



HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND COOPERATION Core Course, offered in English and in French

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Objective

This class will examine the origins of international organizations and provide insight into the ways in which cooperation, or lack thereof, within the framework of international organizations, has had an impact on a large scale over the course of the European history in the 20th century. The international aspect of Geneva and why this Swiss city became the home of the most important international organizations and NGOs will be discussed.

Course Description

The course will be composed of a series of lectures, guest lectures, readings, discussion meetings with a T.A., and site visits to prominent organizations in Geneva.

Topics covered during the semester will include:

- Genesis of International Systems
- Origins of WWI and Implications for Peace
- Functioning and Dis-Functioning of the Versailles System
- Demise of the Versailles System and the Origins of WWII
- Failure to Transform the UN Military Alliance into a Functioning International System
- Conflict Mediation
- Humanitarian Interventions

Several international organizations will be visited over the fall semester to get a good overview of the “*Genève internationale*.” Each visit will include a guided-tour and a discussion with a local representative of the organization and/or the T.A.

We will visit the following as a complement to the lectures and topics covered in the course and in the discussion sections:

- United Nations, *Le Palais des Nations*
- International Labor Organization
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Schedule

The class meets once a week for two hours (lectures and discussion sections will alternate), and sometimes twice a week for two hours if there is a guided-tour on site, for a minimum of 32 contact hours and 4 credits.

The lecture and the seminar presentations will be held at the Smith Center in Geneva. Regular lectures will be given in English by Professor Leitner, and the discussion sections will be led in French by Teaching Assistant Jaci Eisenberg. Guest lecturers and officials at the various international organizations will enhance the quality and breadth of information provided about specific topics.

Requirements

Attendance is required at all sessions; required reading as assigned. Students will give an oral presentation during the discussion section and complete two five-page papers. The course will conclude with a final examination. Students who enroll in Track A will also write a longer paper related to their internship and earn a total of 6 credits for this course.