



## COURSE SYLLABUS

### 1. Information about the program

1.1. Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca
1.2. Faculty	European Studies
1.3. Department	International Relations and German Studies
1.4. Field of study	International Relations and European Studies
1.5. Study level	Master
1.6. Programme of study/ Qualification	<b><i>International Relations, Foreign Policy and Crisis Management</i></b>

### 2. Information about the discipline

2.1. Module	<b>GREAT POWERS' FOREIGN POLICY</b>						
2.2. Course	Professor Valentin Naumescu						
2.3. Seminar	Professor Valentin Naumescu						
2.4. Year of study	<b>2</b>	2.5. Semester	<b>3</b>	2.6. Type of assessment <sup>1</sup>	<b>E</b>	2.7. Type of module <sup>2</sup>	<b>OB</b>

### 3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1. No. of hours per week	<b>2</b>	3.2. of which for course	<b>2</b>	3.3. of which for seminar	<b>1</b>
3.4. Total no. of hours in the curriculum	<b>42</b>	3.5. of which for course	<b>28</b>	3.6. of which for seminar	<b>14</b>
Time distribution:	6x25=150				Ore
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					20
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					5
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					5
Tutoring					5
Examinations					5
Other activities: .....					
<b>3.7. Total no. of hours for individual study</b>					30
<b>3.8. Total no. of hours per semester</b>					150
<b>3.9. No. of ECTS pts. (credit points)</b>					6

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

<sup>2</sup> OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module



**4. Prerequisites (where applicable)**

4.1. of curriculum	•
4.2. of competencies	• English B1 or higher, PC use, MA level of research and academic writing

**5. Conditions (where applicable)**

5.1. For the development of the course	• Internet access and computer
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**6. Specific skills acquired**

<b>Specific skills Professional skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the ability to analyse the strategy and interests of great powers, in the current context of international politics</li> <li>• comprehending the major directions of international developments in certain global and regional hot issues</li> <li>• the use of accurate terminology pertaining to foreign policy and diplomacy</li> <li>• evaluating the role of different actors in the decision making process in international politics</li> <li>• emitting pertinent predictions about the evolution of different conflicts and tensions around the world, based on in-depth, comparative and consistent readings</li> </ul>
<b>Interdisciplinary skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• synthesis of information and essay writing abilities</li> <li>• participating actively in group debates</li> <li>• the ability to deliver a structured and professional paper (analysis)</li> <li>• comparative, critical and analytical thinking</li> </ul>

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

7.1 General objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop an essential understanding of the use of power in international relations and to familiarise MA students with multiple aspects of power in international politics, based on the strategic interests of the most powerful states in the world</li> </ul>
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To foster the assimilation of major concepts, ideas and principles specific to Foreign Policy and Diplomacy and Geopolitics</li> <li>• To ensure the comprehension of the way in which great powers pursue their interests at global and regional</li> </ul>



	<p>levels, from national strategy to foreign policy and diplomacy and sometimes even to military intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote highly argued evaluation, by the MA students, of the security threats, risks and opportunities which imply different types of action (strategic, political, diplomatic, economic or military) conducted by the great powers.</li> </ul>
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## 8. Contents

8.1 Course	Teaching methods	Observations
1. Introduction: the great powers and the system of international relations. Main concepts in foreign policy and diplomacy	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014, 1-9 Mearsheimer, 2001 Naumescu, 2014, 3-30
2. The return of geopolitics: history and present. Hard power, soft power	Lecture and debate	Kaplan, 2013, 10-60
3. World systems in the past 100 years (multipolar, bipolar, hegemony, multipolar again). The concept of world order	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014, 11-48
4. The European peninsula between Eurasia and the Atlantic powers. The role of NATO	Lecture and debate	Friedman, 2015, 5-57
5. Regions of geopolitical frontier and buffer-zones	Lecture and debate	Kaplan, 2013 Friedman, 2015
6. The US foreign policy. From diplomacy to military intervention. Back to isolationism?	Lecture and debate	Barnett, 2010
7. The EU's CFSP and the EU Global Strategy. Is the EU a great power?	Lecture and debate	The EU Global Strategy (2016)



8. Germany in the present international relations	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014 Friedman, 2015
9. The UK and the Brexit Process. Consequences in European security	Lecture and debate	Naumescu, 2018
10. The post-Soviet Russia	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014 Naumescu, 2018 Friedman, 2015
11. China and the new world order. Asia-Pacific and the question of South China Sea	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014, 117-234
12. Turkey between Europe and the Middle East	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014, 97-122
13. Proxy-wars, frozen conflicts and military interventions	Lecture and debate	Kissinger, 2014, 82-97
14. Conclusions. Revision of topics	Debate	

**Seminar (7 sessions of 2 hours each, every other week):**

1. The US foreign policy. Text analysis, debate.
2. The EU as a global actor. The EU Global Strategy. Text analysis, debate.
3. Russian foreign policy in the post-Soviet era. Text analysis, debate.
4. China's global and regional interests. Text analysis, debate. Presentation of papers
5. The UK and the Brexit reflections on European security. Text analysis, debate. Presentation of papers
6. Germany and its European and global interests. Text analysis, debate. Presentation of papers
7. Turkey today. The beginning of the post-Kemalist era? Text analysis, debate. Presentation of papers

**Bibliography:**

Henry Kissinger, *World Order*, Penguin, 2014.  
 John J. Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, Norton, 2001.  
 George Friedman, *Flashpoints: The Emerging Crisis in Europe*, Doubleday, 2015.  
 Robert D. Kaplan, *The Revenge of Geography: What the Map Tells Us About Coming Conflicts and*



*the Fight Against Fate*, Random House, 2013.  
Giovanni Arrighi, *Adam Smith in Beijing: Lineages of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Verso, 2009.  
Thomas P.M. Barnett, *Great Powers. America and the World After Bush*, Berkley, 2010  
Valentin Naumescu, *Great Powers' Politics in Central and Eastern Europe: 30 Years since the End of the Cold War*, Humanitas, Bucharest, 2019  
Valentin Naumescu (ed.), *Democracy and Security in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Perspectives on a Changing World*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014.  
Valentin Naumescu (ed.), *Foreign Policy and Diplomacy: An Introduction*, EFES, 2014.  
Valentin Naumescu (ed.), *Romania, the Great Powers and the European Order: 1918-2018*, Polirom, 2018.

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

The course provides a set of analytical instruments for a deep and comparative understanding of the interests, strategies and types of external action of the great powers. The attending MA students will be able to identify, describe and compare the political and strategic behaviour of the great powers in the nowadays system of international relations. This knowledge will help them to improve their professional skills in different careers such as diplomacy, international political consultancy, political journalism, European and national government structures, international NGOs or even future academic careers in the field of political science and international relations.

**10. Assessment**

Type of activity	10.1. Assessment criteria	10.2. Assessment methods	10.3. Percentage of the final grade
Course	Quality of answers	Oral exam	1-7 pts.
Seminar		Continuous activity Presentation of an individual semester paper	0-3 pts.
10.6. Minimum standard of performance			
50% (Grade five)			

Date:  
23 September 2020

Course holder:  
Professor Valentin Naumescu

Date of departmental approval

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