Summer 2006 -- Switzerland

Survey of International Organizations with a concentration on Human Rights

This year, this course is offered in English through the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. It accounts for 9 European Credit Transfer units, which – if translated by your home institution – may count toward your degree.

Course Dates: 7 July to 4 August 2006 Location: University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Academic Purpose

This Survey of International Organizations (SIO) provides students with an overview of the goals, functioning and significance of key international organizations in today's fast changing globalized environment. The course examines the achievements and failures of some of the world's most important economic, political and humanitarian organizations from an interdisciplinary perspective. The goal of the course is to equip participants with a well-rounded set of analytical tools that help them assess both the future role of international organizations in the 21st century and their past and present effectiveness in addressing important global challenges, including global warming, pandemic poverty, infectious diseases, wars and arms races.

The structure of the *SIO* revolves around regular coursework and relevant field visits. The interdisciplinary course is organized into modules in various areas of study, including economics, political science, international relations and international law. Class meetings are held during four days, with a fifth day of each week reserved for a field trip allowing students to see the day-to-day operation and meet with distinguished representatives of major international organizations, such as the United Nations, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labor Organization, the World Trade Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross (all based in Geneva), as well as the E.U. Parliament, the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France.

The SIO offers students an intellectually stimulating, innovative and diverse program of study in a safe environment, with maximum exposure to the cultural and political life of contemporary Switzerland, Europe and the world of international diplomacy.

Enroll NOW! Admission is limited to 45 students and is granted on a first come basis.

Application Deadline: Please enroll electronically at http://www.unifr.ch/acp/sio_application.html and submit all materials by April 15, 2006 (see address below).

Course fees will cover the following:

- 60 hours of contact time (lectures, small group discussions, field trips)
- Meals and Accommodation
- On-site visits to the UN, UNHCR, ILO, WHO, WTO, WIPO, ICRC, European Parliament, European Court of Human Rights, and the European Council. (incl. transportation and hotel accommodation)

Interdisciplinary Focus, Multicultural Tradition, Unforgettable Experience

Successful operation in today's increasingly interdependent world, in particular in international organizations, requires interdisciplinary thinking. This course, through its interdisciplinary focus and method, provides participants with the intellectual tools necessary to thrive in today's rapidly globalizing environment. The course takes place in Fribourg, Switzerland – a charming medieval city in the heart of Europe, surrounded by majestic mountains, romantic lakes and nurturing forests. Fribourg is famous for its bilingualism (French and German), its long-standing multicultural and humanistic tradition (allowing the world's diverse races, religions and cultures to co-exist peacefully), and for its delicious Fondue (an intriguing hot soup made of melted cheese). Both the stimulating course as well as the fascinating cultural environment in which it will take place provide the best guarantee for an unforgettable summer experience.

Course Modules and Topics

IR/Political Science

- Global Threats and the Role of the UN
- European Integration
- The Process of International Policy Making
- The UN Millennium Development Goals and World Health

Law

- International Law, Multilateralism and World Order
- The EU. Its External Relations and the New Constitution
- The Global Refugee Crisis and International Law
- The United Nations and Human Rights
- Torture, Terrorism, and International Humanitarian Law

Political Economy

- WTO, IMF, and the World Bank
- National vs. Supranational Currency, International Debt
- Challenges of Globalization

Course Schedule

Lectures are held daily from 9:00am-12:00pm. The remainder of the time is allotted for research, reading and preparation. Participants are given ample time to explore Fribourg, Switzerland, and Europe.

Contact Information

Enrollment Information:
American College Program
University of Fribourg
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Web: http://www.unifr.ch/acp/sio application.html

Program Information:
Prof. Urs A. Cipolat
Interdisciplinary Studies Field
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Tel: 510 643-2455 E-mail: cipolat@yahoo.com

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ISF 110 Summer 2006: Course Program¹

Orientation (July 7)

Friday- General Information Session / Welcome Dinner (Prof. Urs Cipolat, Andrej

Lushnycky) (meet in Foyer Lobby at 4pm)

Week 1 (July 10-14)

Monday- Global Threats and the Role of International Organizations (Prof. Urs Cipolat)

Tuesday- How Human Rights Work (Prof. **Thomas Fleiner**)

Wednesday- The Global Refugee Crisis and Int'l Law (Prof. Walter Kaeling)
Int'l Law, Multilateralism and World Order (Prof. Urs Cipolat)

Friday- Field Trip to the United Nations and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

in Geneva (Departure: 7:00am – Return: 7pm)

Week 2 (July 17-21)

Monday- The Process of Int'l Policy Making: Actors, Issues, Outcomes (Prof. Urs

Cipolat)

Tuesday- The EU, Its External Relations and the New Constitution (Andrea Joss, PhD

Candidate, Institute for European Law)

Wednesday- European Integration, the European Neighborhood Policy and Its Global

Ramification (Prof. Nicolas Hayoz) / Afternoon: Review Session

Thursday- 2-day Field Trip to Strasbourg/European Court of Human Rights - Council of

Europe (Departure: 6:15am)

Friday- European Parliament (Return: 11pm)

Week 3 (July 24-28)

Monday- -- Day off --

Tuesday- Mid-term Exam; Afternoon: Field Trip to the ICRC (Departure: 11:45am)

Wednesday- WTO, IMF, and the World Bank: Economic Imperialism or Genuine Help?

(Simon Lacey, International Trade Institute; Prof. Simon Evenett)

Thursday- National vs. Supranational Currency, International Debt and the Challenges of

Globalization (Prof. **Heinrich Bortis**)

Friday- Field Trip to the WTO and the ILO in Geneva (Departure: 7am – Return: 7pm)

Week 4 (July 31-Aug. 4)

Monday- Torture, Terrorism and Int'l Humanitarian Law (Prof. Urs Cipolat)

Tuesday- Attendance of UN Conference (Departure: 7am)

Wednesday- Field Trip to the WHO and the WIPO / Farewell Dinner (Return: 11pm)

Thursday- Review Session
Friday- Final Exam

¹ Subject to change.

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