

SYLLABUS

World Climate Negotiations Bootcamp

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Teaching assistant : Romain LEOPOLD

Language of instruction: English

Number of hours of class: 24

Summary

The general aim of this course is to explore global issues, environmental challenges, diplomacy and multilateralism through both a practical and a theoretical point of view. This course will be hybrid and will be composed of sessions dedicated to negotiation simulations combined to theoretical sessions dedicated to introducing International Relations theories and reflections.

Three rounds of negotiations will be held during which students will embody a delegate at a world climate summit. Each round of negotiation will be dedicated to a specific fundamental environmental challenge (greenhouse gas emissions, forestry and land use, and climate finance). The sessions will be composed of informal and formal negotiations between the delegates. Delegations will make proposals that will be discussed, amended and voted. Plus, each state will have to set its own “national determined contribution”. The final aim of the rounds of negotiation is to agree on the “national determined contribution” of each country and on 2 or 3 suggestions per topic.

The theoretical sessions will be held after each round of negotiation. The theoretical sessions will be divided in two main parts. On one hand, a collective discussion will be engaged to debrief the negotiation that preceded. Students will be given the opportunity to reflect on their experience and the discussion will be enriched by theoretical insights. On the other hand, students will be introduced to the main International Relations theories (International Realism, International Liberalism, and Constructivism) and concepts. This will enable students to put their practical experience into perspective, to locate it in the more general spectrum of international relations and global challenges and to analyze it in the light of International Relations theories

Learning objectives

This course has a triple objective.

First, it aims to familiarize students with negotiating practices and diplomatic conducts. Students will discover and experience the complexity of multilateral policymaking.

Second, the course aims to provide a general understanding of the main contemporary environmental issues. It also aims to raise awareness on how complex solving environmental issues is.

Third, the course aims to introduce the International Relations discipline and its main theories. It will enable students to acquire a general understanding of International Relations foundations, but it will also allow to

propose different theoretical explanations of the successes and failures of multilateralism and climate negotiations.

Throughout the course students are expected to develop negotiating skills, to acquire an understanding of diplomatic customs and international relations, to acquire general knowledge about environmental issues and climate change challenges, and to be familiarized with classical IR theories and reflections.

Professor Biography



Marie Durrieu is a doctoral researcher in Political science and International Relations associated to the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) and the DGRIS (within the French Ministry of Defense). She graduated from the Doctoral School of Sciences Po and is currently a Political Science and International Relations teacher at Sciences Po and at the University of Clermont-Auvergne. Her areas of studies are : international relations, international negotiations, Middle East and emotions in politics. She recently published *Du conflit israélo-palestinien au nucléaire iranien : l'humiliation la variable oubliée des négociations* at the Harmattan editions.



Tancrede Voiturez has a PhD in Economics and is a Senior researcher on Global Governance at Iddri-Sciences Po. His research focuses on trade and green innovation relationships, and on the causes of inertia in the implementation of sustainable development policies. Tancrede Voiturez has been involved as a coordinator and/or expert in numerous research projects on globalization and sustainable development for the European Commission, the European Parliament, the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment, among others. He has been teaching at Sciences Po since 2005.

Course evaluation

Introductory speech - position statement (30%): At the beginning of each negotiation, we will go around the table and the delegates will make a 2-minute speech in which the position of the delegation will be presented. Students will be evaluated on their capacity to identify the main objectives of the represented actor, on their capacity to synthesize the position of the represented actor and on their presentation skills.

Final essay (40%): At the end of the program, students will work on a short essay (between 1000 and 1500 words). In this essay, students will choose the IR theory that, according to them, is more accurate to account for climate negotiations. Throughout the essay they will have to demonstrate why is the IR theory they picked relevant to explain the successes and the failures of climate negotiations. They will have to rely on concrete examples from the negotiation's simulations and from real climate summits and agreements to construct their argumentation. Students will be evaluated on their understanding of IR theories and on their ability to build a coherent argumentation, on their capacity to explain and analyse concrete international phenomena with theoretical tools.

Participation (30%): students' global involvement in the course and the performance during the negotiations will be evaluated.

Precisions:

- None of the evaluations will take into account the english level.
- Different awards will be given to recognize students' performance in the negotiations. These awards are primarily symbolic, but they will also add bonus points to the participation grade.

Organization of the course

OPENING LECTURES by Tancrède Voituriez

These two sessions will provide intellectual material for students to understand the rationale, modalities and achievements of climate negotiations, as well as the possible way forward.

In the first session, the lecture will provide insights on the emergence of global warming as a global issue in international relations and delineate the specificities of climate negotiations when compared to other negotiation areas. It will delve into the approach chosen until the 15th Conference of Parties convened in Copenhagen in 2009 and explain why this particular Conference has been a watershed.

In the second session, the lecture will focus on a second key moment of climate talks, namely the 21st Conference of Parties (COP 21) convened in Paris in 2015, and its follow-ups in Sharm-el-Sheikh (2022), Dubai (2023) and Baku (2024). The remaining challenges and burning issues in the negotiations will be addressed in the final part of the lecture, including the withdrawal of the US and the possible levers to make climate action irreversible, namely carbon border measures and climate finance.

SESSION 1 (2H) – 30/06: INTRODUCTORY SESSION

Section 1 : Introduction to the course

- Introduce ourselves
- Presentation of the organization of the sessions
- Presentation of the aims course
- Presentation of the modalities of evaluation

Section 2 : Preparation to the negotiation simulation

- Presentation of the simulation and its tools
- Distribution of the delegations
- Training public speaking
- Guidelines and instructions for the negotiations
- Distribution of introductory speeches

• SESSION 2 (3H30) – 01/07: ROUND 1 OF NEGOTIATIONS – GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

• SESSION 3 (2H) – 02/07: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORIES – CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNANCE

Section 1 : Debrief of the first round of negotiation

Section 2 : Climate change governance, an IR approach

- Presenting the distinction : International Relations the discipline / international relations / IR theories
- Governing climate change : an International Relations issue
- Concepts and definitions (governance / multilateralism) ➤ Historical background

Section 3 : Activity – Discussion with an invited speaker (Gaetan Renaud – Sciences Po Alumni and Climate activist)

- **SESSION 4 (3H30) – 06/07: ROUND 2 OF NEGOTIATIONS – FORESTRY AND LAND USE**
- **SESSION 5 (2H) – 07/07: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORIES – INTERNATIONAL REALISM**

Section 1 : Debrief of the second round of negotiation

Section 2 : Introduction to International Realism

- International Realism basic concepts
- International Realism basic authors
- Realist understanding of multilateralism and climate negotiations

Section 3 : Activity – Explain international phenomena through realism

- **SESSION 6 (3H30) – 08/07: ROUND 3 OF NEGOTIATIONS – CLIMATE FINANCE**
- **SESSION 7 (1H30) – 08/07: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORIES – INTERNATIONAL LIBERALISM**

Section 1 : Debrief of the third round of negotiation

Section 2 : Introduction to International Liberalism

- International Liberalism basic concepts
- International Liberalism basic authors
- Liberal understanding of multilateralism and climate negotiations

- **SESSION 8 (2H) – 09/07: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORIES – CONSTRUCTIVISM**

Section 1 : Activity – Debate : Realism vs. Liberalism to account climate negotiations

Section 2 : Introduction to International constructivism

- International constructivism basic concepts
- International constructivism basic authors
- Constructivist understanding of multilateralism and climate negotiations

Section 3 : conclusion of
the course