

## **Fall 2017 International Affairs course offerings**

### **RINT 501 Global Governance**

**Rey Koslowski**

**T 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM MI0215**

This course examines the organization of world politics in the context of globalization and provides an overview of international organizations, such as the United Nations, and regional organizations, such as the European Union. The course reviews the historical evolution of the international system and the basic concepts of international relations. It then examines international cooperation beyond the confines of formal organizational structures with particular emphasis on international regimes, institutions and norms that govern state practices in particular issue areas—from trade and weapons proliferation to the environment and refugees. The course also examines transnational relations of non-state actors such as nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and multinational corporations as well as transgovernmental relations of sub-national governments and government agencies that shape policymaking at a global level.

### **RINT 502 Economics for Global Affairs**

**Kenneth Coates**

**TH 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM MI0215**

This course examines applied intermediate microeconomics and macro-economics in cross-national settings. This course is designed for students without an economics background. Students who pass a microeconomics and macro-economics placement examination may take a more advanced economics class as a substitute. Prerequisite: Completion or concurrent enrollment in RINT 503 Quantitative Approaches to International Affairs.

### **RINT 503 Quantitative Approaches to International Affairs**

**Brian Greenhill**

**M 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM MI0215**

This course is an introduction to quantitative methods and computer-based tools for planning, policy analysis, and decision-making. This course will provide students with useful tools for engaging in empirical research and help students understand literature that uses quantitative methods. Students will learn how to think about theoretical problems in terms of statistical models - hypothesis testing, OLS regression models, and some extensions. The class is designed to support the core economic courses in the program and in particular the Global Economic Policy concentration.

### **RINT 512 Human Rights**

**David Guinn** [http://www.cid.suny.edu/about\\_us/our\\_staffs/about\\_Guinn.shtml](http://www.cid.suny.edu/about_us/our_staffs/about_Guinn.shtml)

**M 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM HS0015**

This course examines the legal, political, and social dimensions of the modern human rights movement and its implications for international affairs. It provides both an introduction to basic human rights philosophy, principles, instruments, and institutions, and an overview of several current issues and debates in the field. The course also seeks to analyze the ways in which allegations of human rights violations are dealt with and to expose some of the limitations in the architecture of the international system. Case studies will be used to illustrate contemporary debates regarding hierarchy among rights, conflicts between individual rights and societal priorities, human rights in single-party states, rights and transitions to democracy, amnesty for human rights violations, and the linkage between human rights and other national interests.

## **RINT 523 International Development Policy**

**Kenneth Coates**

**W 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM MI0215**

Six of 7 billion people on the planet live in relative poverty with respect to the inhabitants of advanced countries, 1 billion of them in dire need. Development is the name we give to the universal game of their attempts to grow into a world of improved living standards. Is there room at the top for all? Or is this a zero-sum game? While development strategy and economic policy are clearly the major considerations in this process, other factors such as domestic institutions, international relations and global market conditions play an important role. This course seeks to provide students with a rich view of common issues faced in the challenges of development, and of the evolution of thinking in the international aid community regarding different country strategies and priorities. While avoiding a concentrated quantitative focus, it requires familiarity with the analytical tools of economics and a basic grasp of statistics. The course is aimed at graduate students choosing the Global Economic Policy concentration in the Master of International Affairs degree program, but should be of interest to anyone wishing to familiarize themselves with a practitioner's viewpoint of development. The completion of an introductory economics courses at the undergraduate level is a prerequisite for attendance.

## **RINT 531 Government Information Strategy and Management: Comparative and International Perspectives**

**Mila Gascó** [http://www.albany.edu/rockefeller/faculty\\_pad\\_gasco.shtml](http://www.albany.edu/rockefeller/faculty_pad_gasco.shtml)

**W 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM HS0214**

This course draws from literature and case studies to understand cultural differences in the concepts of digital government, practical applications for building information capabilities of organizations across national and cultural boundaries and understanding the behavioral aspects of digital government within the larger society and global economy. Topics include the global information environment; managing information in multi-national settings; information access, security, and privacy; information systems for international organizations; international trends in information and technology policies, and using information and technology for global collaborative networks.

## **RINT 533 Global Non-profit Management**

**T 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM HS0006**

**Gina Volynsky**

[http://www.cid.suny.edu/newsroom/news2016/newsroom\\_2016\\_director.shtml](http://www.cid.suny.edu/newsroom/news2016/newsroom_2016_director.shtml)

Global non-profit organizations help millions of people and strive to make the world a better place. Their staffs work tirelessly to respond to humanitarian crises, to save lives from diseases and violence, to educate children, raise families out of poverty, bring social justice, and mitigate climate change. International non-governmental organizations (INGOs), such as Save the Children, provide more aid than many Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. They have been reducing poverty in all its forms around the world by 30% since the 1990s, and as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals indicate, there is still much work to do, even as funding from wealthier countries seems uncertain. The course provides a comprehensive overview of the international development sector from the perspective of global non-profit management, and is taught by a senior practitioner. It examines INGOs and their work from every aspect necessary for them to successfully achieve their mission. The course will begin with an overview of the sector including the major players, their geographic reach, and the pressing global issues they are addressing. Students will gain a deeper understanding of who funds INGOs, how they are funded, the strategies they follow for fund raising, the specifics of grant writing and the awards process, as well as the communications and lobbying that supports it all. Then it will delve into the operations of INGOs from management and structure to the

profiles of the staff, career paths, compensation, and how they are recruited. Next, their implementation of programs on the ground will be examined, including how they work with local and international partners, program design and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. The course will end with an examination of the ethical and cultural issues facing global NGOs as well as the effects of current and emerging political issues. The course is designed for current and aspiring employees of INGOs and practitioners of international development and primarily aimed at graduate students in the Masters of International Affairs and the Masters of Public Administration programs. Political Science graduate students as well as researchers from other disciplines looking to gain a deeper understanding of INGOs and international development are also most welcome. The course will have a heavy emphasis on student discussions, research, participation, and presentations. Students will also work on real life examples, issues, and case studies. For approximately half the sessions, students will have an opportunity to learn and to talk with guest lecturers, who are expert practitioners about that week's topic.

### **RINT 543 Political Violence, Insurgency and Terrorism**

**Ian Anderson**

**TH 05:45\_PM-09:25\_PM HS0202**

This course examines the relationships among, and differences between, the following activities in the international political system: political violence, insurgency, and terrorism. The course will include a consideration of the causes of these activities, their effects on national and international politics, and an evaluation of governmental responses to them.