

HISTORY OF INT. REL. SINCE 1945: CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES

IE University

Professor: **MICHELE TESTONI**

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Academic year: 23-24

Degree course: FIRST

Semester: 2^o

Category: BASIC

Number of credits: 6.0

Language: English

PREREQUISITES

History of International Relations up to 1945

SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

The course aims to offer students an extensive yet detailed overview of the major developments that have shaped global history in the aftermath of World War II. It is, therefore, a course on the history of the Cold War. It will analyze its origins and early developments, focus on the many idiosyncrasies of the 'peaceful coexistence' between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. across the 1950s-60s, look at the rise and fall of détente in the 1970s, and shed light on the renewed tensions of the Reagan era that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union. Simultaneously, the course will pay attention to the role played by other international actors and phenomena such as, for instance, the rise and evolution of the European integration process, the unresolved Arab-Israeli conflict, the achievements and the setbacks of decolonization, and the rise of the PR of China

OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS

The course aims to give students the concepts, tools and confidence to analyze the contemporary world in a rigorous and systematic way by providing the context and events that led to the current state of affairs. Students will be able to understand the relationship between major historical events, the role of states and non-state actors in the modern world, and become familiar with the key debates within international relations.

METHODOLOGY

Each session is supposed to proceed through a dynamic interaction between the professor and the students, who are expected to participate actively in class. Students will be engaged with a combination of in-class and take-home assignments.

Teaching methodology	Weighting	Estimated time a student should dedicate to prepare for and participate in
Lectures	20.0 %	30 hours

Discussions	20.0 %	30 hours
Exercises	0.0 %	0 hours
Group work	20.0 %	30 hours
Other individual studying	40.0 %	60 hours
TOTAL	100.0 %	150 hours

PROGRAM

SESSIONS 1 - 2 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

THE SHORT TWENTIETH CENTURY

Book Chapters: E. Hobsbawm, Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century, 1914-1991, Intro and ch. 1 (CED)

SESSIONS 3 - 4 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

"FIRST" COLD WAR IN EUROPE

Multimedia Documentation: "Cold War Historiography" (Alpha History)

Article: X, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct" (in Foreign Affairs, vol. 25 (4), 1947, pp. 566-582) (CED)

Book Chapters: V. Pechatnov, "The Soviet Union and the world, 1944–1953", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. I, ch. 5 (See Bibliography)

SESSIONS 5 - 6 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

"FIRST" COLD WAR IN ASIA

Book Chapters: W. Stueck, "The Korean War", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. I, ch. 13 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: M.P. Bradley, "Decolonization, the global South, and the Cold War, 1919–1962", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. I, ch. 22 (See Bibliography)

SESSIONS 7 - 8 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

COLD WAR IN A GLOBAL CHANGING SCENARIO

Book Chapters: V. Mastny, "Soviet foreign policy, 1953-1962", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. I, ch. 15 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: D. Holloway, "Nuclear weapons and the escalation of the Cold War, 1945-1962", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. I, ch. 18 (See Bibliography)

SESSIONS 9 - 10 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

HOT CRISES AND DECOLONIZATION

Book Chapters: M.E. Latham, "The Cold War in the Third World, 1963-1975", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. II, ch. 13 (See Bibliography)

Article: J. Suri, "The Cold War, Decolonization, and Global Social Awakenings: Historical Intersections" (in Cold War History, vol. 6, n. 3 (2006), pp. 353-363) (CED)

SESSION 11 (ASYNCHRONOUS)

THE VIETNAM WAR

Students watch video documentary and submit 500-word response note

SESSIONS 12 - 13 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND DÉTENTE

Book Chapters: R.D. Schulzinger, "Détente in the Nixon–Ford years, 1969–1976", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. II, ch. 18 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: J. Hanhimaki, "Détente in Europe, 1962–1975", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. II, ch. 10 (See Bibliography)

SESSION 14 (ASYNCHRONOUS)

** MIDTERM EXAM **

SESSIONS 15 - 16 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

MACRO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE COLD WAR

Book Chapters: N.P. Ludlow, "European integration and the Cold War", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. II, ch. 9 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: G. Arrighi, "The world economy and the Cold War, 1970-1990", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. III, ch. 2 (See Bibliography)

SESSIONS 17 - 18 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

THE COLLAPSE OF DÉTENTE

Book Chapters: O. Njølstad, "The collapse of superpower détente, 1975-1980", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. III, ch. 7 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: A. Saikal, "Islamism, the Iranian revolution, and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan", in The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. III, ch. 6 (See Bibliography)

SESSIONS 19 - 20 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

*Book Chapters: D.C. Rapoport, "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism", in A. Kurth Cronin and J.M. Ludes (eds.), *Attacking Terrorism: Elements of a Grand Strategy*, Georgetown University Press, Washington, DC (2004), pp. 46-73 (ced)*

SESSION 21 (ASYNCHRONOUS)

