

## Geopolitics

UGRA\_004322

---

Departments	Department of International, European Union and Comparative Law, Department of Law, Global Governance
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	6
Teacher responsible	Jorge Molina Alsina - jordi.molina2@esade.edu

---

### Course Goals

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

### Previous knowledge

No previous knowledge is necessary 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 "Geopolitics".

### Teaching methodology

The teaching and learning dynamics gravitate around presential sessions, complemented with autonomous work. The last sessions of the course will include teamwork presentations by students. 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, recommendations and information about the teamwork presentations will be provided in the course's syllabus and in class.

## Description

### Course contribution to program

This course is the introductory level course to future courses related to Advanced Geopolitics and Geopolitics of Natural Resources. It aims to provide a comprehensive academic background as a base to build further in such disciplines

### Short description

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, political science) in order to duly portray contemporary world affairs, its background and its key drivers. The syllabus also examines the main challenges and opportunities both of sovereign states and non-state actors.

## Program Learning Objectives

### GEL23-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order

- Responsible Leadership
  - Recognize the social impact of international organizations and governments decisions.
- Communication Skills
  - Communicate effectively through written interventions.
  - Communicate effectively through oral interventions.
- Systemic and Strategic Thinking
  - Apply tools, frameworks, and perspectives in an integrative way to analyze the interrelations between different actors in the global context.

- Teamwork
  - Deliver work that contributes to the team's goal.
- International Relations and Global Governance
  - Apply geopolitical analysis to decision-making by the different actors involved in international relations.

### GEL25-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order

- Responsible Leadership
  - Recognize the social impact of international organizations and governments decisions.
- Communication Skills
  - Communicate effectively through written interventions.
  - Communicate effectively through oral interventions.
- Systemic and Strategic Thinking
  - Apply tools, frameworks, and perspectives in an integrative way to analyze the interrelations between different actors in the global context.
- Teamwork
  - Deliver work that contributes to the team's goal.

- International Relations and Global Governance
  - Apply geopolitical analysis to decision-making by the different actors involved in international relations.

## Bibliography

Tim Marshall, *Prisoners of Geography*, Simon & Schuster (Book)  
 Richard Haas, *The World. A brief Introduction*, Penguin Press (Book)  
 Andrew Heywood, *Global Politics*, Bloomsbury Academic (Book)  
 J. Baylis et al., *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford University Press (Book)

## Activities

In-class discussions and debates  
 Written and/or oral exams  
 Teamwork  
 Group presentations  
 Readings  
 Presentations  
 Interaction with visiting guest professionals  
 Research work and projects

## Content

#	Topic
1	Politics, power and geopolitics
2	State and Government
3	International order
4	State challenges and global governance
5	Ideology and geopolitics
6	Democracy and populism
7	Geopolitical analysis of superpowers
8	Geopolitical analysis of medium powers
9	Geopolitical analysis of emerging powers

## Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Written and/or oral exams	Midterm written exam	Retake and ordinary round	40.00%

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Written and/or oral exams	Final written exam	Retake and ordinary round	40.00%
Group project	Teamwork presentation	Retake and ordinary round	20.00%

## PROGRAMS

GBL24-Double Degree in Business Administration and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Business)

GBL24 Year 1 (Basic)

GBL25-Double Degree in Business Administration and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Business)

GBL25 Year 1 (Basic)

GDL23-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GDL23 Year 1 (Basic)

GDL25-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GDL25 Year 1 (Basic)

GEL23-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GEL23 Year 1 (Basic)

GEL25-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GEL25 Year 1 (Basic)

GRD20-Bachelor in Law (Undergraduates: Law)

GRD20 Year 1 (Mandatory)