**SYllabus**

**1. Information about the program**

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| 1.1 Higher education institution | Babeş–Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania |
| 1.2 Faculty | Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences |
| 1.3 Department | Political Science |
| 1.4 Field of study | Political Science |
| 1.5 Level of study | Undergraduate |
| 1.6 Study program / Qualification | Political Science |

**2. Information about the discipline**

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| 2.1 Discipline title | | | International relations theory | | | | | | |
| 2.2 Course lecturer | | | | | Bogdan Mihai Radu | | | | |
| 2.3 Seminar assistant | | | | | Bogdan Mihai Radu | | | | |
| 2.4 Year of study | 2 | 2.5 Semester | | 1 | | 2.6. Evaluation type | E | 2.7 Discipline type | Mandatory |
| 2.8 Code of the discipline | ULE1315 |  | | | | | | | |

**3. Total estimated time (hours of didactic activities per semester)**

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| 3.1 Number of hours per week | 3 | | Of which: 3.2 course | | 2 | 3.3 seminar/laboratory | 1 |
| 3.4 Total hours in the study plan | 42 | | Of which: 3.5 course | | 28 | 3.6 seminar/laboratory | 14 |
| Time distribution: face-to-face study: 3 hours. Individual study: 4 hours | | | | | | | 7 |
| Studying the manual, course reader, bibliography and notes: | | | | | | | 2 |
| Supplementary documentation in the library, on electronic platforms and in the field: | | | | | | | 1 |
| Preparing seminars/laboratories, homework, syntheses, portfolios and essays: | | | | | | | 1 |
| Tutorials | | | | | | |  |
| Examinations | | | | | | |  |
| Other activities: .................. | | | | | | |  |
| 3.7 Total hours of individual study | | 56 | |
| 3.8 Total hours per semester | | 98 | |
| 3.9 Number of credits | | 4 | |

**4. Prerequisites (where applicable)**

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| 4.1 based on the curriculum | Having passed the course on Introduction to international relations and security studies |
| 4.2 based on competences | Having passed the course on Introduction to international relations and security studies |

**5. Conditions (where applicable) N/A**

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| 5.1. attendance for the course | Attendance of the course is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged. |  |
| 5.2. attendance for the seminar | Attendance of the seminars is mandatory, according to the university's regulations, in proportion of 75%.  Students should be active in the seminar and ask questions about the ideas found in the texts they read. They should also participate actively in all debates.  The grade from the retake also includes attendance record from the seminar. If the activity performed by the student in the seminars does not meet the criteria for promotion of the discipline, she has the obligation to repeat the discipline in the following academic year. |  |

**6. Accumulated specific competencies**

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| **Professional competencies** | - to understand the fundamental theoretical concepts  - to be familiar with the main theories specific to the discipline  - to be able to apply theoretical knowledge to understanding some situations/processes/phenomena |
| **Transversal competencies** | - skills to evaluate the relevant literature  - debating skills/argumentation  - autonomy in learning |

**7. Discipline objectives (from the accumulated competencies grid)**

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| 7.1 General objective | Through this course, students will become familiar with the main theories in the field of international relations. The latter, as a subfield of social and, more precisely, political sciences, are relatively new and very dynamic. Thus, their understanding must be approached from an interdisciplinary perspective, understanding the relationship between these and other disciplines. |
| 7.2 Specific objectives | • Students' familiarization with the terminology and basic concepts specific to the theory of international relations  • Understanding how international relations theories are influenced by different epistemological perspectives  • Understanding the processes through which theory and practice are built reciprocally |

