

Course title: The United Nations: International Peace and Security

Language of instruction: English

Professors: Jordi Quero (jordi.quero@upf.edu)
Ignasi Torrent (ignasi.torrent@gmail.com)

Professor's contact and office hours: Offices 40.225

Course contact hours: To be arranged with the instructors

Recommended credit: 3 US credits - 6 ECTS credits

Course prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Language requirements: None

Course focus and approach: From a scholar approach of International Relations, the course offers an approach to the study of the United Nations -its history, goals, and structure- focusing on how it works to achieve one of its founding objectives, namely maintaining international peace and security.

Course description: The course is structured in two blocks. The first one introduces the United Nations, its goals, its main bodies and its decision-making process as a starting point. It then focuses on the UN architecture as a decisive international actor regarding international peace and security by analyzing: the UN institutional framework that deals with these issues (the UN Security Council, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs, etc.); relevant aspects of the UN Charter in relation to this topic (Chapters VI and VII); and the historical evolution of how the UN has coped with peace and security issues. The second block explores one of the main tools the United Nations applies to maintain peace and security: the UN Peace Operations. This is done by focusing on theoretical debates that have shaped the missions over the time, by examining their evolution in nature and scope and by grasping historical examples (Sierra Leone, Haiti, Burundi, Timor-Leste, Afghanistan, etc...).

Learning objectives: The aim of this course is threefold: first, to introduce students to the United Nations (aims, institutions, history) and its critical role in contemporary international society; second, to focus on the analysis of mechanisms in place at the UN architecture to achieve one of its main goals: maintaining international peace and security; and third, to provide a systematic toolkit which helps students out in critically analyzing the performance of the UN Peace Operation missions, by identifying strengths and weaknesses of different historical operations in the field.

Course workload: The course will entail attendance to a series of lectures and seminars, as well as some in-class short activities related to readings and assignments proposed by the instructors.

Teaching methodology: The course comprises twenty sessions and two seminars. The teaching of the course would combine traditional lectures, several in-class short activities (primary sources analysis, discussions, etc.), and a series of seminars aimed at deepening in certain topics while helping students to develop their abilities and skills.

Assessment criteria: Students will be assessed through different items: a series of practical seminars requiring oral and written tasks (30%) -for further details check the *Seminars' Guide*-, class participation (20%), and a final research paper (50%). The topic of the paper will be chosen with the assistance of the professor, and it will range between 4,500-5,000 words. Further indications will be given by the instructors at the beginning of the course.

- Written and oral assignments at practical seminars: 30%
- Final research paper: 50%
- Class participation: 20%

Absence policy: Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student's final grade as follows:

| Absences | Penalization |
|---------------------------|--|
| Up to two (2) absences | No penalization |
| Three (3) absences | 1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale) |
| Four (4) absences | 2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale) |
| Five (5) absences or more | The student receives an INCOMPLETE ("NO PRESENTAT") for the course |

The PEHE/HESP attendance policy **does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences**. The student is deemed responsible to manage his/her absences. Emergency situations (hospitalization, family emergency...) will be analyzed on a case by case basis by the Academic Director of the HESP.

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Classroom norms:

- No food or drink is permitted in class
- No mobile phones or other electronic devices are permitted in class with the only exception of laptops (only when used for class purposes)
- Students will have a ten-minute break after the first hour of each session

Weekly schedule

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

Presentation of the course syllabus, methods, requirements, assessment criteria, and readings. The United Nations: general questions. Precedents: the League of Nations. The foundation of the United Nations: context and process. Historical evolution of the UN: periods and challenges. The members of the UN.

Required reading for class discussion:

Hanhimäki, J. (2008), *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press.

WEEK 2: THE UNITED NATIONS STRUCTURE AND CHARTER (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

The United Nations Charter: key features and main content. Interpretation, reform and revision of the UN Charter. Organic structure of the UN: main and subsidiary bodies. The UN budget.

Required reading for class discussion:

United Nations (1945), *Charter of the United Nations*, 24 October 1945, 1 UNTS XVI. Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3930.html>

Taylor, P. & Curtis, D. (2011), "The United Nations", in Baylis, J.; Smith, S. & Owens, P. (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics: An introduction to international relations*, Oxford /New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 310- 325.

