



COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the program

1.1. Higher Education Institution	Babeș-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca
1.2. Faculty	European Studies
1.3. Department	International Relations
1.4. Field of study	International Relations and European Studies
1.5. Study level	Doctoral
1.6. Programme of study/ Qualification	Doctoral School: <i>The European Paradigm</i>

2. Information about the discipline

2.1. Module	GREAT POWER POLITICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY: STRATEGY, FOREIGN POLICY AND DIPLOMACY						
2.2. Course holder	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Habil. Valentin Naumescu						
2.4. Year of study	1	2.5. Semester	1	2.6. Type of assessment ¹	E	2.7. Type of module ²	OP

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1. No. of hours per week	2	3.2. of which for course	2	3.3. of which for seminar	0
3.4. Total no. of hours in the curriculum	26	3.5. of which for course	26	3.6. of which for seminar	0
Time distribution:	conventional hours 133				Ore
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					40
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					35
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					20
Tutoring					5
Examinations					5
Other activities:					
3.7. Total no. of hours for individual study					105
3.8. Total no. of hours per semester					133
3.9. No. of ECTS pts. (credit points)					10

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

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



4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1. of curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic concepts in the field of IR and Comparative Politics
4.2. of competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English, PC use, MA level of academic research and writing

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1. For the development of the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• minimal attendance: 50%
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6. Specific skills acquired

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

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

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



	<p>diplomacy and sometimes even to military intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote highly argued evaluation, by the PhD 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.
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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 guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
2. The return of geopolitics: history and present. Hard power, soft power	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
3. World systems in the past 100 years (multipolar, bipolar, hegemony, multipolar again). The concept of world order	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
4. The European peninsula between Eurasia and the Atlantic powers. The role of NATO	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
5. Regions of geopolitical frontier and buffer-zones	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
6. The US foreign policy. From diplomacy to military intervention	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
7. The EU's CFSP and the EU Global Strategy	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
8. Germany in the present international relations	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
9. The UK and the Brexit Process	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
10. The post-Soviet Russia	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
11. China and the new world order	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list
12. Proxy-wars, frozen conflicts and military interventions	Lecture and guided debate	Chapters and pages will be indicated from the bibliographic list



13. Ethics in scientific research and academic activities and observation of intellectual property	Guided debate	---
14. Conclusions, comparative analysis	Guided debate	
8.2 Seminar		
1. Organization of the work during the semester. Discussion on the topics. Students chose the topic for the individual paper	Free discussion	
2. What are the Great Powers? Historic and comparative approaches. Present theories	Guided debate	
3. What is a world order? Main types of European and global order in the modern and recent history and in the present day	Guided debate	
4. The United States in the international relations system (1918-1989)	Guided debate	
5. The United States in the international relations system (after 1989)	Guided debate	
6. The Trump administration and its policies. From multilateralism to unilateralism	Guided debate	
7. The crisis of the global liberal order?	Guided debate	
8. The European Union as a global actor (The Global Strategy)	Guided debate	
9. The reform of the EU in the context of the Brexit crisis	Guided debate	
10. China, the leading power in economic globalization?	Guided debate	
11. Russia after 1991	Guided debate	
12. The Putin regime and strategy	Guided debate	
13. The discrete Japan in the international system	Guided debate	
14. Presentation of individual papers	Presentation of essays. Q&A	



Bibliography

In English (most of them also available in Romanian editions):

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 21st Century*, Verso, 2009.

Valentin Naumescu (ed.), *Democracy and Security in the 21st Century: Perspectives on a Changing World*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014.

Valentin Naumescu (ed.), *Foreign Policy and Diplomacy: An Introduction*, EFES, 2014.

In Romanian:

Valentin Naumescu (Coord.), *Criza Uniunii Europene și ordinea globală în era Trump*, Ed. Trei, București, 2017.

Valentin Naumescu, *Marile schimbări. Crize și perspective în politica internațională*, Ed. Trei, București, 2015.

Alain Besançon, *Sfânta Rusie*, Humanitas, 2013.

Valentin Naumescu, *Teme de politică internațională. Conflicte, tensiuni, dezbateri*, EFES, 2014.



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 PhD 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	Active participation in debates, answers and contributions, pertinent	Continuous assessment	25%



	opinions		
Examination	Presentation of individual project (paper) and questions from the contents of the course (interview).	Quality of research work; accuracy of answers	75%
10.6. Minimum standard of performance			
Satisfactory			

Date:
February 2019

Course holder:
Assoc. Professor PhD Habil. Valentin Naumescu

Date of departmental approval

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Head of department signature

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