can be applied to international organisations in global politics;
3. This course will facilitate a wide-ranging and critical analysis of how international organisations function, how and where they are challenged and what some of their *effects* (theoretical and practical) are;
4. This course will identify the operation of governance mechanisms in world politics broadly, but will also offer students the opportunity to study in greater depth specific organisations of governance;
5. This course will encourage in students to work independently and collaboratively in preparing for, participating and presenting carefully planned research in an accessible, persuasive and clear manner.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Identify and outline the diverse and contested structures of the international system;
CL02 : Describe and discuss a variety of debates and approaches surrounding the role and function of international organisations in global politics;
CL03 : Locate, evaluate, prioritise and deploy appropriate information in a sophisticated and persuasive manner;
CL04 : Analyse, explain and critique basic and more advanced literatures relating to the theories and practices of international organisation, including a variety of concepts, theories and categories of analysis;
CL05 : Summarise and evaluate debates, communicating your ideas with fluency and vigour, informed by an understanding of ethical issues and a self-reflexive awareness of the reasoned views of others.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Identify and outline the diverse and contested structures of the international system;	• Critical reviews
CL02 : Describe and discuss a variety of debates and approaches surrounding the role and function of international organisations in global politics;	• Annotated bibliography • Essay • Critical reviews
CL03 : Locate, evaluate, prioritise and deploy appropriate information in a sophisticated and persuasive manner;	• Annotated bibliography • Essay • Critical reviews
CL04 : Analyse, explain and critique basic and more advanced literatures relating to the theories and practices of international organisation, including a variety of concepts, theories and categories of analysis;	• Annotated bibliography • Essay • Critical reviews
CL05 : Summarise and evaluate debates, communicating your ideas with fluency and vigour, informed by an understanding of ethical issues and a self-reflexive awareness of the reasoned views of others.	• Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom

Learning and Teaching in this course

Zoom information for this course is:

- Meeting ID: 82022569507

- Password: 51212024

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: [https://unsw.zoom.us/j/82022569507?](https://unsw.zoom.us/j/82022569507?pwd=MHA4dnZnK0hLdkFrSFZ1Uk9lN2tVdz09)
pwd=MHA4dnZnK0hLdkFrSFZ1Uk9lN2tVdz09

Slido will be used for you to ask questions or make comments if you don't want to be identified

Slido #1696 961

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Critical reviews Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	15%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 23/06/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 07/07/2024 11:30 PM
Annotated bibliography Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	35%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 14/07/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 28/07/2024 11:30 PM
Essay Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 07/08/2024 11:59 PM

Assessment Details

Critical reviews

Assessment Overview

Students submit a 750 word critical review of a specified text.

Students will receive a numerical grade within two weeks of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS).

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Identify and outline the diverse and contested structures of the international system;
- CL02 : Describe and discuss a variety of debates and approaches surrounding the role and function of international organisations in global politics;
- CL03 : Locate, evaluate, prioritise and deploy appropriate information in a sophisticated and persuasive manner;
- CL04 : Analyse, explain and critique basic and more advanced literatures relating to the theories and practices of international organisation, including a variety of concepts, theories and categories of analysis;

Detailed Assessment Description

NOTE: this assignment used to be called "Critical Reviews" - it is now ESSAY PLAN (too late to change it). Below are details of the assignment for T2/2024:

1. Essay Plan – 15% – between 500-750 words – 23June (Sunday, 11:59pm)

First step: look at the details for Final Essay. **The goal of the Essay Plan is to help you put together your Final Essay.**

The Essay Plan is expected to have an outline of the proposed essay's main question (what you want to research?), rationale (why it is important/relevant?), and structure (how will you structure your paper?). The question must relate to one of the ten topics covered in this course (this should be clear) and should be 'critical' in nature; i.e. it should provide scope for a critical analysis of the topic and associated issues under consideration, and the development of a cohesive and coherent argument. Think of this as an opportunity to research something *you* find interesting. If you are truly lost, talk to me ASAP.

