

The Basics of Geopolitics

UGRA_015707

Departments	Department of Law
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	3
Teacher responsible	Molina Alsina Jorge - jordi.molina2@esade.edu

Course Goals

- Understanding the basic concepts, theories and views gravitating around the term "geopolitics" and its evolution over time
- Getting familiar with the key players, agendas and grand strategies that are shaping today's global and regional affairs
- Analyzing the key current political, economic and social trends that are impacting daily global affairs
- Exploring the historical and philosophical roots of international order and its evolution
- Approach world politics and geopolitics with greater knowledge and judgement on current affairs and the trends shaping the future

Previous knowledge

No previous knowledge is a must to make the most out of the course. That said, the student's background on history, philosophy, geography and political science will be helpful.

Prerequisites

No previous course is a must to enroll in "Basics of Geopolitics".

Teaching methodology

The teaching and learning dynamics gravitate around presential sessions, complemented with autonomous work.

During the class sessions, student participation is encouraged. Every session is designed to foster participation through firechats, debates, opinions and other contributions.

Each session will require a complementary autonomous work in order to prepare specific topics that are part of the exam content. This will imply reviewing the session materials (slides) as well as selected articles and other resources (available via Moodle or recommended in class).

Further code of conduct guidelines, resources and recommendations will be provided in the course's syllabus and in class.

Description

Course contribution to program

This course introduces the participants to key concepts, theories and perspectives of today's global and regional geopolitics. It aims to provide the students with a wide-ranging approach to these topics and other related fields (geography, history, politics) in order to duly portray contemporary world affairs, its background and its key drivers and trends. Additionally, this course is important for the second term's

course "Basics of Global Governance".

Short description

The syllabus examines the main challenges and opportunities of states in international society, as well as the ongoing trends in cooperation, competition and conflict in key regions (i.e. China's Belt and Road Initiative, Russian invasion of Ukraine, current conflict in the Middle East). It also highlights the need to further evolve global governance and the associated challenges.

Bibliography

Andrew Heywood, Global Politics, Bloomsbury Academic (Book)
 Richard Haas, The World, Penguin Press (Book)
 Tim Marshall, Prisoners of Geography, Simon & Schuster (Book)

Activities

In-class discussions and debates

Written and/or oral exams

Readings

Presentations

Case study analyses

Content

#	Topic
1	Introduction and key geopolitical concepts
2	Geopolitics of the EU and the US
3	Geopolitics of China
4	Geopolitics of India, Pakistan and Japan
5	Geopolitics of the Middle East
6	Geopolitics of Russia
7	Geopolitics of LatAm and Africa

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Participation in program activities	Participation	Ordinary round	20.00%
Written and/or oral exams	Written Exam	Retake and ordinary round	80.00%

PROGRAMS

BITLASI22-Bachelor in Transformational Leadership and Social Impact (Undergraduates: Business)
BITLASI22 Year 3 (Mandatory)