**8. Contents**

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| **8.1 Course** | **Teaching methods** | **Observations** | |
| 1. Why having a course on the theory of international relations? | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. |  | |
| 1. General presentation of international relations at the intersection of theory and practice. | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Classical and structural realism | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Liberalism and neoliberalism | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. The English School of international relations | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Marxism and critical theory | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. How to formulate a research question in the field of international relations theory? | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. |  | |
| 1. Constructivism | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Feminism in international relations | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Poststructuralism in international relations | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Postcolonialism in international relations | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Green theories of international relations | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. International relations theory and globalization | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. | |
| 1. Recapitulation of main theories and identifying the relationships between them | Theories and concepts will be introduced and explored through interactive methods. |  | |
| **Bibliography**  All the mandatory readings for this class are from International Relations Theories. Discipline and Diversity. Second edition de Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki si Steve Smith (Oxford University Press 2013). (available as pdf file) The titles of chapters are detailed below.  Optional bibliography  Andrew Heywood, Global Politics, Palgrave 2015.  Edkins, J., & Zehfuss, M. (Eds.). (2019). Global Politics: A New Introduction (3rd ed.). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315099118  Schedule of weekly meetings and examinations  • Week 1: Introductory remarks, structure of the class, why a class on IR theory.  • Week 2: General presentation of international relations – theory and practice; the role of theory and the connections between international relations and social sciences  Mandatory readings: Introduction: Diversity and Disciplinarity in International Relations Theory and International Relations and Social Science  • Week 3: Classical and structural realism  Mandatory readings: Classical Realism and Structural Realism  • Week 4: Liberalism and neoliberalism  Mandatory readings: Liberalism and Neoliberalism  • Week 5: The English School of International Relations  Mandatory readings: The English School  • Week 6: Marxism and Critical Theory  Mandatory readings: Marxism and Critical Theory  • Week 7: Discussing term paper ideas  • Week 8: Constructivism  Mandatory readings: Constructivism  • Week 9: Feminism in international relations  Mandatory readings: Feminism  • Week 10: Postructuralism in international relations  Mandatory readings: Poststructuralism  • Week 11: Postcolonialism in international relations  Mandatory readings: Postcolonialism  • Week 12: Green theory in international relations  Mandatory readings: Green Theory  • Week 13: International relations theory and globalizations  Mandatory readings: International Relations Theory and Globalization  • Week 14: Q&A regarding the term papers | | | |  |
| **8.2 Seminar / laboratory** | **Teaching methods** | | **Observations** |
| 1. Why having a course on the theory of international relations? | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | |  |
| 1. General presentation of international relations at the intersection of theory and practice. | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Classical and structural realism | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Liberalism and neoliberalism | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. The English School of international relations | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Marxism and critical theory | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. How to formulate a research question in the field of international relations theory? | Discussion. | |  |
| 1. Constructivism | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Feminism in international relations | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Poststructuralism in international relations | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Postcolonialism in international relations | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Green theories of international relations | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. International relations theory and globalization | The theories introduced in the lecture will pe applied on concrete phenomena/processes, through debates and case studies. | | Reading the bibliography is mandatory. |
| 1. Recapitulation of main theories and identifying the relationships between them | Q&A about theories and term papers. | |  |

**9. The corroboration of discipline contents with the expectations of epistemic community representatives, professional associations and representative employers in the study program’s corresponding field**

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| At the end of the semester students should:  - Be familiar with the main theories and approaches to discipline;  - Be able to apply theoretical knowledge in understanding real-life events/phenomena  - Be able to understand the intricate connections between theory and method, and between theory and practice |

**10. Evaluation**

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| Type of activity | 10.1 Evaluation criteria | 10.2 Evaluation methods | 10.3 Weight in final mark |
| 10.4 Course | Evaluation of expert knowledge taught in class. Assessment of exposure and clarity of expression level of specialized knowledge taught in class | Written Examination | 50% |
| 10.5 Seminar/laboratory | Work in the seminars/tests | Quality of replies to questions about the topics discussed in seminars.  Tests | 30% |
| Term paper |  | 20% |
| 10.6 Minimum performance standard | | | |
| The required readings are mandatory for everyone and every week (except for weeks 1, 7, and 14). During the lectures/seminars for which readings were assigned, students will take a short test. These tests represent 30% of the final grade. The students will also have to write a term paper worth another 20% of the final grade. The remaining 50% will consist of the final written exam.  Plagiarism and academic fraud are sanctioned according to the Students’ Ethics code, available at https://fspac.ubbcluj.ro/ro/resurse/administrative/regulamente . Plagiarism and attempted fraud is punished with the failing grade “1” and the case is reported to the Dean’s office for further examination and sanctioning. Fraud during the final exam is punished with elimination from the exam.  Any academic paper relies on information with proper sources cited according to scientific rules. It is strongly recommended to use one of the existing bibliographical styles (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.). The Department of Political Sciences recommends using the APSA style (American Political Science Association). If any other style is preferred, it should be used consistently throughout the paper. Evaluation of the papers will take into consideration also the correct use of the bibliographical style. | | | |

Date September 24, 2024

Signature of course coordinator Signature of seminar coordinator

 

Date of approval September 25, 2024

Signature of the head of department