



COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the program

1.1 Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	European Studies Faculty
1.3 Department	International Relations and German Studies
1.4 Field of study	International Relations and European Studies (English line)
1.5 Study level	BA
1.6 Programme of study/ Qualification	International Relations and European Studies

2. Information about the discipline

2.1 Module	Introduction to Geopolitics						
2.2 Course holder	Associate Professor Liviu Tirau, PhD						
2.3 Seminar holder	Associate Professor Liviu Tirau, PhD, Lecturer Monica Meruțiu, PhD						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	1	2.6. Type of assessment ¹	E.	2.7 Type of module ²	OB

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 No. of hours per week	3	3.1 of which for course	2	3.3 of which for seminar	1
3.4 Total no. of hours in the curriculum	42	3.5 of which for course	28	3.6 of which for seminar	14
Time distribution:					Hours
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					14
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					10
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					14
Tutoring					10
Examinations					8
Other activities:					
3.7 Total no. of hours for individual study	28				
3.8 Total no. of hours per semester	42				

¹ E - exam, ME - multi-term examinations, C - collocutional examination/assessment test

² OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module

3.9 No. of ETCS credit points	5
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4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1 of curriculum	• --
4.2 of competencies	• --

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 For the development of the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Required readings
5.2 For the development of the seminar/laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reader for the seminar • Attendance at least 75% of the seminars • Participation in debates

6. Specific skills acquired

Professional skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the permanence of geographical conditionings upon human society • Acquiring the ability to analyze the specific ways in which the inner-continental and maritime powers interacted with spaces • Understanding the relationship between power and space • Revealing the importance of access to natural resources, transportation routes and communication.
Interdisciplinary skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning the terminology of the History and the Theory of International Relations • Understanding the types of analysis of related subject areas as, International Economics, Military Strategy

7. Course objectives (based on list of acquired skills)

7.1 General objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the intellectual and political process that led to the emergence and formation of geopolitical thinking • Assimilation and understanding the Geopolitics concepts and terminology • Acquiring the ability to discuss the role that power and spaces plays as objectives of international actors
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying relationships between settings and geographic locations and how they were structured differently in certain cultural, political and economic entities.

8. Contents

8.1 Lecture	Teaching methods	Observations
1-2. What is geopolitics? The area of study. Methodological tools, terminology, concepts commonly used.	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	
3-7. The formation of geopolitics as a discipline of its own. The Main schools of classical period: German, French, Anglo-Saxon, Japanese	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	
8. World War II, the "revolution" of geopolitics and the permanence of geographical pivot of history	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	
9-11. Cold War Geopolitics. The Nuclear geostrategy and systemic competition	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	
12. The Third World Challenges. Competition for control of strategic resources and ideological threats	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	
13. The collapse of the Soviet communist bloc and the new world order	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	
14. Globalization and fragmentation in the early third millennium	Lecture, heuristic conversation, dialogue	

Bibliography:

John Agnew, Katharyne Mitchell, Gerard Toal eds., A Companion to Companion Political Geography, Blackwell Publishing, 2003

Zbigniew Brzezinski, The Grand Chessboard. American Supremacy and Its Geostrategic Imperatives, New York, 1997

Saul Bernard Cohen, Geopolitics of the World System, Oxford, UK, 2003

George J. Demko, William B. Wood, eds., Reordering the World. Geopolitical perspectives on the 21st Century, Westview Press, 1999

Robert D. Kaplan, The Revenge of Geography. What the Map Tell Us about Coming Conflicts and the Battle against Fate, New York, 2012

Henry Kissinger, Diplomacy, New York, 1994

Noel Parker, ed., The Geopolitics of Europe's Identity Centers, Boundaries, and Margins, New York, 2008

Geoffrey Parker, Western Geopolitical Thought in the Twentieth Century, London 1993

Alexandros Petersen, The World Island. Eurasian Greopolitics and the Fate of the West, Praeger, 2011

Gearoid O Tuathail, Simon Dalby, Paul Routledge, eds., The Geopolitics Reader, London and New York, 1998

Eric Walberg, Postmodern Imperialism. Geopolitics and the Great Games, Clarity Press, Inc, 2011

