



Code: SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A Credits: 9

Subject: International Relations

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

This Master's Degree in International Relations aims at providing students with a more advanced knowledge of the most relevant aspects of international politics in the course of its historical evolution in the 20th century and in the first decades of the 21st. The Course includes the study of some fundamental periods in the international history of the 20th century:

- Aspects and problems of international political and economic relations from the Versailles Peace Conference to the crises of the 1930s.
- Aspects and interpretative problems of the Cold War, as it evolved.
- Aspects of the international system in the transition from the 20th to the 21st century.

The knowledge and characteristics of these periods will be developed in the Course with particular reference to the elements of a political-diplomatic, economic, financial and geopolitical nature, which distinguish them in the history of international relations.

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 relations 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. DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN XX AND XXI CENTURIES

Topic 2._ THE CRISIS OF THE EUROPEAN SYSTEM AFTER WORLD WAR I AND THE ILLUSION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SECURITY, 1919-1929

Topic 3. THE COLD WAR. HISTORICAL ASPECTS AND PROBLEMS OF INTERPRETATION

Topic 4. ASPECTS OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM: UNILATERALISM AND MULTILATERALISM; GLOBALISATION AND FRAGMENTATION; LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF THE 'BRICS' (CHINA, INDIA, RUSSIA, BRAZIL, AND OTHERS); THE UNCERTAIN ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, POWER ASSUMPTIONS AND TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS

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 relations;
- ascertaining the mastery of the specific language concerning the international relations.

Materials to study:

Students have to choose ONLY ONE of the following parts

Part 1:

Henry Kissinger, *Diplomacy*, New York – London – Toronto – Sidney, Simon & Shuster, 1994.

Only the following Chapters: 1, 10, 17, 18, 20, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31
(Book available in the Cusano University Library)

Italian Version:

Henry Kissinger, *L'arte della diplomazia*, Sperling Paperback, 2004
The same chapters of the English Version

Or

Part 2:

Joseph Grieco – G. John Ikenberry – Michael Mastanduno, *Introduction to International Relations. Perspectives, Connections and Enduring Questions*, London, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2026

Only the following Chapters: 2, 7, 13, 14 (The Features of the boxes are excluded from the study)

(Book available in the Cusano University Library)

Italian Version:

Joseph Grieco – G. John Ikenberry – Michael Mastanduno, *Introduzione alle Relazioni Internazionali. Domande fondamentali e prospettive contemporanee*, Seconda Edizione a cura di V. E. Parsi, Milano, UTET, 2024

The same chapters of the English Version

Notes written by the instructor are also available in Italian.