

HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS UP TO 1945

DEGREE: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ACADEMIC YEAR:

DEGREE COURSE YEAR: 1st

1^o SEMESTER 2^o SEMESTER

CATEGORY: BASIC

COMPULSORY

OPTIONAL

NO. OF CREDITS (ECTS): 6

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

TUTORIALS:

FORMAT: LECTURE & SEMINAR

PREREQUISITES: NONE

1. SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

The course has the following objectives:

- The first is to provide students with a solid factual knowledge of the main periods and events that make the history of international relations since the beginning of early modern times in the 16th Century.
- In this complex fabric of events, we will try to identify two basic threads: the most important *players* in the international arena (kings, prime ministers, foreign secretaries, ambassadors ...) and the *motives* that prompted the peoples they represented to follow their lead (dynastic loyalty, religious zeal, nationalism...).
- While trying to build this framework, we will also discuss the evolution of the ways of thinking about the relations among nations, starting with the universal polity of the Middle Ages, its breaking-up, and its replacement with the international community, governed by international law and the principle of balance of power. We will then study different forms of international governance, like the Allies in the Napoleonic wars, and the collective security under the League of Nations.
- Finally, the learning of the “words” of international relations (events, doctrines) will be accompanied by the listening to their “music”: we will examine some of the main characters in diplomatic history and will try to re-create the very special atmospheres they worked in.

2. CONTENT

SESSION 1

INTRODUCTION: WORLD HISTORY AND HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Readings

SESSION 2

WHY EUROPE?

Readings

SESSION 3

THE ORIGINS: CHRISTENDOM, UNIVERSAL POWER AND UNIVERSAL THINKING IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Readings

SESSION 4

THE MAKING OF A NEW SET OF RULES: INTERNATIONAL LAW. – THE PEACE OF WESTPHALIA AND THE BIRTH OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

Readings

SESSION 5

THE INVENTION OF A NEW GAME: RENAISSANCE DIPLOMACY AND ITS ITALIAN BEGINNINGS (I): THE ITALIAN CITY-STATES AND THEIR AMBASSADORS.

Readings

SESSION 6

RENAISSANCE DIPLOMACY AND ITS ITALIAN BEGINNINGS (II): THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW DIPLOMATIC MACHINERY IN ITALY.

Readings

SESSION 7

THE FRENCH AND SPANISH INTERVENTIONS IN ITALY AND THE SPREAD OF THE NEW DIPLOMACY.

Readings

SESSION 8

THE CONTEXT AND THE USES OF THE NEW DIPLOMACY. – DYNASTIC POWER POLITICS. – THE WARS OF RELIGION AND THE BREAKING-UP OF CHRISTENDOM.

Readings

SESSION 9
THE STRUGGLE FOR THE OLD UNIVERSAL ORDER: SPAIN AND THE HABSBURG EMPIRE.

Readings

SESSION 10
THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE OLD UNIVERSAL ORDER: FRANCE, ENGLAND, SWEDEN, AND THE NETHERLANDS.

Readings

SESSION 11
FRENCH HEGEMONY AND THE BALANCE OF POWER IN EUROPE.

Readings

SESSION 12
THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE INFLUENCE OF NATIONALISM ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

Readings

SESSION 13
REVIEW SESSION.

Readings

SESSION 14
MIDTERM EXAMINATION.

SESSION 15
THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA (I) AND THE APPEARANCE OF THE ALLIES AS A FORM OF INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE. - THE OPENING OF THE CONGRESS AND TALLEYRAND'S STRATEGY.

Readings

SESSION 16
THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA (II). - THE TWO CAPITAL PROBLEMS: POLAND AND SAXONY.

Readings

SESSION 17
THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA (III). – THE BRITISH INTERESTS. – NAPOLEON'S ONE HUNDRED DAYS.

Readings

SESSION 18
THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA (IV). – THE HOLY ALLIANCE.

Readings

SESSION 19
BRITAIN'S HEGEMONY. - THE EVOLUTION OF THE CONTINENTAL POWERS.