WEEK 3: PEACE AND SECURITY AND THE UNITED NATIONS (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

Maintaining international peace and security as a UN objective. The UN Charter system in relation to peace and security: a) Pacific settlement of disputes; b) Actions with respect to threats to the peace, breaches of the peace, and acts of aggression. History of the UN as an international actor working for peace and security.

Required reading for class discussion:

Mani, R. (2008), "Peaceful Settlement of Disputes and Conflict Prevention" in Daws, S. & Weiss, T. G., *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford/ New York: Oxford University Press.

WEEK 4: HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE UNITED NATIONS (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

The role of the UN in protecting Human Rights. The UN Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review. Reforms in the field of international cooperation in promoting and protecting Human Rights.

Required reading for class discussion:

Farer, T. F. & Gaer, F. (1993), "The UN and Human Rights: At the End of the Beginning", in Roberts, A. & Kingsbury, B., *United Nations, Divided World: The UN's Roles in International Relations* (eds.), Oxford/ New York: Oxford University Press.

WEEK 5: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND THE UNITED NATIONS (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

The role of the UN in fostering international social and economic cooperation. The UN Charter system in relation to international social and economic cooperation: the UN General Assembly and the ECOSOC. The UN and international development. The institutionalization of international aid. Reforms in the field of international social and economic cooperation.

Required reading for class discussion:

Fomerand, J. & Dijkzeul, D. (2008), "Coordinating Economic and Social Affairs", in Daws, S. & Weiss, T. G., *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford/ New York: Oxford University Press.

Jolly, R. (2008), "Human Development", in Daws, S. & Weiss, T. G., *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford/ New York: Oxford University Press.

WEEK 6: UN PEACE MISSIONS: AN INTRODUCTION (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

UN as peace implementing actor. History of UN peace missions. Organs within the UN involved in peace and security tasks. Decision-making process through which the UN takes action in real scenarios.

Required reading for class discussion:

Kareem, R. (2009), *Managing World Order: United Nations Peace Operations and the Security Agenda*, London: Tauris Academic Studies, pp. 13-35.

WEEK 7: UN PEACEKEEPING (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

UN peacekeeping concept. History of UN peacekeeping. UN organs aimed at peacekeeping: the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. Responses to inter-state crisis through unarmed or lightly armed UN forces. Analysis of UN peacekeeping missions in real scenarios: Palestine, Kashmir or Mount Sinai.

Reading and class discussion:

MacQueen, N. (2011), *The United Nations, Peace Operations and the Cold War*, Harlow: Pearson Education, pp. 28-50.

WEEK 8: UN PEACEMAKING (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

UN peacemaking or peace enforcement concept. Evolution from peacekeeping to peacemaking. UN low-level military operations. Analysis of UN peacemaking missions in real scenarios: Congo, Somalia or Yugoslavia.

Reading and class discussion:

Väyrynen, R. (1998), "Enforcement and Humanitarian Intervention: Two Faces of Collective Action by the United Nations", in Alger, C. (ed.) *The Future of the United Nations System: Potential for the Twenty-first Century*, Tokyo: The United Nations University Press.

WEEK 9: UN PEACEBUILDING (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

UN peacebuilding concept. Changing the UN peace paradigm in the post-Cold War time: Boutros-Ghali and An Agenda for Peace. Early UN peacebuilding: The Department of Political Affairs. The New Peacebuilding Architecture: The Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Support Office and the Peacebuilding Fund. Analysis of a couple of countries on the Peacebuilding Commission Agenda: Burundi, Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau.

Reading and class discussion:

Jenkins, R. (2013): *Peacebuilding: From Concept to Commission*, London: Routledge, pp. 18-74.

WEEK 10: UN PEACE AND SECURITY: A THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK (Date: TBC; Time: TBC)

Debates around the UN role in maintaining peace and security, and fostering development. Human Sustainable Development, New Wars, Human Security, the Responsibility to Protect, Failed States, Liberal Peace, Statebuilding. Provision of analytical frameworks for analysis: linking the theory to real missions. The future of the UN peace missions.

