



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2025

### 8,494: Transitional Justice

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Written work, Digital, Individual work individual grade (100%)

Examination time: Term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,494,1.00 Transitional Justice](#) -- English -- [Reiter Catherine](#)

#### Course information

##### Course prerequisites

This course is not based on any other specific courses in public international law, but basic knowledge of public international law is helpful.

Participants should be prepared to participate in class. Bearing in mind the sensitive nature of the issues discussed, it is required that such participation is respectful at all times. Participants should be aware of the particular sensitivities the discussion of armed conflicts, mass atrocities, etc. in this course may evoke.

##### Learning objectives

Acquire basic knowledge about transitional justice (basics, different regional approaches, mechanisms - truth commissions, commissions of inquiry, etc. - with a focus on judicial mechanisms).

Learn about the particular challenges (including practical ones) to transitional justice.

Gain experience in debating issues of transitional justice.

Practice discussion and writing skills.

##### Course content

Transitional justice deals with the processes and mechanisms associated with a society's attempt to come to terms with a legacy of large-scale past conflict, repression, violations and abuses. Commonly known mechanisms are international criminal courts, truth commissions, etc. This course provides an overview of the main concepts (including regional differences) and mechanisms of transitional justice with a focus on judicial mechanisms. On the basis of theoretical concepts and case studies, participants are enabled to critically weigh the pros and cons of different mechanisms in particular settings and to suggest improvements. Where applicable, this course refers to other relevant areas of public international law and seeks to integrate participants' existing knowledge with the knowledge acquired in this course.

##### Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

1. Main concepts (What is transitional justice? How did it develop? Who is a victim? How do different regions deal with transitions? Etc.)
2. Mechanisms (truth commissions, commissions of inquiry, etc.)
3. Judicial mechanisms (International Criminal Court, Ad Hoc Tribunals, etc.), including the role of the local judiciary



## Course literature

The texts for this course will be made available on StudyNet. This class is designed to be interactive. Studying the texts before class is essential for participation in debates and preparation for the examination paper.

## Additional course information

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## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/1)

##### Examination modalities

Examination type	Written work
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written work
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	100%
Duration	--

##### Examination languages

Question language: English  
Answer language: English

##### Remark

Submission Date: 4 April 2025

##### Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

##### Supplementary aids

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## Examination content

Materials contained in the presentations and discussed in class as well as the required readings published on StudyNet are relevant, but further research is required.

## Examination relevant literature

Required readings published on StudyNet. Further research is required.



## Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 13 (Monday, 25 March 2025) are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 23 January 2025);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 17 March 2025);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 14 (Monday, 31 March 2025);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before ending with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 07 April 2025).