- **Format:** between 500-750 words (+ 10% tolerance; every 5% above or below these margins is penalized with a 3% grade deduction).
- **Late penalty:** 5%/day
- **Feedback:** Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within two weeks of completion (by 08/07)

Make sure you provide:

- A clear statement of the course topic to which the proposed research question relates;
- The research question itself;
- A short paragraph outlining the main focus of the essay and the rationale for posing the stated essay question;
- A brief outline of the proposed essay's structure. This need not be too detailed and can be quite general – it should only provide a rough guide of the main issues to be considered or points to be made in the essay. I am looking for evidence that you have considered the question, and how best this might be approached in a way that allows you to construct and develop a structured and coherent argument;

Assessment Length

500-750 words

Assessment information

NOTE: this assignment has a new title: ESSAY PLAN (weight and length remain unchanged)

Step 1: look at the details for Final Essay (Assignment #3). The goal of the Essay Plan is to help you put together your Final Essay. Your Final Essay has to be either a critique of an international organisations (see suggestions under Assignment #3) or an essay on a topic and question agreed to by you and the course convenor (obviously related to International Organisations).

The Essay Plan is expected to have an outline of the proposed essay's main question (what you want to research?), rationale (why it this important/relevant?), and structure (how will you structure your paper?). The question must relate to one of the ten topics covered in this course (this should be clear) and should be 'critical' in nature; i.e. it should provide scope for a critical analysis of the topic and associated issues under consideration, and the development of a cohesive and coherent argument. Think of this as an opportunity to research something you find interesting. If you are truly lost, talk to me ASAP.

- Format: 500-750 words (+ 5% tolerance; every 5% above or below these margins is penalized with a 3% grade deduction).
- Feedback: Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within 14 days of completion.

Make sure you provide:

- The research question itself;
- A clear outline of the essay's main focus and the rationale for posing the stated essay question.
- A brief outline of the proposed essay's structure. It should provide a rough guide of the main issues to be considered or points to be made in the essay. I am looking for evidence that you have reflected on the question, and how best this might be approached in a way that allows you to construct and develop a structured and coherent argument. Look at examples of great Essay Plans (available on Moodle)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Annotated bibliography

Assessment Overview

The aim of the annotated bibliography is to encourage students to begin thinking about the theoretical and conceptual foundations of their research essay. Students will research and identify academic sources. The word length of the annotated bibliography is 1500 words.

Feedback: Written feedback using a rubric, provided within two weeks of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS)

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Describe and discuss a variety of debates and approaches surrounding the role and function of international organisations in global politics;
- CLO3 : Locate, evaluate, prioritise and deploy appropriate information in a sophisticated and persuasive manner;
- CLO4 : Analyse, explain and critique basic and more advanced literatures relating to the theories and practices of international organisation, including a variety of concepts, theories and categories of analysis;

Detailed Assessment Description

Annotated bibliography – 35% – between 1,200-1,500 words – 14 July (Sunday, 11:59pm)

The aim of this part of the exercise is to encourage you to thinking about the theoretical foundations of your research paper and to begin engaging with the academic literature upon which you will draw in the construction of your core arguments when you write your research paper.

For this assignment, you should research and identify **FOUR academic sources** that will inform your arguments in your research paper and create a bibliography of those sources. These sources should not be drawn from the required or recommended readings listed above – you will need to identify four other sources not listed in this outline that you can use for your essay. **You will lose marks if you include any of the required readings.** For further information on what constitutes a peer-reviewed journal article, see <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/c.php?g=100219&p=649273>

You should then annotate the bibliography with a few lines about why you have chosen each

source, what you hope to draw from it, how it fits with the rest of the literature with which you engage and so on.

If you have never done an Annotated Bibliography, click here: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/annotated-bibliography>

Specifically, your annotated bibliography should:

- Provide the full bibliographic citation for each source discussed
- Demonstrate the quality and depth of reading that you have done

And for each text:

- Outline the main argument
- Identify any conclusions made by the author/s
- Critically analyse the strengths and limitations of the text
- *Discuss the relevance or usefulness of the text for your research essay*

There is **no tolerance below or above word limits**: every 5% above or below the margins is penalized with a 3% grade deduction (ex: 8% below the lower limit or above higher limit = 6% grade deduction). Late penalty: 5%/day.

Your assignment must be uploaded to TurnItIn on Moodle.

Feedback & mark available by 29/July

Assessment Length

1,200 - 1,500 words (bibliography included in word count)

Assessment information

Annotated Bibliography

The aim of this exercise is to encourage you to begin thinking about your essay and to begin engaging with the academic literature upon which you will draw in the construction of your core arguments when you write your essay.

For this assignment, you should research and identify FOUR academic sources that will inform your arguments in your research paper and create a bibliography of those sources. These sources should not be drawn from the required or recommended readings listed above – you will need to identify four other sources not listed in this outline that you can use for your essay. You will lose marks if you include any of the required readings.

You should then annotate the bibliography, discussing why you have chosen each source, how/ what you will use it in your essay, and how it fits with the rest of the literature with which you engage.

Guidance on writing an annotated bibliography can be found on the UNSW Learning Centre website at <http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/onlib/annotatedbib.html>.

The Annotated Bibliography is expected to have between 1,200 (min) and 1,500 (max) words, with the bibliography being included in the word count.

Specifically, your annotated bibliography should:

- Provide the full bibliographic citation for each source discussed
- Demonstrate the quality and depth of reading that you have done

For each text:

- Indicate the content or scope
- Outline the main argument
- Identify any conclusions made by the author/s
- Discuss the relevance or usefulness of the text for your research
- State the strengths and limitations of the text for your research
- Present your view or reaction to the text

The annotated bibliography will be graded /100 and will constitute 35% of your final grade for the course. The annotated bibliography will be graded using a rubric showing the assessment criteria. The rubric is available on Moodle. This assignment is designed to help you build up your final essay. Therefore, you will be able to use the material you write here directly in your final essay (i.e., it will not be considered self-plagiarism)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Essay

Assessment Overview

Students submit 3000 word research essay. Written feedback using a rubric, provided within two weeks of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS). This is the final assessment in this course.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Describe and discuss a variety of debates and approaches surrounding the role and function of international organisations in global politics;
- CLO3 : Locate, evaluate, prioritise and deploy appropriate information in a sophisticated and persuasive manner;
- CLO4 : Analyse, explain and critique basic and more advanced literatures relating to the theories and practices of international organisation, including a variety of concepts, theories and categories of analysis;
- CLO5 : Summarise and evaluate debates, communicating your ideas with fluency and vigour, informed by an understanding of ethical issues and a self-reflexive awareness of the reasoned views of others.

Detailed Assessment Description

3. Final Essay – 50% – between 2,500-3,000 words – 07 August (Wednesday, 11:59pm)

The essay consists of an essay on the research and analysis of a particular question/issue / challenge of an International Organisation

The essay must:

- Clearly and coherently outline the organisation's role in global politics
- Describe and critically analyse a particular question/issue /challenge faced by the organisation.
- You should provide your own analysis and advance your own arguments based on academic literature, and bringing in IR theory to your reflection
- Deploy sufficient and relevant primary and secondary sources (drawn from independent research and your required and recommended readings).
- Include a complete title, detailing the full name of the organisation on which the paper is based.

You are expected to choose from the following organisations:

- The United Nations Security Council
- The World Bank
- The European Union
- International Criminal Court
- The United Nations General Assembly
- The International Monetary Fund
- The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- International Labour Organisation
- The United Nations Environment Programme
- The World Trade Organisation
- The African Union
- International Criminal Police Organisation

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- The Asian Development Bank
- Association of South East Asian Nations
- Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
- World Health Organisation
- OECD
- The Arab League
- World Economic Forum

Note: you *can* do another organisation not listed here, but you must consult with me first .

Essays should demonstrate that you have engaged with the themes and issues raised in the course and that you are able to construct a persuasive and well-evidenced argument in relation to one or more of these themes or issues.

