

Code: SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A

Credits: 9

Subject: Aspects and Problems of Security in International Politics

Main language of instruction: Italian

Other language of instruction: English

Teaching Staff

Head instructor

Prof. Giuliano Caroli giuliano.caroli@unicusano.it

Dr. _____

Prerequisites

Attendance at the Course requires basic knowledge of the history of international events during the twentieth century.

Objectives

The Master's Degree Course in *Aspects and Problems of Security in International Politics* aims to deepen students' understanding of the most relevant features of "security" within the field of international relations throughout their historical evolution in the 20th century and the early decades of the 21st.

The historical evolution of security is explored, starting from the consolidation of the nation-state. From the aspiration to collective security in the 1920s to the transformations that followed the Second World War, this evolution is long and complex. The narrow frameworks of the subsequent Cold War and the confrontation between two opposing blocs reshaped the concept of international security, incorporating the security of civil societies due to the growing risk of nuclear conflict—an event capable, in the case of total war, of annihilating human civilization itself.

The pursuit of security evolved, in its substance, into specific institutionalized areas that are examined here, including the UN, the OSCE, and the European Community/Union. After the end of the Cold War, the very notion of security within a new and orderly international system gave way to a series of far more complex needs, marked by numerous uncertainties.

Consequently, the course addresses—albeit in a necessarily concise manner—the specific issues related to this multifaceted transformation of security: from terrorism, to energy resources, to the changing role of armed forces, and to cyber-security.

Competencies:

The student must demonstrate:

- Disciplinary knowledge and understanding
- Ability to apply knowledge and understanding in terms of skills
- Autonomy of judgement
- Communication skills
- Learning ability

The desired learning outcome is to obtain from the student - in attending the oral or written examination - the ability to know, learn and assess in depth the characteristics of international security during the 20th century and in the first decades of the following century.

Consequently, the student will have to rely on the study of the teaching materials provided by the lecturer and on his ability to identify premises and developments of events and issues related to the programme.

In the oral examination, the student is also required to have adequate communication skills based on appropriate language and exposition and a high degree of precision with regard to the various issues, in line with the contents of the programme.

Syllabus

Programme:

Topic 1. _Evolution of the concept Security/Safety over the Centuries_____

Topic 2. _International Security_ from Modern Era to the 20th Century_____

Topic 3. Evolution of the International Security in the ONU, NATO, UE, OSCE Organizations

Topic 4. International Security in the 21st Century: Terrorism, Energy Supplies, Cyber Warfare

Evaluation system and criteria

The examination normally consists of a written test held at the Rome headquarters, aimed at ascertaining the ability to analyse and rework the concepts acquired, and with a prior booking by the student.

Erasmus students are encouraged to contact the professor to agree on a customized syllabus.

Study materials (available in both Italian and English) will be provided directly by the professor if not available in the University library.

The examination will be aimed at:

- ascertaining the knowledge and comprehension of the student;
- ascertaining the ability to apply that knowledge to analyze current trends and events in international security;
- ascertaining the mastery of the specific language concerning the international security issues.

Bibliography and resources

1. Materials to consult:

Christopher Browning, *International Security*, OUB Oxford, 2017
Selected chapters will be agreed with the Professor