



INTRODUCTION

This course evaluates the various international organizations in the main areas of international policy function, including peace and security as well as trade and development. It specially evaluates the interaction – the *push and pull*– between international law and international politics that conditions – *shapes and moulds* – the practice of international governance. In brief, the course evaluates the law, politics and practice of international organizations.

- **Degree:** International Relations / International Relations with Law / International Relations with History
- **Course:** International Organizations
- **ECTS:** 6 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits
- **Year / Semester:** Third Year / Second Semester
- **Course Type:** Compulsory
- **Course Teacher:** Professor Gonzalo Villalta Puig
- **Course Language:** English
- **Class Schedule and Location:**
 - Class I (Lecture): Wednesdays 12:00 - 13:45 (Amigos Lecture Theatre 1)
 - Class II (Seminar): Thursdays 10:00 - 11:45 (Amigos Lecture Theatre 16)

LEARNING OUTCOMES (COMPETENCIES)

Below is the statement on course competencies in the *Memoria oficial del Grado en Relaciones Internacionales*.

Básicas y generales:

- **CG01** - Analizar, valorar y razonar las diferentes situaciones internacionales a la luz de los conocimientos adquiridos.
- **CG02** - Negociar, mediar, persuadir y comunicar con firmeza en el ámbito de las relaciones internacionales.
- **CG03** - Redactar e interpretar textos jurídicos, especialmente en el ámbito del Derecho internacional público.
- **CG04** - Usar el inglés con propiedad según la terminología científica y académica propia de la Relaciones internacionales.
- **CG05** - Saber expresarse oralmente de manera correcta y adecuada sobre temas internacionales.
- **CB2** - Que los estudiantes sepan aplicar sus conocimientos a su trabajo o vocación de una forma profesional y posean las competencias que suelen demostrarse por medio de la elaboración y defensa de argumentos y la resolución de problemas dentro de su área de estudio
- **CB3** - Que los estudiantes tengan la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos relevantes (normalmente dentro de su área de estudio) para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión sobre temas relevantes de índole social, científica o ética
- **CB4** - Que los estudiantes puedan transmitir información, ideas, problemas y soluciones a un público tanto especializado como no especializado
- **CB5** - Que los estudiantes hayan desarrollado aquellas habilidades de aprendizaje necesarias para emprender estudios posteriores con un alto grado de autonomía

Específicas:



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- **CE02** - Analizar la naturaleza y características de las relaciones entre los actores internacionales y particularmente entre los Estados.
- **CE03** - Conocer y comprender los principales elementos que definen la política exterior de los Estados.
- **CE04** - Relacionar los procesos y sucesos históricos con el orden internacional del presente.
- **CE06** - Diferenciar las distintas competencias y funciones del Estado, las organizaciones internacionales y los actores no estatales en el sistema internacional.
- **CE09** - Comprender la estructura, competencias y funcionamiento de las instituciones y organizaciones internacionales.
- **CE10** - Comprender las instituciones, normas, procedimientos de decisión y políticas de la Unión Europea.
- **CE15** - Conocer la estructura, organización y funcionamiento de las Administraciones Públicas y sus políticas públicas con trascendencia internacional.
- **CE16** - Analizar los diferentes conflictos internacionales, sus causas, desarrollo y efectos sobre los países y la sociedad internacional.
- **CE17** - Analizar los problemas jurídicos y sociales que se derivan de las relaciones internacionales en todos los ámbitos con base en el conocimiento adecuado de los principios y normas de Derecho internacional.

SYLLABUS

Introduction:

- Course Introduction
- International Organizationhood v Sovereign Statehood: Obligations, Compliance, Enforcement
- Theory and Methods

Peace and Security:

- United Nations:
 - Law and Administration
 - Security Council
 - Selected Specialized Agencies

Trade and Development:

- World Trade Organization:
 - Non-Discrimination Norm
 - Dispute Settlement System
- International Monetary Fund
- World Bank Group
- Selected Regional Development Finance Institutions

Labour and Migration:

- International Labour Organization
- United Nations High Commission for Refugees
- International Organization for Migration

Dispute Settlement and Criminal Prosecution:

- International Court of Justice
- International Criminal Court

Regional Organizations:

- European Union



- African Union
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- Organization of American States
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Conclusion:

- Course Conclusion

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Class Schedule:

The course runs for 14 weeks in the second semester of the academic year – from Thursday 8 January 2026 to Friday 24 April 2026 – and comprises a weekly expositive (asynchronous) in-video lecture session plus a weekly 105 minute discussive (synchronous) in-class lecture session and a weekly 105 minute (interactive) in-class seminar session.

Workload Distribution:

The course weighs six European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits. One ECTS credit corresponds to 25 hours of student work. While there are differences among students, the expectation is that an individual student would dedicate approximately 150 hours of work (contact and non-contact) in support of the 14-week programme. As an approximate break down, the estimation is that 11 hours per week of student work are necessary to successfully complete the course, with the average hours per week for each learning and teaching activity as follows (approximate figures):

Activity	Mode	ECTS	Hours (per week)	Percentage
Expositive (Video) Lectures	Out-of-Class	0.56	14 hrs (1.00 p/w)	10%
Discussive Lectures	In-Class	0.98	24.5 hrs (1.75 p/w)	16%
Interactive Seminars	In-Class	0.98	24.5 hrs (1.75 p/w)	16%
Personal Study /Reading	Out-of-Class	1.68	42 hrs (3.00 p/w)	28%
Assessment Preparation	Out-of-Class	1.80	45 hrs (3.25 p/w)	30%
Total	---	6.00	150 hrs (11.00 p/w)	100%



ASSESSMENT

Assessment Exercise	Percentage of Marks	Date and Location
Socratic Debates	10%	Weekly (In-Class)
AI Evaluative Presentation	25%	By Roster (In-Class)
Multiple Choice Test (Peace and Security)	1%	4 February 2026 (12:00) (In-Class)
Multiple Choice Test (Trade and Development)	1%	25 February 2026 (12:00) (In-Class)
Multiple Choice Test (Labour and Migration)	1%	11 March 2026 (12:00) (In-Class)
Multiple Choice Test (Dispute Settlement and Criminal Prosecution)	1%	25 March 2026 (12:00) (In-Class)
Multiple Choice Test (Regional Organizations)	1%	22 April 2026 (12:00) (In-Class)
Final Examination	60% (subject to 50% hurdle)	4 May 2026
Reassessment Exercise: Research Essay	100%	8 June 2026 (09:00) (Turnitin)

OFFICE HOURS

For consultation, students must email the Course Teacher, **Professor Gonzalo Villalta Puig**, with a request for an appointment: gvillalta@unav.es. Student consultations are held:

- in Room 2730, Ismael Sánchez Building;
- on Wednesdays of term time from 16:00 to 17:00.

BIBLIOGRAPHY



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The course textbook is *International Organizations: Politics, Law, Practice* (5th ed, Cambridge University Press 2024) by Professor Ian Hurd of Northwestern University. Copies are available for purchase from [Amazon.es](https://www.amazon.es). [Find the ebook at the Library](#)