8.2 Seminar / Laboratory	Teaching methods	Observations
1. Organizational details: requirements for seminar activity, presentation of reader and bibliography,		

organization of the final examination		
2. Introduction to geopolitics - the fundamental texts: -Anglo American vision -German vision		<i>The Geopolitics Reader</i> , p. 27-31, 32. <i>The Geopolitics Reader</i> , p. 33-43.
3. Territorial rapture and the Soviet geopolitical postwar vision	Text analysis, debate	Henry Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i> , Chapter: Nazi-Soviet Pact; Richard Savka, <i>The rise and fall of the Soviet Union</i> , pp. 225-235. H. Kissinger, <i>op. cit</i> , Chapter: <i>Three approaches to Peace</i> , How saw Soviet leaders, in fact, the postwar world: Vladimir O. Pechatnov, <i>The Big Three After World War II: New Documents on Soviet Thinking about Post War. Relations with The United States and Great Britain -</i> http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/ACF17F.PDF ; Michael McGwire, <i>National Security and Soviet Foreign Policy</i> , in Melvyn P. Leffler, David Painter, <i>Origins of the Cold War</i> .
4. US geopolitical vision in the early Cold War	Text analysis, debate	Cold War origins in US outlook: Arthur Schlesinger Jr., „Origins of the Cold War”, <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , October 1967. -The Long Telegram: http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/coldwar/documents/episode-1/kennan.htm -Fundamental documents of the national security policy of the United States: NSC 58, NSC 68. Melvyn P. Leffler, „National Security and US Foreign Policy”, in Melvyn P. Leffler, David Painter, <i>Origins of the Cold War</i> , pp. 15-52.
4. USSR and Russian Federation: the Geopolitics of the Cold War and After	Text analysis, debate	The Two Camps theory, doctrine of limited sovereignty, Gorbachev's vision: <i>The Geopolitics Reader</i> , pp. 66-68, 74-77, 97-102 Old and new in Russian Federation strategic outlook: <i>Duma Committee Discusses Brezhnev Doctrine</i> ; ITAR-TASS; 12/19/1996; „The End Of The Cold War: A Russian View”; <i>History Today</i> ; 4/1/1999; Batyuk, Vladimir, „The End Of The Cold War: A Russian View”; <i>History Today</i> ; 4/1/1999; -, „Aleksandr Dugin's Foundations of Geopolitics”; <i>Demokratizatsiya</i> ; 1/1/2004; Dunlop, John B.; Dmitri Trenin, <i>Russia and Global Security Norms</i> ; Ian Bremmer, Samuel Charap, <i>The Siloviki in Putin's Russia: Who They Are and What They Want</i> , <i>The Washington Quarterly</i> , 2006-2007, pp. 83-92.
6. United States after the Cold War	Text analysis, debate	„The compulsive empire (U.S. hegemony)”, <i>Foreign Policy</i> ; 7/1/2003; Jervis, Robert – „A grand strategy of transformation”, <i>Foreign</i>

		<i>Policy</i> ; 11/1/2002; Gaddis, John Lewis- „The democracy nostrum” (new US policy for promoting democracy in other countries) <i>World Policy Journal</i> ; 9/22/1994; Carothers, Thomas -Power. (Think Again).(US military power), <i>Foreign Policy</i> ; 1/1/2003;
7.Transatlantic relations after 1989	Text analysis, debate	Henry Kissinger, „American strategy and pre-emptive war”, <i>International Herald Tribune</i> , 13 April 2006. Idem, <i>Realists vs. Idealists: Debating the “Freedom” Agenda</i> , Ibidem, May 12, 2005. F. Stephen Larabee, „Danger and Opportunity in Eastern Europe”, in <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , Nov-Dec 2006. Ivo Daalder, James Goldgeier, „Global Nato”, <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , Sept-Oct 2006. Mikhail Margelov, „Russia and the U.S.: Priorities Real and Artificial”, <i>International Affairs</i> , Moscow, 2006. - <i>The Geopolitics of the United States</i> , Part 1, „The Inevitable Empire”, STRATFOR.mht - <i>The Geopolitics of the United States</i> , Part 2, „American Identity and the Threats of Tomorrow”, STRATFOR.mht
Bibliography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henry Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, New York, 1994 <i>The Geopolitics Reader</i>. 		

9. The correspondence between the content of the course and the expectations of the academic community, professional associations and representative employers in the field:

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10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Percentage of the final grade
10.4 Course/Lecture	7 points	Final written examination	70%
10.5 Seminar	3 points	1 p. (presentation, text analysis) 2 p. (seminar activity)	30%
10.6 Minimum standard of performance:			
Minimum four active seminar attendances (reading and discussing the required texts) Students shall pass the exam if they obtain at least the grade 5 in their written examination			

Date
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Course holder signature
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Seminar holder signature
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Date of departmental approval
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Head of department signature
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