



KIIS Netherlands Program, Summer 2024

PS 355 International Organization and Law

Instructor: Dr. Brittany Wood

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: This course will provide an overview of the origin and development of international law and international organizations, with particular focus on the International Criminal Court and its effort in trying individuals for genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and aggression. POL/LST 457 International Law & Organizations.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes: By the end of the course, the student should be able to do the following:

- A. Examine changes to international norms leading to interdependence after World War II;

- B. Identify the sources of international law and the creation of international organizations;
- C. Analyze the structure of specific international institutions (e.g., the International Criminal Court); and
- D. Develop valid causal statements about social events, behaviors, and institutions related to course topics.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

- The development of international law and organizations in the modern era.
- The effect of World War II on the movement towards greater global economic and political integration.
- The International Criminal Court and its effort in trying individuals for genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and aggression.
- How to think scientifically when studying the political world.
- The evolution of international norms towards international peace through identification of common interests and promoting interdependence among states.
- The sources of international law, enforcement mechanisms, and limitations to enforcement.
- Specific examples of international organizations, including the United Nations, World Bank, World Trade Organization, and the International Criminal Court.

5. Required Readings and Materials:

1. Frederking, Brian and Paul Diehl. 2015. *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Interdependent World*, 5th Edition. Lynn Rienner Publishers.
2. Rochester, J. Martin. 2011. *Between Peril and Promise: The Politics of International Law*, 2nd Edition. Sage Publishing.

6. Graded Assignments:

A. Participation (10%)

Students will be assessed on level of engagement in class discussions, as well as during lectures, tours, excursions, and class presentations.

B. Pre-Departure Writing Assignment (20%)

Students will be provided two questions, one on the common reading and one on the common film. Each student will write a 1-page response to each question (meaning, two 1-page responses) and submit them prior to departure.

C. Mobile Learning Activities (20%)

Students will use their mobile devices to document their findings and make connections between their on-site experiences and course content. Students must submit a video or photo, along with 1-2 sentences describing the posted media and another 1-2 sentences explaining how it relates to course material. Some days the instructor may provide a specific prompt that you must respond to, other days will be prompt free. On prompt-free days, students are encouraged to use their oral presentation topic to guide their posts.

D. Current Event Assignments (20%)

Students will be tasked with reading news from global media sources to stay up to date on current events. Students will submit 2 response papers (2-3 paragraphs) summarizing the articles and connecting them to course material.

E. Oral Presentation (30%)

Using the course materials combined with news articles, personal observations while abroad, and supplemental readings, students will present to the class on one historical or current case facing the ICC.

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with

dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir (270-745-6867 / ena.demir@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigator, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.