

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

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| SCHOOL | School of International Studies, Communication and Culture | | |
| ACADEMIC UNIT | Department of International, European and Area Studies | | |
| LEVEL OF STUDIES | Postgraduate | | |
| COURSE CODE | PMS101 | SEMESTER | A |
| COURSE TITLE | Theory and Methodology of International Relations | | |
| INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i> | WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS | CREDITS | |
| Lectures | 3 | 7.5 | |
| | | | |
| <i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i> | | | |
| COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i> | | | |
| PREREQUISITE COURSES: | | | |
| LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS: | Greek & English (for the Erasmus students) | | |
| IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS | Yes | | |
| COURSE WEBSITE (URL) | https://openeclass.panteion.gr/courses/PMS101/ | | |

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

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| <p>Learning outcomes <i>The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Appendix A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area</i> • <i>Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B</i> • <i>Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes</i> |
| <p>Students are expected to:</p> <p>(1) gain an in-depth understanding of theoretical and methodological issues in the study of International Relations, as well as to become familiar with the contemporary epistemological challenges facing the discipline;</p> <p>(2) familiarize themselves with the interdisciplinary nature of the</p> |

study of international politics, which characterizes the research and pedagogical approach adopted by our Department

(3) develop the skill to employ effectively basic theoretical concepts and methodological tools to the analysis of international affairs. Student progress in this regard, will be evaluated through in-class presentations.

General Competences

Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology</i> | <i>Project planning and management</i> |
| <i>Adapting to new situations</i> | <i>Respect for difference and multiculturalism</i> |
| <i>Decision-making</i> | <i>Respect for the natural environment</i> |
| <i>Working independently</i> | <i>Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues</i> |
| <i>Team work</i> | <i>Criticism and self-criticism</i> |
| <i>Working in an international environment</i> | <i>Production of free, creative and inductive thinking</i> |
| <i>Working in an interdisciplinary environment</i> | <i>.....</i> |
| <i>Production of new research ideas</i> | <i>Others...</i> |
| | <i>.....</i> |

- Research, analysis, theoretical reflection, and use of case studies.
- Awareness of the importance and added analytical value of interdisciplinary approaches.
- Promotion of free and creative thinking and of a critical approach towards scientific knowledge.
- Criticism and self-criticism.
- Work independently and as member of a team.

(3)SYLLABUS

The aim of the course is twofold. First, to familiarize students with traditional theories and recent trends in the discipline of International Relations. These include the discipline’s historical development, its philosophical foundations and social mechanisms of knowledge production, as well as the contemporary epistemological challenges it faces. Second, to familiarize students with the complexities of research design, the techniques of academic writing, qualitative methods and the challenges of applying them to empirical research.

The study material is developed in 13 teaching weeks covering the following topics.

PART A: INTRODUCTION

1. How Do We Study International relations? Levels of Analysis & Types of Variables

PART B: THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

2. Realism: Classical Tradition & Modern Approaches

3. Liberalism: Classical Tradition & Modern Approaches

4. Constructivism: Philosophical Foundations & International Applications

5. Epistemological Challenges in International Relations

PART C: METHODOLOGY

6. Research Design & Essay Writing

7. Overview of Qualitative Methods

8. The Comparative Method and Case Studies

PART D: APPLICATION & PRESENTATIONS

9. Student presentations

10. Student presentations

11. Student presentations

12. Student presentations

(4)TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

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| <p>DELIVERY <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i></p> | Lectures that encourage student participation | |
| <p>USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i></p> | The organization and teaching of the course utilizes ICT. The lectures include PowerPoint presentations, which are available online through the course webpage on eclass. Additional material (articles, links) is also posted on eclass. Finally, eclass is used for direct communication with students and for announcements related to the course. | |
| <p>TEACHING METHODS <i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail. Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i></p> <p><i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i></p> | Activity | Semester workload |
| | Lectures | 13 weeks. x 3 hrs = 39 hrs |
| | Self-study, preparation for class | 13 week. x 4 hrs = 52 hrs |
| | Preparation for in-class presentations | 36 hrs |
| | Exam preparation | 83 hrs |
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| | Course total | 210 hrs |
| <p>STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION <i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i></p> <p><i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i></p> <p><i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i></p> | <p>The final examination is in Greek (and English for Erasmus students).</p> <p>Assessment for this module consists of an in-class presentation (50% of the mark) and an unseen examination (50% of the mark) with a multiple choice component and short essays. The questions are drawn from theoretical debates and current affairs.</p> | |

(5)ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Suggested bibliography:

[Introductory Books](#)

- Christian Reus-Smit, *International Relations: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.
- T. Dunne, M. Kurki and S. Smith, eds. *International Relations Theories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Chris Brown, *Understanding International Relations* (5th Edition), Bloomsbury Academic, 2022.
- V. Lowndes, D. M., & G. Stoker (Eds.), *Theory and Methods in Political Science* .

