

## International Organizations: Focus on Geneva

**Program Dates:** June 20 – June 27, 2009 (Plan to arrive in Geneva by the morning of June 20<sup>th</sup>)

**New York Session Dates:** May 18, 21, 28 and June 1, 8, 11

**Registration:** Registration for this class is controlled and limited. To reserve your place, please fill out the program confirmation registration form. Registration forms and a \$300 deposit must be sent to MyKellann via e-mail and/or snail mail by 5pm on April 7, 2009. Students will be notified of their enrollment status by April 21 (please see information below regarding cancellation penalty). **Priority will be given to those in the International Relations or International Law concentrations and graduating during the Spring, Summer, or Fall 2009 semesters.** Short personal statements will also be considered.

**Documents:** **For U.S. citizens, a valid passport is required.** Be sure that it is up-to-date. Non-U.S. passport holders should check with the Swiss Consulate for their required Documentation.

**Degree Requirement:** The UN in Geneva Study Program forms part of the course on *International Organizations: Focus on Geneva*. It fulfills a requirement for the International Relations or International Law, Dispute Settlement, and Institutions concentration. It can also count toward your elective credits if you are pursuing one of the other three concentrations. \*\*\*Students who have previously registered for International Organizations, Y45.2250 are not eligible\*\*\*

**Non-degree component:** Please be aware that this course will convene with the non-degree Global Affairs certificate students in Geneva. All programs & activities will include both the both Global Affairs Certificate students and MSGA students.

### About the “MSGA Global Field Intensive” Study Abroad Approach MSGA Global Field Intensive: Project Based Study Abroad Initiative

The Global Field Intensive model has been designed for students to maximize their in-country academic experience by engaging in comprehensive pre-departure research and project planning. Rather than simply attending a series of lectures and site-visits while abroad, students are asked to become active participants in their field intensive in-country experience. Global Field Intensives incorporate the following elements across all programs: pre-departure class sessions; pre-departure project planning with professor; onsite lectures; onsite field visits; onsite individual or group information gathering; onsite MSGA faculty and student debrief sessions; post-trip wrap-up sessions and project presentations.

### Program and Course Description

Y45.2250.999 International Organizations: Focus on Geneva

Increasing globalization and interdependence have led to an expanded and enhanced role for intergovernmental organizations. The course *International Organizations: Focus on Geneva* will provide an analytical overview of the functioning of such organizations in the contemporary world. The main focus will be on the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, the "UN system". Attention will also be given to non-UN institutions and arrangements, such as the European Union (EU), Organization of African States (OAS), African Union (AU), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The effectiveness, strengths and limitations of all of these intergovernmental organizations will be critically examined, along with future challenges. Particular emphasis will be given to the impact of political forces on the realization of their goals.

## Excursions and activities may include:

- World Health Organization (WHO)
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Permanent Missions of UN Member States and intergovernmental organizations at Geneva
- Sightseeing walking tour of historic Geneva whose foundations date to ancient Roman times
- Three dinners with your faculty escort, including a farewell dinner

## Site

Geneva is the European headquarters of the United Nations, the primary seat of several of its specialized and affiliated agencies, and the center of many of its global responsibilities. This unique study tour places you in the historic Palais des Nations, the original home of the League of Nations, now the hub of international activity, and the setting for hundreds of year-round meetings and conferences. There, you meet and are briefed by senior UN officials, diplomats, key representatives of governments, and non-governmental organizations on such topics as human rights, refugees, peace and security, world health, world trade, development, HIV/AIDS, women and children, international labor issues, and humanitarian assistance.

## Accommodations

Students are housed at the Eden, a charming hotel within minutes of UN headquarters. Rooms are air-conditioned with private bathrooms. There is a comfortable lounge and restaurant.

## Faculty

### **JOHN P. RENNINGER, M.A., PH.D.**

Dr. John Renninger retired from the UN Secretariat in 2005 after 30 years of service. He is now an international consultant and lecturer. Beginning in 1992, Dr. Renninger occupied senior positions in the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA), where he was the senior American. His last two positions were Director, Americas and Europe Division (2003-2005) and Director, Asia and Pacific Division (2001-2003). In these positions he provided political advice and helped shape the diplomatic initiatives of the Secretary-General, particularly regarding early warning, preventive action and peacemaking. He represented the United Nations at many meetings of other intergovernmental organizations, including the European Union, the Council of Europe and the OSCE. At UN headquarters he was intimately involved with the transition to independence in South Africa, where he served as an election monitor. He also helped plan the consultation leading to the independence of East Timor and played a key role in designing the UN mission dispatched to Afghanistan following the overthrow of the Taliban regime. From 1989 to 1992, he worked in the fields of inter-agency coordination and economic affairs. From 1974 to 1989 he was at UNITAR, eventually becoming Senior Advisor to the Executive Director for Research. In this position he had many contacts with the academic world and authored various books, monographs, and articles concerning UN issues. Dr. Renninger attended Northwestern University (BA, political science), The George Washington University (M.A International Affairs) and the University of Pittsburgh (PH.D., International Affairs). From 1969 to 1971 he served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Sierra Leone.

## Program Director

### **MARIA D. MALDONADO, M.A.**

Maria D. Maldonado worked at the United Nations almost since the day she finished graduate school with a Masters in Sociology in 1973. From 1974 to 1986 she was deeply involved with the preparations for Namibia's independence; the Central America peace process; organization of international conferences; and research and preparation of reports on regions extending from the Western Sahara to Puerto Rico. From 1986 to 1995 she advanced from senior officer to deputy director of General Assembly (GA) Affairs. In this capacity she oversaw the work of the GA working groups on GA reform, Security Council reform and the Agenda for Peace. Her main functions included providing advice to the President of the Assembly, the Secretary-General (SG), the Under Secretary-General, and other senior officials and delegations on the practice and procedures of the Assembly. From 1996 to 1998 she served as Deputy Director and for a year as Officer-in-Charge of the Americas Division in the Department of Political

Affairs. In this important position, she provided political advice and support to the SG and senior officials on all matters relating to the promotion and maintenance of peace and security in the Americas. Beginning in 1998, she established the Decolonization Unit in the Department of Political Affairs and served as Chief of the department. As Chief of the Decolonization Unit, she provided political advice and support to the GA on all matters relating to decolonization and Non-Self-Governing Territories. From January 2003 until the end of 2004, she served as Deputy Head of Mission, United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala. She served in the Department of Political Affairs of the United Nations and now works as a consultant. She has been the program director of the UN in Geneva Study Program since 2003.

### **Booking Flights: ARRIVE/DEPART – GENEVA**

To give you flexibility, we have NOT included airfare in the cost of the program as you may have frequent travel mileage or access to economical fares. Several airlines fly to Geneva directly or via European capitals. The program begins officially on Saturday, June 20, so please bear in mind that you will need to leave the U.S. the night before, on Friday, June 19, and arrive in Geneva early afternoon on Saturday so that you can attend the first of two important briefing sessions. The program ends on Saturday morning, June 27th. You have the option to extend your stay prior to or after the program ends, but will need to make your own arrangements with the hotel well in advance of arrival.

The airport in Geneva is close to the hotel. Taxis are plentiful and reasonable. **Before you commit to paying for your airline ticket, please check with us about the status of your application.**

### **Cost for the Program**

Students will be responsible for covering the cost of the program fee, 3 credits, and airfare expenses. The program fee will cover student lodging, breakfasts, 3 dinners, all meetings/special guest lectures, and planned cultural excursions/tours.

- Program Fee:
  - \$1500 Double Room
  - \$350 supplemental fee for single room
- **Tuition: \$2400 \*\*\*Please Note: Special Rate\*\*\*\* 40% off 3 credits of tuition**
- Estimated Airfare: \$1000 -\$1500
- **TOTAL MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST: \$4900**

### **NOT Included**

Airfare, airport transfers, passport fees, personal items such as wines, liquors, laundry services, lunches, dinners (other than those specified in the program), special arrangements before or after the program, and other items not specifically mentioned as included. Insurance for trip cancellation, flight cancellation, luggage loss or damage, medical and accident is not included but is strongly recommended.

### **Cancellations and Refunds**

- Cancellations from April 21– May 17, 2009: Refund of payment, less \$300 program deposit
- Cancellations on and after May 18, 2009: Full forfeiture of the program deposit, program fee as well as tuition penalties.

*Program cancellations must be made in writing. To protect yourself, we recommend that you purchase flight cancellation insurance.*

### **Registration Deadline**

**Registration for Geneva is open until April 7, 2009.** After April 7, you must contact the department at 212.992.8380 for space availability. Students will know their enrollment status by April 21, 2009.