THE LEBANESE CIVIL WAR

Students watch video documentary and submit 500-word response note

SESSIONS 22 - 23 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

"SECOND" COLD WAR

Book Chapters: B.A. Fisher, "US foreign policy under Reagan and Bush", in The Cambridge History

of the Cold War, vol. III, ch. 13 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: V.M. Zubok, "Soviet foreign policy from détente to Gorbachev, 1975-1985", in *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. III, ch. 5 (See Bibliography)

SESSION 24 (ASYNCHRONOUS)

DENG'S CHINA

Students watch video documentary and submit 500-word response note

SESSIONS 25 - 26 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

THE END OF SOVIET COMMUNISM

Book Chapters: M.R. Beissinger, "Nationalism and the Collapse of Soviet Communism" (in *Contemporary European History*, vol. 18, n. 3 (Aug. 2009), pp. 331-347) (CED)

Book Chapters: A. Brown, "The End of the Soviet Union" (in *Journal of Cold War Studies*, vol. 17, n. 4 (Fall 2015), pp. 158-165) (CED)

SESSIONS 27 - 28 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

THE POST-COLD WAR ERA

Book Chapters: G.J. Ikenberry, "The restructuring of the international system after the Cold War", in *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. III, vol. 25 (See Bibliography)

Book Chapters: J Crespo MacLellan, "The European Dream", in *Europa: How Europe Shaped the World*, ch. 12 (ced)

SESSIONS 29 - 30 (LIVE IN-PERSON)

** FINAL EXAM **

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Compulsory

- M.P. Leffler and O.A. Westad (eds.). (2010). *The Cambridge History of the Cold War – vol. I: Origins*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9781107602298 (Digital)

- M.P. Leffler and O.A. Westad (eds.). (2010). *The Cambridge History of the Cold War – vol. II: Crises and Détente*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9781107602304 (Digital)

- M.P. Leffler and O.A. Westad (eds.). (2010). *The Cambridge History of the Cold War – vol. III: Endings*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9781107602311 (Digital)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Percentage	Comments
Class Participation	10 %	
Individual Work	30 %	
Midterm exam	25 %	
Final Exam	35 %	

Class participation will be evaluated in terms of quality of class performance in both synchronous (e.g. active note-taking, thoughtful and relevant interventions in class discussions, and avoidance of improper behavior during lectures) and asynchronous sessions (failure to submit an asynchronous assignment will be considered as absence in the related session). In the first 15 minutes of each class, the professor will put questions to students about the related class materials.

Individual work refers to the three take-home assignments (500-word response notes) scheduled in asynchronous sessions 11, 21, and 24.

Midterm exam will be take-home.

Final exam will be in-class, closed-book, and comprehensive of the entire course.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Each student has four attempts over two consecutive academic years to pass this course.

For every BIR Program mandatory class (aside from the IR Unplugged and BIR Electives) students are required to obtain the minimum grade of 5 required to pass the course. Students whose grade in the Final Exam (or the largest assignment) is below 5 will fail the course. The rule applies to whichever assignment carries the greatest weight to the final grade.

Dates and location of the final exam will be posted in advance and will not be changed.

Students must attend at least 70% of the sessions. Students who do not comply with the 70% attendance rule will receive a 0.0 on their first and second attempts and go directly to the third one (they will need to enroll in this course again the following academic year).

Students who are in the third or fourth attempt must contact the professor during the first two weeks of the course.

The Bachelor's in International Relations pursues to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes for bringing transformative and sustainable change in today's world. Therefore, all the courses follow the principles of sustainability and diversity. Firstly, this course considers the agenda 2030 and builds upon the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education). Secondly, this course is committed to an inclusive learning environment and looks to be enriched and enhanced by diversity along numerous dimensions, including race, ethnicity and national origins, gender and gender identity, sexuality, class and religion.

ATTENDANCE

In-person attendance is mandatory at IE University, as it is an essential factor of IE's learning methodology. While we do closely monitor attendance in each course, we also consider our students responsible for their own agenda and commitments, as adult university students. With that in mind, each student may miss up to 30% of the sessions within a given course and still maintain the possibility of passing that given course. This 30% "buffer" is to be used for any absences, such as: illnesses, personal emergencies, commitments, official/governmental matters, business and/or medical appointments, family situations, etc. Students should manage their various needs, and situations that may arise, within that 30% buffer. If a student is absent to more than the allowed 30% of the sessions (regardless of the reason), s/he will obtain a 0.0 grade for that course in both the ordinary and extraordinary calls of the current academic year, and s/he will have to retake the course during the following academic year.

Please pay close attention to your attendance. The program strongly encourages attending 100% of the sessions as it will improve your learning outcomes, it will increase the class performance and it will benefit your participation grade. Noncompliance with deadlines for Non-Classroom Learning activities or assignments will result in an absence for the session.

Extreme cases involving emergencies such as; extended hospitalizations, accidents, serious illnesses and other cases of force majeure; are to be consulted with the Program Management (bir.biemadrid@ie.edu) for assessment of the situation and corresponding documentation, in order to support and guide each student optimally.