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES BY SUBJECT

The bibliography below lists material that students should read prior to the lecture to be able to participate in class discussions.

1. Levels of Analysis & Types of Variables

- Walt, S. M. (1998) "International Relations: One World, Many Theories" *Foreign Policy*, No. 145: 29-46.
- Hay, C. (2002) *Political Analysis*. Basingstoke: Palgrave [Chap. 3: Beyond Structure Versus Agency]

2. Realism: Classical Tradition & Modern Approaches

- Kenneth N. Waltz, "Structural Realism after the Cold War", *International Security* (2000), 25 (1).
- Mearsheimer, J. (2006), "Structural Realism" in Dunne, T., Kurki, M. and Smith, S. (eds) *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*, Oxford University Press.
- Lebow, P. N (2006), "Classical Realism", in Dunne, T., Kurki, M. and Smith, S. (eds) *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*, Oxford University Press.
- Kirshner, J. (2012), "The tragedy of offensive realism: Classical realism and the rise of China", *European Journal of International Relations*, 18(1): 53-75.

3. Liberalism: Classical Tradition & Modern Approaches

- Doyle, M. W. (1986), "Liberalism and World Politics", *American Political Science Review*, 80(4): 1151-1169.
- Mearsheimer, J. "Liberalism and Nationalism in Contemporary America", published online by Cambridge University Press: 07

January 2021.

- Russett, B. (2007), "Liberalism", in T. Dunne, M. Kurki and S. Smith, eds. *International Relations Theories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Sterling-Folker, J. (2007), "Neoliberalism", in T. Dunne, M. Kurki and S. Smith, eds. *International Relations Theories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

4. **Constructivism: Philosophical Foundations & IR Applications**

- Wendt, A. (1992) "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics", *International Organization*, 46(2): 391-425.
- Nicholas Onuf, 'Constructivism: A User's Manual,' in Vendulka Kubálková et al., eds., *International Relations in a Constructed World* (M. E. Sharpe, 1998), pp. 58-78, reprinted in Onuf, *Making Sense, Making Worlds: Constructivism in Social Theory and International Relations* (Routledge, 2013), pp. 3-20.
- Legro, J. W. (2009) "The Plasticity of Identity under Anarchy", *European Journal of International Relations*, 15(1): 37-65.
- Reus-Smit, C. (2017), "Cultural Diversity and International Order", *International Organization*, 71(4): 851-885.
- Barkin, J. S. "Realist Constructivism", *International Studies* (2003), 5, 325-342.

5. **Gnosiological Challenges in International Relations**

- Schmidt, B. C. (2002) "On the History and Historiography of International Relations", in Carlsnaes, W., Risse, T. and Simmons, B. A. (eds) *Handbook of International Relations*. London: SAGE.
- Wæver, O. (1998), "The Sociology of a Not So International Discipline: American and European Developments in International Relations", *International Organization*, 52 (Special Issue): 687-727.
- D'Aoust, A.-M. (2015) International Relations as a Social Science/International Relations as an American Social Science. In: Marlin-Bennett, R. (ed.) *The International Studies Encyclopedia*. Blackwell Reference Online.
- Wight, C. (2002) "Philosophy of Social Science and International Relations", in Carlsnaes, W., Risse, T. and Simmons, B. A. (eds) *Handbook of International Relations*. London: SAGE.

- Monteiro, N.P. and Ruby, K.G. (2009) "IR and the false promise of philosophical foundations", *International Theory*, 1(1): 15-48.

6. Research Design and Essay Writing

- Alvesson, Mats, and Jörgen Sandberg (2011). Generating Research Questions through Problematization. *The Academy of Management Review*, Vol. 36, No. 2, 2011, pp. 247-271
- Patrick Dunleavy, *Studying for a Degree: In the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Palgrave, 1986. Κεφ 5: Writing Dissertations.
- Shapiro, I. (2002) "Problems, methods, and theories in the study of politics, or: What's wrong with Political Science and what to do about it", *Political Theory*, 30(4): 588-611.
- Hancke, B. (2010) " The Challenge of Research Design", in Marsh, D. and Stoker, G. (eds) *Theory and Methods in Political Science*, 3rd ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave.

7. Overview of Qualitative Methods

- Naidoo, Loshini. (2012). *Ethnography: An Introduction to Definition and Method*. 10.5772/39248.
- Bryman, Alan. *Interviewing in Qualitative Research*, in *Social Research Methods*. 2nd ed., Oxford University Press, 2004.

8. The Comparative Method and Case Studies

- Lim, Timothy, *Introduction: What is Comparative Politics?. Doing Comparative Politics: An Introduction to Approaches and Issues*. Lynne Rienner, 2010.
- Flyvbjerg, B. (2006), "Five Misunderstandings About Case-Study Research", *Qualitative Inquiry*, 12(2): 219-245.
- Bennett, A. and Elman, C. (2007) "Case Study Methods in the International Relations Subfield", *Comparative Political Studies*, 40 (2): 170-195

- Related academic journals: