



Course syllabus Academic year 2021-2022

1. Information about the program

1.1 Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	European Studies
1.3 Department	International Relations
1.4 Field of study	International Relations and European Studies
1.5 Study level	Doctoral School – The European Paradigm
1.6 Programme of study/ Qualification	PhD in International Relations and European Studies

2. Information about the discipline

2.1 Title	GREAT POWER POLITICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY: STRATEGY, FOREIGN POLICY AND DIPLOMACY						
2.2 Course holder	Professor Valentin Naumescu						
2.3 Seminar holder							
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	1	2.6. Type of assessment ¹	E	2.7 Type of module ²	OP

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 No. of hours per week	3	3.2 of which for course	2	3.3 of which for seminar	1
3.4 Total no. of hours in the curriculum	42	3.5 of which for course	28	3.6 of which for seminar	14
Time distribution: conventional hours 147					Hours
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					40
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					35
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					20
Tutoring					5
Examinations					5
Other activities:					
3.7 Total no. of hours for individual study	105				
3.8 Total no. of hours per semester	147				
3.9 No. of ETCS credit points	10				

4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1 of curriculum	Basic concepts in the field of IR and Comparative Politics
4.2 of competencies	English, PC use, MA level of academic research and writing

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 For the development of the course	minimal attendance: 50%
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¹ E - exam, ME - multi-term examinations, C - collocutional examination/assessment test

² OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module



5.2 For the development of the seminar/laboratory	❖
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6. Specific skills acquired

Professional skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to analyse the strategy and interests of the great powers, in the current context of international politics - understanding the major directions of international developments in certain global and regional hot issues - the use of accurate terminology pertaining to foreign policy and diplomacy - evaluating the role of different actors in the decision-making process in international politics - emitting pertinent predictions about the evolution of different conflicts and tensions around the world, based on in-depth, comparative and consistent readings
Interdisciplinary skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - synthesis of information and essay writing abilities - participating actively in group debates - the ability to deliver a structured and professional paper (analysis) - comparative, critical and analytical thinking - ethics in scientific research and academic activities and observation of intellectual property

7. Course objectives (based on list of acquired skills)

7.1 General objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop an essential understanding of the use of power in international relations and to familiarize PhD students with multiple aspects of power in international politics, based on the strategic interests of the most powerful states in the world
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To foster the assimilation of major concepts, ideas and principles specific to Foreign Policy and Diplomacy and Geopolitics - To ensure the comprehension of the way in which great powers pursue their interests at global and regional levels, from national strategy to foreign policy and diplomacy and sometimes even to military intervention - To promote highly argued evaluation, by the PhD students, of the security threats, risks and opportunities which imply different types of action (strategic, political, diplomatic, economic or military) conducted by the great powers.

8. Contents

8.1 Course	Teaching methods	Observations
1. Introduction: the great powers and the system of international relations. Main concepts in foreign policy and diplomacy	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
2. The return of geopolitics: history and present. Hard power, soft power	Lecture and guided debate	
3. World systems in the past 100 years (multipolar, bipolar, hegemony,	Lecture and guided debate	



<p>multipolar again). The concept of world order</p> <p>4. The European peninsula between Eurasia and the Atlantic powers. The role of NATO</p> <p>5. Regions of geopolitical frontier and buffer-zones</p> <p>6. The US foreign policy. From diplomacy to military intervention</p> <p>7. The EU's CFSP and the EU Global Strategy</p> <p>8. Germany in the present international relations</p> <p>9. The UK and the post-Brexit Process</p> <p>10. The post-Soviet Russia</p> <p>11. China and the new world order</p> <p>12. Proxy-wars, frozen conflicts and military interventions</p> <p>13. Ethics in scientific research and academic activities and observation of intellectual property</p> <p>14. Conclusions, comparative analysis</p>	<p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Lecture and guided debate</p> <p>Retrospective, Q&A, final remarks</p>	
<p>Bibliography</p> <p>Henry Kissinger, <i>World Order</i>, Penguin, 2014.</p> <p>John J. Mearsheimer, <i>The Tragedy of Great Power Politics</i>, Norton, 2001.</p> <p>George Friedman, <i>Flashpoints: The Emerging Crisis in Europe</i>, Doubleday, 2015.</p> <p>Robert D. Kaplan, <i>The Revenge of Geography: What the Map Tells Us About Coming Conflicts and the Fight Against Fate</i>, Random House, 2013.</p> <p>Valentin Naumescu, <i>Politica marilor puteri în Europa Centrală și de Est: 30 de ani de la sfârșitul Războiului Rece</i>, Editura Humanitas, 2019.</p>		



8.2 Seminar/Laboratory	Teaching methods	Observations
<p>1. Organization of the work during the semester. Discussion on the topics. Students chose the topic for the individual paper</p> <p>2. What are the Great Powers? Historic and comparative approaches. Present theories</p> <p>3. What is a world order? Main types of European and global order in the modern and recent history and in the present day</p> <p>4. The United States in the international relations system (1918-1989)</p> <p>5. The United States in the international relations system (after 1989)</p> <p>6. The Trump administration and its policies. From multilateralism to unilateralism</p> <p>7. The crisis of the global liberal order?</p> <p>8. The European Union as a global actor (The Global Strategy)</p> <p>9. The reform of the EU in the context of the Brexit crisis</p> <p>10. China, the leading power in economic globalization?</p> <p>11. Russia after 1991</p> <p>12. The Putin regime and strategy</p> <p>13. The discrete Japan in the international system</p> <p>14. Presentation of individual papers</p>	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Guided debate</p> <p>Presentations, defense and debate</p>	
<p>Bibliography:</p> <p>Larry Diamond, <i>Ill Winds. Saving Democracy from Russian Rage, Chinese Ambition and American Complacency</i>, Penguin Press, New York, 2019.</p> <p>Valentin Naumescu, (Ed.) <i>The New EU and Its Global Strategy: From Brexit to PESCO</i>, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2020.</p>		



9. The correspondence between the content of the course and the expectations of the academic community, professional associations and representative employers in the field:

The course provides a set of analytical instruments for a deep and comparative understanding of the interests, strategies and types of external action of the great powers. The attending PhD students will be able to identify, describe and compare the political and strategic behaviour of the great powers in the nowadays system of international relations. This knowledge will help them to improve their professional skills in different careers such as diplomacy, international political consultancy, political journalism, European and national government structures, international NGOs or even future academic careers in the field of political science and international relations.

10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Percentage of the final grade
10.4 Course	Theoretical knowledge	Exam (interview)	50%
10.5 Seminar/ Laboratory	Presentation of semester papers, active participation in debates, answers and contributions, pertinent opinions	Continuous assessment	50%

Date September 14, 2020

Course holder signature

Seminar holder signature

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Date of departmental approval

Head of department signature

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