For more information about the university attendance policy, please check; <https://www.ie.edu/student-guide/bir/policies-and-guidelines/attendance/>

THIRD CALL RETAKE POLICY

Any student in their third call of a course, also known as a “Retaker”, is obliged to observe the following rules:

- Third call students must contact their professors before or during the first session to ask which work and or *sessions will be required to obtain a passing grade. The professor will determine which work will be required in their course.
*(e.g. when presenting group work, sitting for examinations or other work done in class)
- Retakers are exempt from failing the call due to absences; however, they are not exempt from work the professor designates as necessary to obtain a passing grade. This means some sessions may be mandatory to attend in order to complete the work within.
- Students in their third call are responsible for managing the conflicts in their schedule, should students need advice on how to manage their conflicts they should visit the program office.

EXTRAORDINARY EXAMINATION POLICY

Any student whose weighted final grade is below 5 will be required to sit for the retake exam to pass the course (except those not complying with the attendance rules, whom are banned from this possibility).

Grading for retakes will be subject to the following rules:

- The retakes will consist of a comprehensive exam or equivalent assignment. The grade will depend only on the performance on this exam; continuous evaluation over the semester will not be taken into account.
- Dates and location of the retakes will be posted in advance and will not be changed.
- The exam/assignment will be designed bearing in mind that the passing grade is 5 and the maximum grade that can be attained is 8 out of 10.

PLAGIARISM / ACADEMIC HONESTY

Plagiarism is the dishonest act of presenting another person’s ideas, texts or words as your own. This includes in order of seriousness of the offense:

- providing faulty sources;
- copy-pasting material from your own past assignments (self-plagiarism) without the instructor’s permission;
- copy-pasting material from external sources even while citing them;
- using verbatim translations from sources in other languages without citing them;
- copy-pasting material from external sources without citing them;
- and buying or commissioning essays from other parties.

IEU students must contact the professor if they don't know whether the use of a document constitutes plagiarism. For help with your academic writing, contact the Writing Center (writingcenter@faculty.ie.edu). The professor will also advise the student on how to present said material. All written assignments must be submitted through Turn-it-in, which produces a similarity report and detects cases of plagiarism. Professors are required to check each student's academic work in order to guarantee its originality. If the originality of the academic work is not clear, the professor will contact the student in order to clarify any doubts. Students using external tutorial support should report it to the professor and the BIR Program from the moment they began receiving this support. In the event that the meeting with the student fails to clarify the originality of the academic work, the professor will inform the Director of the Bachelor Program about the case, who will then decide whether to bring the case forward to the BIR Academic Review Panel. Very high similarity scores will be automatically flagged and forwarded to the Academic Review Panel. Plagiarism constitutes a very serious offense and may carry penalties ranging from getting a zero for the assignment to expulsion from the university depending on the severity of the case and the number of times the student has committed plagiarism in the past.

PROFESSOR BIO

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MICHELE TESTONI

Michele Testoni (PhD in Political Science, University of Florence) is Adjunct Professor in International Relations at IE University since 2013.

His most recent publication is the edited book "NATO and Transatlantic Relations in the 21st Century: Foreign and Security Policy Perspectives" (Oxford: Routledge, 2020).

He serves as the Secretary of Transatlantic Studies Association (TSA) the the 2021-2024 term.

OTHER INFORMATION

Office hours: at the end of each class, or by appointment.

CODE OF CONDUCT IN CLASS

1. Be on time: Students arriving more than 5 minutes late will be marked as "Absent". Only students that notify in advance in writing that they will be late for a specific session may be granted an exception (at the discretion of the professor).
2. If applicable, bring your name card and strictly follow the seating chart. It helps faculty members and fellow students learn your names.
3. If connecting remotely, leave video feed on at all times.
4. Do not leave the room during the lecture: Students are not allowed to leave the room during lectures. If a student leaves the room during lectures, he/she will not be allowed to re-enter and, therefore, will be marked as "Absent". Only students that notify that they have a special reason to leave the session early will be granted an exception (at the discretion of the professor).
5. Do not engage in side conversation. As a sign of respect toward the person presenting the lecture (the teacher as well as fellow students), side conversations are not allowed. If you have a question, raise your hand and ask it. If you do not want to ask it during the lecture, feel free to approach your teacher after class. If a student is disrupting the flow of the lecture, he/she will be asked to leave the classroom and, consequently, will be marked as "Absent".

6. Use your laptop for course-related purposes only. The use of laptops during lectures must be authorized by the professor. The use of Social Media or accessing any type of content not related to the lecture is penalized. The student will be asked to leave the room and, consequently, will be marked as "Absent".

7. No cellular phones: IE University implements a "Phone-free Classroom" policy and, therefore, the use of phones, tablets, etc. is forbidden inside the classroom. Failing to abide by this rule entails expulsion from the room and will be counted as one absence.

8. Escalation Policy: the first time you are asked to leave the classroom it will be counted as an absence. If it happens a second time, it will be counted as 3 absences, and an Academic Review Panel will be consulted to discuss other possible sanctions, up to an including possible failing of course and in extreme cases expulsion from program.

