

THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Course name

1. Information about the study program

1.1 University	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	Faculty of History and Philosophy
1.3 Department	International Studies and Contemporary History
1.4 Field of study	Security Studies
1.5 Study cycle (BA/MA)	BA
1.6 Study program/Qualification	Security Studies

2. Information about the subject

2.1 Course title		Theories of International Relations						
2.2 Course tutor		Lecturer Dacian Duna, PhD						
2.3 Seminar tutor		Lecturer Dacian Duna, PhD						
2.4 Year of study	I	2.5 Semester	2	2.6 Type of assessment	E	2.7 Course status	Contents	DD
							Mandatory	DO

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 Number of hours per week	4	of which: 3.2 course	2	3.3 seminar/laboratory	2
3.4 Total number of hours in the curriculum	56	of which: 3.5 course	28	3.6 seminar/laboratory	28
Time distribution					Hours
Study based on textbook/course manual/recommended reading/personal notes					30
Additional research in the library, by accessing scientific databases, or during field work					30
Preparation for seminars/laboratory classes, essays, portfolios and reports					28
Tutoring					2
Assessment (examinations)					4
Other activities					
3.7 Total hours for individual study	94				
3.8 Total hours per semester	150				
3.9 Number of credits	6				

4. Prerequisites (if necessary)

4.1 Curriculum	It is recommended passing the exam at the discipline Introduction to Political Science.
4.2 Skills	-

5. Conditions (if necessary)

5.1. For delivering lectures	•
5.2. For teaching seminars/laboratory classes	•

6. Acquired specific competences

Professional competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of the fundamentals of social and political theories for the comprehension, analysis, and assessment of the socio-political organisation. - Use of security-related analysis and decision-making methodologies. - Provision of expertise in negotiating and mediating between various interest groups. - Effective management of the relationships within various public and private organisations and institutions.
Transversal competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management of data specific to the resolution of complex tasks in a definite context (receiving, sending, processing, storing information in field-related documents), including the use of two international languages at an advanced and intermediate/advanced level, respectively; - Demonstrating the skills of understanding the functioning of the information security system both as a historical evolution and as an adaptation to complex situations faced by society, organizations and individuals;

7. Course objectives (derived from the specific competences acquired)

7.1 General objective of course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the main schools and theoretical trends in international relations theory and how the major debates of the discipline have contributed to a better understanding of the actors and structures that form global politics and explaining the interactions between international actors, their behavior in various international contexts, as well as the phenomena and processes of international politics.
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • to assist the development of skills and competences necessary for understanding, explaining, deepening and analysing foreign and international policy concepts and phenomena; • • to apply theories of international relations to real situations in international politics, using case studies, models and simulations; • • to stimulate critical thinking and identifying the ontological and epistemological position in order to develop a working methodology of the international relations researcher.

8. Contents

8.1 Lectures	Teaching methods	Remarks
1. Introductory notions (I): international relations as a discipline; the purpose of international relations theory; The major debates.	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
2. Introductory notions (II): theory of international relations in the context of the discipline; what constitutes a scientific theory; the relationship between theory and practice of international politics; explanation and prediction; levels of analysis.	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
3. Political realism and power politics	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
4. Structural realism (Neorealism) and neoclassical realism	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
5. The two realisms debate: defensive realism versus offensive realism	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	

6. Liberal internationalism (Idealism or Utopianism)	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
7. Behavioralism	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
8. Liberal institutionalism and complex interdependence	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
9. The English School of IR	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
10. Marxism and dependency theory	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
11. Social constructivism	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
12. Critical theory	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
13. Feminism in IRT	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	
14. Postmodernism and post-structuralism	Lecture-based learning, demonstration, heuristic conversation	

Bibliography

1. BAYLIS, J., SMITH, S., OWENS, P., *The Globalization of International Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 6th ed., Oxford University Press, 2014.
2. BURCHILL, Scott, LINKLATER, Andrew et al, *Theories of International Relations*, 3rd edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.
3. DOUGHERTY, J.E., PFALTZGRAFF, R.L., *Contending Theories of International Relations: A Comprehensive Survey*, Longman, 2001.
4. GOLDSTEIN, Joshua S., PEVEHOUSE, Jon C., *International Relations*, 10th edition, Pearson, 2014.
5. WALTZ, Kenneth N., *Theory of International Politics*, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1979.