Further guidance to assist with preparing, planning and researching your essay is available on Moodle. You will be assessed on your ability to demonstrate research skills (the ability to provide accurate and detailed information about your chosen organisation), on synthesis and persuasive argument (in bringing together ideas and data from several sources), on quality of presentation (including accurate referencing) and on the clarity of your writing.

References to the core texts alone will **not** be sufficient to pass this assessment.

To write a good essay:

- Explain in the introduction the context of the question, your basic argument/s and how the paper will proceed step by step (the structure).
- Signpost the structure throughout the paper, indicating the logical progression from paragraph to paragraph and section to section (so linking sentences at the ends of paragraphs and sections are important).
- Provide persuasive analysis of evidence in support of your argument/s.
- Ground your argument in the theoretical debates of the discipline where relevant.

There is no tolerance below or above word limits: every 5% above or below the margins is penalized with a 3% grade deduction (ex: 8% below the lower limit or above higher limit = 6% grade deduction). **Late penalty: 5%/day.**

Your essay must be properly referenced and accompanied by a reference list. If you are not sure about referencing conventions, please speak to me or see the *School of Social Sciences Referencing Guide*. Please note that detailed feedback on the research essay will only be provided if you request it explicitly. Please make a note at the start of your assignment if you

wish to receive detailed feedback write "*I request Feedback*". Assignments without a note will only receive a completed rubric.

Assessment Length

between 2,500 and 3,000 words (bibliography included)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

General Assessment Information

See Moodle for further details.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

>50/100 final mark (plus attendance requirements)

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Lecture	International Organisations and Global Governance Topic: What is global governance in contemporary world politics and how has it developed?
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Lecture	Theories of IOs in Global Politics 1 Topic: Realist and liberal approaches to IOs and global governance
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Lecture	Theories of IOs in Global Politics 2 Topic: Post-positivist approaches to global governance
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Lecture	The Historical Foundations of Global Governance 1 Topic: Significant developments in international organisation during the 19th and early 20th centuries.
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Lecture	The Historical Foundations of Global Governance 2 Topic: The roles, functions and effectiveness of the League of Nations and the United Nations.
Week 6 : 1 July - 7 July	Lecture	Topic: The development of the post-Second World War global economic order and governing of the international trade regime.
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Seminar	G7, G20, BRICS Topic: The roles and importance of G7, G20, and BRICS in global economic governance. Questions for Seminar Discussion: • Is the G20 a legitimate policymaking institution and actor within global economic governance? Why/why not? • BRICS doesn't make sense - does it matter?
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Lecture	Regional organisations 1 Topic: The roles and functions of regional organisations in the international system, focusing on the European Union.
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Lecture	Regional organisations 2 Topic: The roles and functions of regional organisations in the international system, beyond the European Union.
Week 10 : 29 July - 4 August	Lecture	Topic: The importance of international institutions in the human rights and environmental regimes

Attendance Requirements

Attendance requirement: 8/10 tutorials. (Please contact me if/when you miss classes)

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All required readings for this course are available via Leganto, so you do not need to purchase

anything. It is a requirement that you complete at the minimum the 'Required Reading' each week before the seminar. In addition to the "Required Reading" there are a number of texts that provide coverage of most of the topics analysed in the course

Recommended Resources

See Moodle for details

Additional Costs

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Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically. Informal feedback and feedback specific to a particularly seminar topic will be welcomed and encouraged during the semester. Student feedback is taken seriously and continual enhancements are made to learning and teaching activities on the basis of student feedback. For example, and as a direct result of student feedback, the submission times of assessments takes into consideration the needs of students who have full time employment.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Deborah Barros Leal Farias		MB 135		by appointment	Yes	Yes
	German Ricci					No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;

- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- **Collusion:** Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- **Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified

causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may

apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Location: Room 159, Morven Brown Building (C20), Kensington campus

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (except public holidays)

Telephone: +61 2 9385 1807

Email: soss@unsw.edu.au

Web: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/social-sciences>