



## STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

## YEAR

2023-2024

## COURSE TITLE

**Complexities of European Power: From the Cold War to the War in Ukraine**

## SEMESTER

1

## COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

KUNDNANI Hans

## ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

STEINGASS Sebastian

## COURSE TYPE

Contextual 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 explore the EU's relationship with power, the concept of a European foreign policy, the evolution of the EU's objectives and tools, theories of the EU as a foreign policy actor, and the idea of an emerging "geopolitical" Europe. In doing so, it will aim to put the current debate on the EU's role in, and response to, the war in Ukraine, in conceptual and historical context.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students should have:

- Learnt the history of the EU's engagement with the rest of the world and the key events and processes that shaped the discourse on its relationship with the concept of power.
- Developed an understanding of the history of the EU's foreign policy and debates about the EU as a foreign policy actor.
- Developed an ability to critically evaluate claims about European power and the EU's relationship with, and role in, the world.

## RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

In preparation, students should read as many of the texts listed as possible. In addition, they should follow news coverage of the EU's role in the war in Ukraine.

## TEACHING METHOD(S)

This course will consist of five sessions, which will include short lectures, discussions of short texts and audio-visual material, debates on key questions, and other interactive methods. Students are encouraged to participate as much as possible, share their own ideas, and challenge each other – and me!

## ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

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

- an online, closed-book 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 Contextual 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 following topics will be covered in the course:

- What is "Europe"? Who defines the European interest?
- What does Europe stand for? What are its objectives?
- Modalities of EU foreign policy – economic and military tools
- The evolution of EU foreign policy in the post-Cold War period – key challenges and crises
- Theories of the EU as an international political actor
- The concepts of "strategic autonomy" and "European sovereignty" and the idea of a "geopolitical" Europe
- The EU's role in, and response to, the war in Ukraine

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

For a detailed reading list, please refer to the Course Outline.