



STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2023-2024

COURSE TITLE

Geopolitics

SEMESTER

1

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

BIALASIEWICZ Luiza

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

SZATTERS Konrad

COURSE TYPE

Preparatory Course

MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

ECTS CREDITS

no ECTS

TEACHING HOURS

15

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

not applicable

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

Geopolitics appears to have made a 'return' to the world stage. In this introductory course, we will examine some of the principal currents of geopolitical thought that continue to inspire contemporary visions of global affairs, while also examining the transformations of the EU as a geopolitical actor today.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, students will acquire an appreciation of the longer histories of geopolitics as a discipline and practice, and the role of geopolitical imaginations in shaping foreign policy orientations. The lectures as well as the assigned readings will also provide students with a critical perspective on the use of classical geopolitical terminology in today's political and policy discourse.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Please read the following background readings before the first session:

Dittmer, J. and Sharp, J. 'General Introduction' and 'Introduction to Part One'. In *Geopolitics: An Introductory Reader*, Routledge. **[40105]**

O'Tuathail, G. (1996). *Critical Geopolitics: The Politics of Writing Global Space*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press; Introduction ('Geo-power') and Chapter 1 ('Geopolitics'). **[41088]**

The Economist (2022) The war in Ukraine will change geopolitics profoundly. Click [here](#) to access.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures and in-class discussion

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

The course will be assessed on a pass/fail basis based on:

- an online multiple-choice closed-book test (80% of the mark) at the end of the final course session
15 minutes to answer 7 questions, and
- overall attendance (20% of the mark).

The weighted average of both assessment elements needs to be equal or greater than 50% for a student to pass the course.

Each student is entitled to re-taking the test once. The re-take test would account for 80% of the mark whilst overall attendance would account for the remaining 20%.

Since Preparatory Courses carry no ECTS credits, the final result will be present on the transcript, but will have no impact on students' final average, nor on overall grade, nor on attaining the diploma.

COURSE CONTENTS

We will begin with an overview of the evolution of geopolitical thought, from 19th and 20th century Imperial and Colonial geopolitics and Cold War geopolitical visions to the emergence of new imaginaries and practices of international intervention in the post-Cold War. We will then move on to examine the echoes of some of these older traditions in the present day, considering how a 'geopolitical gaze' continues to shape contemporary modes of envisioning global challenges and dangers.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

While each session will be accompanied by specific readings, there is one textbook from which many of the sources are taken: Dittmer, J. and Sharp, J., eds. *Geopolitics: An Introductory Reader*. London: Routledge.