The Manitoba Chair of Global Governance Studies (MCGGS) is a joint program between the Department of Political Science at the University of Winnipeg and the Department of Political Studies at the University of Manitoba. The overall objective is to promote global governance studies at the two universities and in the Province of Manitoba. The business of the Chair is supervised by an Advisory Committee made up of representatives from the two universities.

Although emphasis is placed on global governance, the United Nations remains a central component of this joint collaboration. The MCGGS’s role is to help promote understanding and awareness of ongoing developments in the field of global governance, keeping in mind that global governance is not the same as global rule or world government. The Manitoba Chair is aimed at fostering knowledge both within the academic communities of students and faculty at both universities but is also aimed at reaching out to communities in Winnipeg and Manitoba. The specific activities can vary from year to year, but may include conducting ongoing research, giving talks to students, faculty, community groups and organizations and promoting opportunities for students. One of the important goals of the MCGGS is to increase its endowments so that the Chair can be held on an annual basis by a visiting professor.

While states and international institutions remain important to global governance, there are other global actors involved. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), citizens’ movements, multinational corporations, and even the global capital market are among the non-state actors in global governance. The objective most of these actors share is a commitment to principles of sustainability, justice, and democracy.

The study of global governance covers (but is not limited to) many issues and areas, including reforming the United Nations, especially the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Secretariat; strengthening international law, especially human rights and humanitarian law, and international courts, such as the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court; human security; global civil society and citizenship; globalization of city governance and citizens’ movement in transforming global politics.

Issues related to global governance can be studied from different theoretical perspectives. The aim is to stimulate debate and promote dialogue among scholars and practitioners in this field of study.

For more details, please contact: Catharine.Dunlop@umanitoba.ca