



## ECTS CARD

### STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

### YEAR

2022-2023

### COURSE TITLE

**Foreign Policy Analysis**

### SEMESTER

1

### COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

BRUN PEDERSEN Rasmus

### ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

BRESKAYA Maria

### COURSE TYPE

Preparatory Course

### MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

### ECTS CREDITS

no ECTS

### TEACHING HOURS

10

### INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

### TUTORIAL(S)

### COEFFICIENT

not applicable

### LANGUAGE(S)

EN

### COURSE OBJECTIVE

The aim of the course is to give an introduction to the field of Foreign Policy Analysis and how it relates to the wider field of International Relations.

The course aims to give an understanding of:

- 1) what states want in international relations;
- 2) the process by which decision makers understand the choice decision and how decisions are made;
- 3) what states actually do in international relations.

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students acquire a sound understanding of the interplay between international and domestic factors when states' preferences are determined and what helps to shape states' foreign policy choices.

Participants will get an overview of International relations theories and insight into the most central FPA theories related to the decision-making process and how they can be applied to study foreign policy decisions.

### RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Reading the assigned literature and a basic understanding of the mainstream theories of International Relations.

Introductory course "[Introduction to International Relations](#)".

### TEACHING METHOD(S)

The teaching will consist of a mixture between lectures and group work.

## ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

The preparatory course will be assessed on a 'pass/fail' basis through:

- an online multiple-choice 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

The course introduces the participants to knowledge about preference formation and focuses on the relationship between IR and FPA. The focus is on an introduction to FPA theories that relate to the decision-making process and introduces to both Rational Choice inspired theories and the numerous FPA theories that have departed from this literature. It gives an introduction to cognitive theories, social psychological theories as well as theories that see decisions as a result of internal political battles. Finally, the course also focuses on what states actually do in international relations and how the outcomes relate to the decision-making process.

## COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

- Beach & Pedersen (2020) *Analyzing Foreign Policy*. Macmillan International / Red Globe Press
- Khong (1992). *Analogies at War*. Princeton: Princeton, Kap 5 (Korea), pp. 97-147.
- Marsh (2014). 'Obama's Surge: A Bureaucratic Politics Analysis of the Decision to Order a Troop Surge in the Afghanistan War', *Foreign Policy Analysis*, Jul 2014, 10 (3) 265-288; DOI: 10.1111/fpa.12000(AUL)
- Mearsheimer, John J. (2001). *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics* W.W. Norton & Company, chapter 2 (pp. 29-54), chapter 6 (pp. 168-191).
- Mintz, A. & Wayne, C. (2016). 'The Polythink Syndrome and Elite Group Decision-Making.' *Political Psychology*, 37: 3-21. doi:10.1111/pops.12319
- Schweller, Randall (1994). Bandwagoning for Profit: Bringing the Revisionist State Back. *International Security* 19 (1): 72-107.
- Walt, Stephen M. (1987). *The Origins of Alliances*. Cornell University Press pp. 17-49.
- Waltz, Kenneth N. (1979). *Theory of International Politics*, Reading: Addison, pp. 116-128.
- Yetiv, Steve (2004). *Explaining Foreign Policy*, The Johns Hopkins Press, pp. 30-57; 104-120.