

Course	“Introduction to Geopolitics”			
	Type	Semester	ECTS	Code
	Mandatory (M)	1	4	
Course lecturer	n.a			
Course assistant	n.a			
Course tutor				
Aim and objectives	<p>The purpose of the course is to provide students with an introduction to geopolitics. The course will delve into the main ideas and concepts of geopolitics by studying them within the contemporary dynamics of international relations. Students will gain insight into different geopolitical theories and their application in real-world situations, as well as their interaction with various geopolitical actors. Additionally, students will be introduced to current developments regarding the direction geopolitical debates are taking and how they are affected by changes related to power, identity, space, and technology in an increasingly globalized and disorderly world. Furthermore, the course will thoroughly analyze the world's main regions, focusing on historical aspects, socio-economic challenges, and the geopolitical configuration and relevance that characterize these regions.</p>			
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize and interpret the fundamental concepts and ideas of geopolitical thought. • Evaluate the historical background of the geopolitical tradition and identify the key researchers and their contributions to the development of geopolitics as a scientific field. • Identify the primary geopolitical actors in the global political arena and analyze the distribution of power in the contemporary geopolitical system. • Comprehend the significance of geopolitical characteristics and historical aspects in shaping the geopolitical objectives of states. 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze the relationship between traditional geopolitics and the contemporary trends and ideas of the main geopolitical actors. 			
	Course plan			Week

Course content

Introduction:	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Syllabus elaboration: course content, method, organization and course	
Geopolitical analysis	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four pillars of power• Hierarchical Order of Powers• The Influence of Geography• The Geopolitical Map of the Future	
The study of Geopolitics	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Definitions	
Geopolitical theory and structures	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Proliferation of Nation-States• Geopolitics and general systems	
The Cold War and its consequences	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geopolitical restructuring• Phase 1: 1945-1956• Phase 2: 1957-1979• Phase 3: 1980-1989• The collapse of the Soviet superpower	
Revision, class discussions, presentations and test preparation	6
Mid-term exam	7
Europe	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical background• Economic and political challenges• Geopolitics	
East Asia and Pacific	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical background• Asian economic miracles• Geopolitics	
South Asia	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Looking ahead• Historical background• Economic and political challenges• Geopolitics• Looking ahead	
Middle East	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical background• Economic and political challenges• Geopolitics	

	Africa		12
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical background • Economic and political challenges • Geopolitics 		
	Americas		13
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical background • Economic and political challenges • Geopolitics 		
	Presentation of analysis, article reviews and seminars		14
	Final test		15
Teaching/learning methods	Activity		Weight (%)
	65. Lectures		50%
	66. Seminars		30%
	67. Case studies		10%
	68. Role play		5%
	69. Study visits		5%
Assessment methods	Assessment activities	Number	Week
	45. Mid-term exam	1	7
	46. Presentations of scientific/professional articles	1	2-15
	47. Final Exam	1	15
	48. Participation	1	1-15
Course resources and means of materializations	Means		Number
	71. Class (e.g)		1
	72. Laboratory (e.g)		n/a
	73. Moodle		1
	74. Software MATLAB/SPSS/SIMULINK		n/a
	75. Projector		1
ECTS workload	Activity type		Weekly hours
	93. Lectures		2
	94. Consultations		0.5
	95. Presentations of articles and seminars		2
	96. Independent study		2
	97. Exams		2
Literature/References	Core literature:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saul Bernard Cohen. <i>Gjeopolitika: Gjeografia e marrëdhënieve ndërkombëtare</i>. A.I.S. Tiranë, 2016. • Tim Marshall. <i>Të burgosur nga gjeografia: dhjetë harta që ju tregojnë gjithcka që duhet të dini për politikën globale</i>. PEMA. Prishtinë, 2022. • Haxhi Ferati. <i>Gjeopolitika dhe Gjeostrategjia: Teoria dhe Praktika</i>. Pena. Prizren. 2019. • Colin Flint, <i>Introduction to Geopolitics</i>, Routledge, ed. 2017, • Haass, Richard. <i>The World: A brief introduction</i>. Penguin, 2021. • Artikuj të përzgjedhur nga xhornalet: "Geopolitics" (https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/fgeo20); 		

- Artikuj të përzgjedhur nga revistat: “Foreign Affairs” (<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/>); “Foreign Policy” (<https://foreignpolicy.com/>); “The Economist” (<https://www.economist.com/>) etj.
- Materiale tjera të shpërndara në klasë nga mësuesi i lëndës.

Additional literature:

- Flint, Colin, and Peter J. Taylor. *Political geography: world-economy, nation-state and locality*. Routledge, 2018.
- Robert D. Kaplan, *The Revenge of Geography*, Random House USA Inc, ed. 2012.

Contact