



STUDY PROGRAMME(S)

(1) EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies

(2) Transatlantic Affairs

ACADEMIC YEAR SEMESTER

2018-19

2

COURSE TITLE

European Intelligence Analysis in Practice

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

José-Miguel PALACIOS

COURSE ASSISTANT(S)

Sofía LÓPEZ

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL, ELECTIVE)

(1) Optional course

(2) Optional course

ECTS CREDITS

4,5

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This optional course provides students with a basic understanding of the role of intelligence in contemporary decision-making, with a particular focus on Europe and the European Union. Students will receive analytical training in relevant techniques such as open source intelligence, analysis of competing hypotheses, scenario-building or analytical contrarian techniques. They will be confronted with several real-life cases from the field of EU external action to which they will have to react as if they were working in a (fictitious) EU intelligence analysis unit. The knowledge and skills acquired in this course are transferable to many fields in the public and private sector and will also be applied in a simulation exercise in the last session of the course.

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- understand the concept and practice of strategic intelligence;
- know the main European intelligence systems and the challenges they have to face in contemporary conditions;
- understand the particularities of practising intelligence analysis in a multilateral environment such as the European Union;
- apply basic techniques of strategic intelligence analysis.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **EU International Relations and Diplomacy Studies**:



ECTS CARD

- 1.1 The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of International Relations, EU Studies and Diplomacy Studies relevant for the analysis of the role of the European Union in international affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of EU external relations in a broad sense and is able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 1.4 The graduate has insights into the political, legal and economic aspects of EU diplomacy and can use these insights to contextualise and interpret new developments.
- 1.5 The graduate is able to incorporate knowledge and understanding of various fields of EU external action and of different related disciplines (such as Political Science, International Relations, Law, Economics) at the interface between EU affairs and world politics.
- 2.2 The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems in international and European affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- 2.3 The graduate can independently formulate a research question within the field of European affairs, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using typical concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the discipline.
- 2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information within a short period of time and of suggesting possible action that contributes to problem-solving in a creative way.
- 2.5 The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to function responsibly and autonomously in a professional context at national, European or international level and the capacity of suggesting possible action that contributes to problem-solving in a creative way.
- 3.4 The graduate has acquired specific professional skills relevant to the practice of EU external action but also transferable to many other fields in the public and private sector.

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme **Transatlantic Affairs**:

- 1.1 The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, Economics, International Relations and Diplomacy Studies, Legal Studies and/or Political Science relevant for the analysis of transatlantic affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense and, is, in line with his or her disciplinary focus, able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 1.4. The graduate has insights into historical, political, legal and economic aspects of transatlantic affairs as well as into those policy areas that are of essential importance to transatlantic affairs. He or she can use these insights to contextualize and interpret new developments.
- 2.2. The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems regarding an extensive range of transatlantic affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- 2.3. The graduate can independently transform complex transatlantic issues into a research question within the broader field of transatlantic affairs and, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, find, select and critically assess relevant sources, answer the question using appropriate concepts and methods and present the research results in line with the ethical rules of the chosen discipline.
- 2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information and appropriately analyse relevant sources depending on his or her disciplinary focus within a short period of time and of suggesting possible actions that contribute to problem-solving in a creative way.
- 2.5. The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to take responsibilities and function autonomously in a professional environment at national or international level, and especially in a transatlantic context, and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organizing, setting priorities, meeting deadlines, cooperating across cultural boundaries and networking.



3. COURSE CONTENTS

1. Introduction and open source intelligence
2. Structured analytical techniques I (brainstorming)
3. Structured analytical techniques II (ACH)
4. Structured analytical techniques III (scenario building)
5. Structured analytical techniques IV (contrarian techniques)
6. Analytical simulation exercise

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to the full course outline.

4. TEACHING METHOD

- Interactive lectures and guided practices
- Class participation: students are expected to fully attend and actively participate in all classes, bring their laptops and prepare the required readings
- Individual short written assignment after each of the first 5 sessions
- Practical simulation organised in the final session

5. COURSE MATERIAL

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to the detailed reading list and the slides.

6. EVALUATION

- Written coursework (30%): individual short papers after sessions 1 to 5 with each paper being weighted the same
- Class participation (20%): throughout the course, with session 6 counting for half of this mark
- Written exam (50%): duration 2h

In case of a second-session resit, students will be evaluated on the basis of a 2h written exam accounting for 100% of the final mark.

Please refer to the intranet course page for access to further information and instructions.