Readings

SESSION 20
THE CRIMEAN WAR. – THE WARS OF GERMAN UNIFICATION.

Readings

SESSION 21
THE ORIGINS OF WORLD WAR I.

Readings

SESSION 22
THE INTERWAR PERIOD. – THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND ITS DISCONTENTS.

Readings

SESSION 23
THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND THE IDEA OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

Readings

SESSION 24
COLLECTIVE SECURITY UNDER THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS: THE CASE OF ETHIOPIA.

Readings

SESSION 25
THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF STATES. – TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION UNDER THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Readings

SESSION 26
THE FAILURE OF DIPLOMACY DURING THE INTERWAR PERIOD: TWO CASE STUDIES.

Readings

SESSION 27
EXCURSUS: POLITICIANS AND DIPLOMATS.

Readings

SESSION 28
THE ADVENT OF WORLD WAR II.

Readings

SESSION 29
REVIEW SESSION

Readings

SESSION 30
FINAL EXAMINATION.

3. METHODOLOGY AND ECTS WEIGHTING

The course consists of a blend of discussion and lecture, based on material presented in class as well as engagement with the assignments.

Interactivity and engagement is critical to the learning process and students will be encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas about the core themes of the class.

Course material of 6 credits ECTS (6 x 25 h/credit = 150 h. of course work/student)						
Activities	Sessions	Classroom hours	Factor	Individual Study	Total Hours	ECTS
Theoretical Classes	30	45	1,5	93,5	138,5	5,54
Practical Classes	0	0	1,5	0	0	0
Seminars		0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Activities		0	0	0	0	0
Group Tutorials		0	0	0	0	0
Individual Tutorials		8,5	0	0	8,5	0,3
Exams		3,0	0	0	3,0	0,16
Total	30	56,5		101,25	150	6

4. EVALUATION SYSTEM

4.1. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Class sessions will include lecture and discussion. Students' evaluation will be made upon performance on a mid-term examination (40%) and a final examination (45%) and class participation (15%). The examination, which is an important part of the learning process, will be open-book and will consist of carefully thought-out essay questions.

Texts accompanied by questions will be handed out a few days before most sessions. Working groups should prepare a written answer to the questions and be ready to present it in class. Answers in writing should not exceed ten lines.

Students must fulfill the following requirements as part of the course:

- 1) Complete over the course of the semester all the required written assignments and write both a mid-term and a final exam.
- 2) Engage and be prepared to discuss in class the core ideas and readings of the course. This requires that students complete all reading ahead of class and be attentive to critical concepts and other ideas that are contained in all the course material.

4.2. EVALUATION AND WEIGHTING CRITERIA

The breakdown of the final grade is as follows:

Mid-term exam	40%
Final exam	45%
Participation	15%

4.3. EXAMINATION POLICY

- 1) Students have up to 4 examination sessions per course over two consecutive academic years.
- 2) IE University has a mandatory Class Attendance Policy that calls for students to attend a minimum of 70% of class sessions in a course. An absence, for any reason, counts towards the maximum of 30% allowed absences. Failure to comply with any of these requirements will result in students being ineligible to sit for the exam in both the 1st and 2nd examination sessions. These students will be required to sit for the exam in the 3rd session.
- 3) Grading for make-up exams will be subject to the following rules:
 - ✓ Students who failed the course in the first round of exams will be eligible to re-sit in the 2nd examination session. *Warning:* students who do not comply with the attendance policy requirements will be required to sit for the exam in the 3rd examination session.
 - ✓ The highest grade that a student may earn in the 2nd examination session is 8.

4.4. EXTRAORDINARY EVALUATION

In the event that you do not satisfy the requirements to pass the class, you will have the option to take an extraordinary supplemental exam. This extraordinary exam may be complemented and/or replaced by additional supplemental assignments as part of your overall evaluation. Dispensation for the inclusion of additional evaluation criteria in the event of an unsatisfactory grade will be made solely at the discretion of your professor. In accordance with university policy, extraordinary exams must without exception be taken in Segovia during the extraordinary exam period.