

Geoeconomics

UGRA_004309

Departments	Department of International, European Union and Comparative Law, Global Governance
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	3
Teacher responsible	Angel Pascual Ramsay - angel.pascualramsay@esade.edu

Course Goals

The eruption of significant geopolitical shocks - the rise of China, its confrontation with the US, or the Russian invasion of Ukraine or the US/Israel war against Iran - are not isolated events. To the contrary, they are symptoms of shifting geopolitical tectonic plaques. The era of big power rivalry is back and with it a whole new geopolitical context, heralding a new age of geopolitical risks. This new age of geopolitical confrontation is currently being fought primarily in the economic sphere. In the presence of nuclear weapons, big powers are increasingly employing economic, financial and commercial tools to articulate this geopolitical conflict, giving rise to a new age of geoeconomic warfare. This course will help analyse this new geoeconomic paradigm by helping students understand its origins, nature and current dynamics.

Previous knowledge

No prior knowledge is required

Prerequisites

No previous course is a must to enroll in "Geoeconomics".

Teaching methodology

The methodology used in the course is designed to encourage active student participation. It consists of a combination of lectures, cases, class exercises and group presentations. Most sessions will include a lecture and a group discussion based on a set of readings or a case. The teaching format will be a 'Socratic' and interactive one, in which the instructor will ensure to create a class-wide conversation where participants will be forced to think independently and critically about these issues and challenge the assumptions and contradictions with which they confront them, with the aim of developing a more nuanced and effective approach to understanding the causes and consequences of the new geoeconomic paradigm. The course will therefore assume active individual participation. Passive listening will not be sufficient to get a good grade, in the same way that it will not be sufficient in the real professional that you are being trained for. Quality

rather than quantity of questions will be valued. To facilitate class participation the lecture's PowerPoint slides will be posted in Moodle after the class, so the student's main task during the class should not be to take notes but to critically analyse what you are listening to and discuss it with the lecturer and the rest of the class. Group work will also be an essential component of the methodological approach of the course.

Description

Course contribution to program

The contribution of the course to the programme are various. First, it will provide a framework to analyse the interplay between geopolitics and economics. Second, it will expose students to a key phenomenon shaping global governance and globalization today. Third, it will explore a set of political economy tools currently being deployed by states which are increasingly shaping the global economy. Finally, it will force students to think critically about the world they live in. In an increasingly challenging professional context, graduates like yourselves are unlikely to obtain a competitive advantage from the knowledge and application of content skills which everyone else commands. It is more likely to come from the development of an above the average ability to think critically, holistically and be forward-looking about the origin and nature of the new global reality and of how to live and work in this context. This course will help you in that process.

Short description

The eruption of significant geopolitical shocks - the rise of China, its confrontation with the US, or the Russian invasion of Ukraine or the US/Israel war against Iran - are not isolated events. To the contrary, they are symptoms of shifting geopolitical tectonic plaques. The era of big power rivalry is back and with it a whole new geopolitical context, heralding a new age of geopolitical risks. This new age of geopolitical confrontation is currently being fought primarily in the economic sphere. In the presence of nuclear weapons, big powers are increasingly employing economic, financial and commercial tools to articulate this geopolitical conflict, giving rise to a new age of geoeconomic warfare. This course will help analyse this new geoeconomic paradigm by helping students understand its origins, nature and current dynamics.

Program Learning Objectives

GEL23-Bachelor in Global Governance, Economics and

- Responsible Leadership
 - Recognize the social impact of international organizations and governments decisions.
- Communication Skills
 - Communicate effectively through written interventions.
 - Communicate effectively through oral interventions.

Legal Order

- Systemic and Strategic Thinking
 - Apply tools, frameworks, and perspectives in an integrative way to analyze the interrelations between different actors in the global context.
- International Relations and Global Governance
 - Apply geopolitical analysis to decision-making by the different actors involved in international relations.

Bibliography

Jeffrey Sachs, The Ages of Globalization, Columbia University Press (Book)
 Robert Blackwill and Jennifer Harris, War by Other Means: Geoeconomics and Statecraft, Belknap Press (Book)

David A. Baldwin, Economic Statecraft, Princeton University Press (Book)
 Robert Gilpin, The Political Economy of International Relations, Princeton University Press (Book)

Activities

In-class discussions and debates

Written and/or oral exams

Teamwork

Group presentations

Readings

Presentations

Research work and projects

Content

#	Topic
1	Session 1. Introduction: geopolitics and geoeconomics
2	Session 2. The new face of geoeconomics
3	Session 3. The recent historical evolution of geoeconomics
4	Session 4. Geo-technological warfare
5	Session 5. Energy and natural resources as source of geopolitical power
6	Session 6. Financial geoeconomics: money as geopolitical power
7	Session 7. Regional geoeconomic strategies
8	Session 8. Geoeconomics and globalization
9	Session 9. The future of geoeconomics
10	Session 10. Strategic foresight and geoeconomic scenario building

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Written and/or oral exams	Final written exam	Retake and ordinary round	60.00%
Group project	Teamwork	Retake and ordinary round	20.00%
In-class analysis and discussion of issues	Class participation	Retake and ordinary round	20.00%

PROGRAMS

113-Law Exchange Program (Undergraduates: Law)
113 Year 1 (Optative)

GDL20-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GDL20 Year 2 (Basic)

GDL23-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GDL23 Year 2 (Basic)

GDL25-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GDL25 Year 2 (Mandatory)

GEL19-Bachelor in Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GEL19 Year 2 (Basic)

GEL23-Bachelor in Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GEL23 Year 2 (Mandatory)

GEL25-Bachelor in Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GEL25 Year 2 (Mandatory)