



SELF PROGRAM

2026/2027

Geopolitics

Alma-Pierre Bonnet

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Course information

Number of credits: 6 credits

Contact hours: 30 hours

Hours taught per week: 3 hours

Teaching period: Spring Semester 2027

Course description

This course introduces key notions and concepts in geopolitics and international relations with a view to providing students with a better understanding of the many challenges facing today's world. The main objective is to help students understand and assess the most pressing issues in national and global politics while engaging in several case studies. A special attention is also devoted to strategic discourse in international relations.

Course outline

Class 1: Introduction (key terms and notions)

Class 2: Geopolitics and the world (Ocean/ water/ Navy/ Outer space geopolitics)

Class 3: Geopolitics and the world (Cyberspace - Universities - Museums - Media – Sports)

Class 4: Historical approach (Bipolar to unipolar world – globalization)

Class 5: Current Situation (China vs. USA - UK, Australia, Canada, South Africa)

Class 6: mid-terms (short essay)

Class 7: Sport Diplomacy

Class 8: Strategic Narratives and communication

Class 9: prep Exam (case study)

Class 10: Exam

Prerequisites

None, apart from keen interest in international relations

Course objectives

- Get a better understanding of today's main geopolitical issues
- Discuss current geopolitical challenges
- Engage in critical thinking over International Relations

Assessment

60% final exam (in class, dossier and class presentation)

40% mid-terms, work in class (case study, short essay)

Attendance

In order to participate, students must be present. Nevertheless, a maximum of 2 (two) unexcused absences will be allowed; otherwise, no mark will be given. An unexcused absence at a test (final test or continuous assessment) means no credits for the course.

Bibliography

- Braillard, Philippe, et Mohammad-Reza Djalili. *Les relations internationales*. Presses Universitaires de France, 2006.
- Diane Coutu, Smart Power, <https://hbr.org/2008/11/smart-power>.
- Duncan, Mike. Climate Chaos Helped Spark the French Revolution—and Holds a Dire Warning for Today. *Time online*.
- Flint, Colin. (2021). *Introduction to Geopolitics*. Routledge.

- Hsiang SM, Burke M, Miguel E. Quantifying the influence of climate on human conflict. *Science*. 2013 Sep 13;341(6151):1235367. doi: 10.1126/science.1235367.
- Introduction to international relations. M. Cox with R. Campanaro. 2016
- Lopez, Clément. « Chapitre 3. Sport, géopolitique et diplomatie sportive dans un monde globalisé », Michel Desbordes éd., *Marketing international du sport. Digital, e-sport et pays émergents*. De Boeck Supérieur, 2022, pp. 65-108.
- Nigro, Louis J. "THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MODERN DIPLOMACY: ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT TO 1914." Edited by J. Boone Bartholomees. *VOLUME I: THEORY OF WAR AND STRATEGY*. Strategic Studies Institute, US Army War College, 2010. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep12114.16>.
- Noe, Cornago. Diplomacy. In Lester Kurtz (Editor-in-Chief), Vol. [1] of *Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, & Conflict*, 3 vols. pp. [574-580] Oxford: Elsevier