

Subject	INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS			
	Type	Semester	ECTS	Code
	(M)	II	5	
Course lecturer Course assistant Course tutor				
Aims and objectives	<p>The purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding and also to inform the fundamental principles of international relations. In the context of this subject will be discussed and analyzed the main theories of international relations, the actors and the most important factors and current issues of the international system in the XXI century. Acquisition of the main theories that will be dealt within the course will serve as a stable foundation for students to further studies in this field. Also the acquisition of this knowledge will help them develop the critical thinking skills they need to analyze scientifically conflicts between states. In this course will be discussed also issues related to global welfare policies, such as war, global poverty, trade policy, environmental issues, human rights, terrorism, etc. The program will highlight the concept of balance of power, the global distribution of wealth, the ethics of war, etc. At the end of this course the students will have a comprehensive understanding of the main concepts and principles of international relations and they will also gain analytical skills sufficient to examine scientifically the global political system.</p>			
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss and explain the different attitudes and theoretical analysis used in the field of international relations for the purpose of scientific interpretation of world political events. • Describe the historical development of interstate relations and the place and role of the state in these reports. • Analyse the specific issues that are important in the study of interstate relations, national security, war, economic integration, trade etc. 			
Course content	Course plan		Week	
	The concept of international relations		Week I	
	The historical context of contemporary international relations		Week II	
	Contending perspectives: how to think about international relations theoretically		Week III	
	The international system		Week IV	
	The state		Week V	
	The individual		Week VI	
	Revision		Week VII	
	Intergovernmental organizations, international law and non governmental organizations		Week VII	
	International conflict and the war		Week IX	
	International political economy		Week X	
	Transnational issues:the environment,world health and crime		Week XI	
	Human rights		Week XII	

	Preparation for final exam			Week XIII
	Final exam			Week XIV
Teaching/Learning methods	Teaching/Learning activity			Weight (%)
	Teaching methods used for this course include:			
	Lectures in classroom			30%
	Encouraging learning by- doing and revisions based on feedback from lecturer			25%
	In-class group discussion			25%
	Assignments (essays and case studies)			20%
Assessment Methods	Assessment activity	Number	Week	Weight (%)
	The final assessment will be based on:			
	Participation and being active in lectures			
	Assignments (essays, case-studies)			
	The final test: theory and final essay			
	Number, type and method of evaluation:			
	Active participation in lectures			10%
	Home Assignments (essays, case-studies, in a written form)			30%
	The final test: theory and final essay			60%
	To receive a passing grade, every student must have comprehensive knowledge of the content of the subject and to submit regular duties. Participation in class discussions, assignments, and especially the ability to analyze and criticize the studied material, and build a personal argument relied on, are the criteria for the highest rating.			
	Resources			Number

Course sources	Equipment to be used include: Computer White board Markers Moodle		
ECTS workload	Activity	Weekly hrs	Total
	Lectures	2	30
	Exercises	1	15
	Contacts with lecturer	0.5	5
	Home assignments	1	10
	Self-study	2	45
	Preparation for final essay		10
	Preparation for final exam		10

Literature/References	<p>Karen A. Mingst & Ivan M. Arreguín-Toft. <i>Essentials of International Relations</i>, 6th edition. New York & London: W. W Norton & Company, 2014</p> <p>Karen A. Mingst, "Bazat e Marrëdhënieve Ndërkombëtare", Tiranë, 2008.</p> <p>Robert Jackson & Georg Sorensen, "Hyrje ne marrëdhëniet ndërkombëtare", Tiranë, 2013.</p> <p>Other books:</p> <p>Dimitar Bechev, "Rival Power", Yale University Press, 2017</p> <p>Ivan Krastev, "After Europe", University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017</p> <p>Ian Bremmer, "Ne vs atyre – Dështimi i Globalizmit", Tiranë, Minerva, 2018</p> <p>David A. Lake, "Hierarchy in International Relations" Ithaca NY: Cornell University Press, 2009.</p>
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