

Module description

Field of study: *Business, Management and Services*

Degree course: *Bachelor of Science HES-SO in International Business Management*

1. Title of module	Economics II	2025-26
Code: 3052	Type of course: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> MAS <input type="checkbox"/> DAS <input type="checkbox"/> CAS <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...	
Level: <input type="checkbox"/> Basic module <input type="checkbox"/> Further studies module <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced module <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised module <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...	Characteristic: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Module where failure may lead to final dismissal from the degree course in accordance with Art.25 of the Framework directives on the Bachelor and Master degrees at the HES-SO	
Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main module <input type="checkbox"/> Module linked to main module <input type="checkbox"/> Optional or subsidiary module <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...	Time schedule: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Module over 1 semester <input type="checkbox"/> Module over 2 semesters <input type="checkbox"/> Spring semester <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Autumn semester <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...	

2. Organisation

ECTS credits 6

Language:

<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Italian
<input type="checkbox"/> German	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...	

3. Prerequisite

- To have validated the module
 To have followed the module
 No prerequisite
 Other: to have validated the first-year assessment

4. Skills to be gained / general learning objectives

Objectives for the course: International trade

At the end of this class, students will have a basic understanding of how international trade works.

Learning objectives:

- Understand how trade affects different types of workers and why.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the functions of the WTO and the main principles
- Discuss the pros and cons of different trade policies

Objectives for the course: International relations

The course intends to give a general overview of international relations (IR) through the lenses of political economy, with a specific focus of international trade, direct investment and finance.

The course will also investigate how domestic institutions and civil societies influence international economic policy choices and the role of multilateral diplomacy (in particular Bretton-Woods institutions such as the World Trade Organization, the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund, and the G7-8 / OECD).

Furthermore, some attention will be devoted to a number of key contemporary issues in international affairs such as globalisation versus neo-protectionism, regionalism versus nationalism, domestic versus international standards (goods & services, environment, labour etc.). The course will shed light on, how corporate organisations are impacted by events such as the 2008

financial crisis, changes in global supply chains, global power shifts and the emergence of emerging and frontier markets as global economic power.

Objectives for the course: International organizations

This course aims at providing students with a general understanding of international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, working in the realms of peace and security, health, humanitarian action and IHL. As such, while strongly anchored in current affairs, it will focus mainly, based on historical and theoretical elements, on the United Nations System, and humanitarian NGOs. More specifically, the discussion and case studies will deal with the challenges, the successes and the historical path of these organizations, discussing notably how – and if they have been able to – they have evolved. The course will also address the questions of why would states want to join an international organization and that of the power of non-governmental organizations. Other international organizations, such as the WEF or the CERN will be discussed as seen fit.

5. Teaching and content

Course: International relations

This is an introductory course in the study of international relations. The goal of this course is to acquaint you with the concepts, ideas, and analytical tools necessary to understand state behavior and relationships among actors in the international system with a specific focus of international political economics, trade, and finance. The course will also investigate how domestic institutions and civil societies influence international economic policy choices and the role of multilateral diplomacy (in particular Bretton-Woods institutions such as the World Trade Organization, the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund, and the G7-8 / OECD).

Furthermore, focused attention will be devoted to a number of key contemporary issues in international affairs such as globalisation versus neo-protectionism, regionalism versus nationalism, domestic versus international standards (goods & services, environment, labour etc.), Feminism and social (in) justice etc. The course will shed light on, how corporate organisations are impacted by events such as the 2008 financial crisis, changes in global supply chains, global power shifts and the emergence of emerging and frontier markets as global economic power

Basic understanding of International Relations and current world affairs:

- International relations and politics: how political decisions, international relations between states shaped world the way we see it today. What can history teach us?
- Exploring pre-post 1945 International system and international economic relations, the post 1989 globalisation shift, and recent trends.
- Political economy and international affairs and how IR impact wages of labour.

Globalisation and its impact on business, international trade and trade finance

- What is globalisation: sense or nonsense?
- Globalisation versus neo-protectionism, regionalism versus nationalism, domestic versus international standards
- Globalisation and the changes in global supply chains, global power shifts and the emergence of emerging and frontier markets as global economic power

Role of international organisation (WTO, The World Bank, IMF, MNC etc.) in international trade agreements

- International trade agreements and role of WTO
- Is Doha agreement dead?
- Bilateralism, multilateralism and the rise of regionalism
- MNEs and foreign direct investment (FDI): The domination of OECD and emerging economies, political history, economics of social inequality and rise of MNCs.
- International finance: Role of WB, IMF and other international public/private actors.

Course: International organizations

Basic understanding of historical and theoretical concepts to understand International Organizations

- Historical perspective: the long process towards today's international organizations as they are. Have they been able to evolve and adapt. How they have build on failures.
- Theoretical Perspective: from Realism to Constructivism, using the lenses of theory to understand and explain International Organizations
- Exploring the concept of Sovereignty and its corollaries, questioning its pertinence, or renewed pertinence, today.

Understanding the United Nations as a system, going beyond pre-conceived ideas, exploring its role in Peace and Security

- The United Nations as a system, a complex web of multilateralism.
- The UNSC its composition, its successes, its challenges and the question of its reform
- Understanding the kind of power the UN and specifically the UNSC has and does not have. Through case studies and examples. Between Idealism and challenges to sovereignty.

Understanding International humanitarian Law and Humanitarian action

- Understanding IHL, the Geneva Convention and the ICRC.
- Understanding Modern Humanitarian action: actors, principles, history and current perspectives.
- Challenges to Humanitarian action. Through case studies and examples

6. Assessment and validation methods

Each course syllabus available on the moodle plateforme Cyberlearn describes the assessment and validation methods.

7. Reassessment requirements

- Reassessment possible
 No reassessment
 Other (please specify): ...

7a Reassessment requirements (if module is repeated)

- Reassessment possible
 No reassessment
 Other (please specify): ...

other reassessment modalities

Reassessment if the module grade is between 3.5 (included) and 3.9 (included).
 After reassessment, the maximum grade is 4.0