Reading and class discussion:

Coate, R., Knight, A. and Maximenko, A. (2005), "Requirements of Multilateral Governance for Promoting Human Security in a Postmodern Era", in Knight, A. (ed.) *Adapting the United Nations to a Postmodern Era*, New York: Palgrave (2nd ed.), pp. 11-28.

Required readings: Course reading pack prepared by the instructors.

Coate, R., Knight, A. and Maximenko, A. (2005), "Requirements of Multilateral Governance for Promoting Human Security in a Postmodern Era", in Knight, A. (ed.) *Adapting the United Nations to a Postmodern Era*, New York: Palgrave (2nd ed.), pp. 11-28.

Farer, T. F. & Gaer, F. (1993), "The UN and Human Rights: At the End of the Beginning", in Roberts, A. & Kingsbury, B., *United Nations, Divided World: The UN's Roles in International Relations* (eds.), Oxford / New York: Oxford University Press.

Fomerand, J. & Dijkzeul, D. (2008), "Coordinating Economic and Social Affairs", in Daws, S. & Weiss, T. G., *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford / New York: Oxford University Press.

Hanhimäki, J. (2008), *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press.

Jenkins, R. (2013): *Peacebuilding: From Concept to Commission*, London: Routledge, pp. 18-74.

Jolly, R. (2008), "Human Development", in Daws, S. & Weiss, T. G., *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford / New York: Oxford University Press.

Kareem, R. (2009), *Managing World Order: United Nations Peace Operations and the Security Agenda*, London: Tauris Academic Studies, pp. 13-35.

MacQueen, N. (2011), *The United Nations, Peace Operations and the Cold War*, Harlow: Pearson Education, pp. 28-50.

- Mani, R. (2008), "Peaceful Settlement of Disputes and Conflict Prevention" in Daws, S. & Weiss, T. G., *The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford / New York: Oxford University Press.
- Taylor, P. & Curtis, D. (2011), "The United Nations", in Baylis, J.; Smith, S. & Owens, P. (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics: An introduction to international relations*, Oxford / New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 310- 325
- United Nations (1945), *Charter of the United Nations*, 24 October 1945, 1 UNTS XVI.
Available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3930.html>
- Väyrynen, R. (1998), "Enforcement and Humanitarian Intervention: Two Faces of Collective Action by the United Nations", in Alger, C. (ed.) *The Future of the United Nations System: Potential for the Twenty-first Century*, Tokyo: The United Nations University Press.

Recommended bibliography:

- Alger, C. (ed.) (1998), *The Future of the United Nations System: Potential for the Twenty-first Century*, Tokyo: The United Nations University Press.
- Alkire, S. (2003), "A Conceptual Framework for Human Security", *CRISE Working Paper 2*, Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford.
- Barbara, J. (2008), "Rethinking neo-liberal state building: building post- conflict development states", *Development in Practice*, vol. 18, n. 3, pp. 307-318.
- Barnett, M., Hunjoo, K., O'Donnell, M. and Sitea, L. (2007): "Peacebuilding: What is in a Name?", *Global Governance*, vol. 13, no. 1, pp. 35-58.
- Bendaña, A. (2005), "From Peacebuilding to Statebuilding: One Step Forward or Two Steps Back?", *Development*, vol. 48, no. 3, pp. 5-15.
- Benner, T., Binder, A. and Rotmann P. (2007), "Learning to Build Peace? United Nations Peacebuilding and Organizational Learning: Developing a Research Framework", *Research Paper Series*, vol. 6, Berlin: Global Public Policy Institute.
- Bernhard Gareis, S. & Varwick, J. (2005), *The United Nations: An Introduction*, New York: Palgrave / MacMillan.
- Bhatia, M. (2003), *War and Intervention. Issues for Contemporary Peace Operations*, Bloomfield: Kumarian Press.
- Call, C. (2008), "The Fallacy of the "Failed States", *Third World Quarterly*, vol. 29, no.8, pp. 149 1-1507.
- Campbell, S., Chandler, D. and Sabaratnam, M. (eds.) (2011), *A Liberal Peace? The Problems and Practices of Peacebuilding*, London: Zed Books.
- Chesterman, S.; Franck, T. M. & Malone, D. M. (2008), *Law and practice of the United Nations: documents and commentary*, New York: Oxford University Press.
- Coate, R., Knight, A. and Maximenko, A. (2005), "Requirements of Multilateral Governance for Promoting Human Security in a Postmodern Era", in Knight, A. (ed.) *Adapting the United Nations to a Postmodern Era*, New York: Palgrave (2nd ed.).
- Cot, J.-P.; Pellet, A. et al. (2005), *La Charte des Nations Unies en 2 volumes: Commentaire article par article*, Paris: Economica.
- Dayton, B. and Kriesberg, L. (eds.) (2009), *Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding: Moving from Violence to Sustainable Peace*, London: Routledge.
- Doyle, M. and Sambanis, N. (2006), *Making War and Building Peace: United Nations Peace Operations*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