8.2 Seminars	Teaching methods	Remarks
1. IR's research agenda. Theories/ metatheories/ approaches	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
2. Liberal internationalism: precursors and research directions	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
3. Political realism: precursors and research directions	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
4. The first major debate in IRT: Realism vs. Idealism	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
5. History vs. Science in international relations – the second major debate: traditionalism (historicism) vs. behavioralism (scientism)	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	

6. Structural realism. Hegemony and anarchy – the two realisms’ debate: defensive versus offensive realism.	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
7. Neoliberal institutionalism (Neoliberalism)	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
8. The 3 rd major debate: Neorealism vs. Neoliberalism	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
9. The FPA (Foreign Policy Analysis) – decision-making theories (case study: the models of Graham T. Allison)	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
10. Marxist and neomarxist IR theories	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
11. Conflict theories versus theories of cooperation in IRT	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
12. The English school and the concept of “international society”	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
13. Social constructivism in IRT	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	
14. The 4 th major debate: Positivism versus Postpositivism	interactive debate; problematization; topic presentation	

Bibliography

1. BAYLIS, J., SMITH, S., OWENS, P., *The Globalization of International Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 6th ed., Oxford University Press, 2014.
2. BURCHILL, Scott, LINKLATER, Andrew et al, *Theories of International Relations*, 3rd edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.
3. DOUGHERTY, J.E., PFALTZGRAFF, R.L., *Contending Theories of International Relations: A Comprehensive Survey*, Longman, 2001.
4. GOLDSTEIN, Joshua S., PEVEHOUSE, Jon C., *International Relations*, 10th edition, Pearson, 2014.
5. WALTZ, Kenneth N., *Theory of International Politics*, 1st edition, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1979.
6. NYE, Joseph S., *Understanding International Conflicts: An introduction to theory and history*, 6th edition, Pearson Longman, 2007.
7. WALTZ, Kenneth N., *Man, the State and War: A Theoretical Analysis*, revised edition, Columbia University Press, New York, 2001.

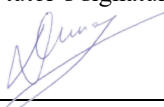
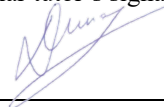
Optional/facultative bibliography indicated in the seminar’s syllabus.

9. Validating course contents based on the expectations of epistemic communities, professional associations and of potential employers related to the field of study.

- The discipline was developed in accordance with the works in the field, published in the country and abroad; Some topics in the course include relevant aspects, which are the subject of the concerns of specialized institutions or international scientific conferences, including debates in international journals.

10. Assessment (examination)

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Weight in the final grade
10.4 Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good understanding of the concepts and methodology of IRT. - Knowledge of specialized literature. - good understanding of how theory and practice work together in the field of international relations. 	- end-term paper based on a chosen topic	50%
10.5 Seminar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active attendance to classes; • Capacity of critical thinking; • Use of general and specialized literature; • Capacity to transmit knowledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - presentation of a case-study; - drafting and presentation of a critical review (of an article or book); - participation to discussions and debates. 	50%
10.6 Basic performance standard			
- correct identification of major theories of international relations and their postulates.			
Organizational details, exceptional situation management:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In case of health issues, personal and family urgencies, the tutors and the students will find the most appropriate means to solve these situations (e.g. rescheduling lectures and seminars, finding alternative solutions for examining students in case of disabilities and/or illness). 			

Date 31.12.2023	Course tutor's signature 	Seminar tutor's signature 
Date of department endorsement	Head of department's signature	
Date of Dean's endorsement	Signature of the vice-Dean in charge	Faculty stamp