- Durch, W. (ed.) (2006), *Twenty-First-Century Peace Operations*, Washington: USIP.
- Farrall, J. M. (2009), *United Nations sanctions and the rule of law*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Fassbender, B. (2009), *The United Nations Charter as the constitution of the international community*, Boston: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers.
- García, C. (2013), "Las "Nuevas Guerras" del siglo XXI. Tendencias de la Conflictividad Armada Contemporánea", *Working Papers*, no. 323, Institut de Ciències Polítiques i Socials.
- Gareis, S. and Varwick, J. (2005), *The United Nations: An Introduction*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Genser, J. & Ugarte, B. S. (2014), *The United Nations Security Council in the age of human rights*, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Goetze, C. and Guzina, D. (2008), "Peacebuilding, Statebuilding, Nationbuilding- Turtles All the Way Down?", *Civil Wars*, vol. 10, no. 4, pp. 319-347 .
- Hanhimäki, J. (2008), *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press.
- Helman, G. and Ratner, S. (1999), "Saving Failed States", *Foreign Policy*, vol. 89.
- James, A. (1990), *Peace-keeping in International Politics*, New York: St. Martin's.
- Jenkins, R. (2013), *Peacebuilding: From Concept to Commission*, London: Routledge.
- Kaldor, M. (2007), *Human Security: Reflections on Globalization and Intervention*, Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Kareem, R. (2009), *Managing World Order: United Nations Peace Operations and the Security Agenda*, London: Tauris Academic Studies.
- Knight, A. and Egerton, F. (ed.) (2012), *The Routledge Handbook of the Responsibility to Protect*, Routledge.
- Knight, W. A. (ed.) (2001), *Adapting the United Nations to a postmodern era: lessons learned*, Houndmills / New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- MacQueen, N. (2011), *The United Nations, Peace Operations and the Cold War*, Harlow: Pearson Education.
- Mingst, K. and Karns, M. (2007), *The United Nations in the 21st Century*, Westview Press: Cambridge.
- Paris, R. and Sisk, T. (eds.) (2009), *The Dilemmas of Statebuilding. Confronting the Contradictions of Postwar Peace Operations*, New York: Routledge.
- Pouligny, B. (2006), *Peace Operations Seen from Below. UN Missions and Local People*, London: C. Hurst & Co.
- Price, R. and Zacher, M. (eds.) (2004), *The United Nations and Global Security*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Puchala, D. J. et al. (2007), *United Nations politics: international organization in a divided world*, Upper Saddle River: Pearson Prentice Hall.
- Richmond, O. (2008), *Peace in International Relations*, London: Routledge.
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- Sarooshi, D. (1999), *The United Nations and the development of collective security: the delegation by the UN Security Council of its chapter VII powers*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Simma, B. (2002), *The Charter of the United Nations: A Commentary*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Thakur, R. and Newman, E. (eds.) (2000), *New Millennium, New Perspectives. The United Nations, Security and Governance*, NY: The United Nations University.
- Weiss, T. G. & Daws, S. (eds.) (2007), *The Oxford handbook on the United Nations*, Oxford / New York: Oxford University Press.