

Introduction to World Politics (K000967)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 6.0

Study time 180 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Lesage, Dries

PS03

lecturer-in-charge

De Keersmaecker, Goedele

PS03

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

World politics, international relations, diplomacy, globalization

Position of the course

This course offers a first encounter with the study of international relations. It introduces the first building blocks of a historically and theoretically grounded framework to analyze and interpret world politics.

This course contributes to the competences B.1.1; B.1.2; B.1.3; B.2.1; B.5.1 of the degree program for Bachelor of Arts in the Political Sciences.

Contents

Why is there war? Does economic globalization represent the demise of the state? Can transnational problems such as climate change and terrorism be overcome through international cooperation? Is the world ruled by might or by right? This is only the beginning of a long list of enduring questions in world politics that this course seeks to address.

The course is structured in three main parts:

- 1 Conceptual, historical and theoretical building blocks
 - 2 Actors (the respective role of states, individuals, international organizations, NGOs)
 - 3 Themes (war and peace, international political economy, global governance)
- During classes, the theories and insights will be illustrated by referring to current events.

Initial competences

None

Final competences

- 1 Acquire the core concepts in the study of international relations.
- 2 Grasping the essence of and acquiring critical insight into the actors and mechanisms of international relations.
- 3 Having developed the essential notions of the history and historical recurrences in world politics

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

For this course, students need to study a textbook and attend lectures. They can ask questions in class or on an online moderated forum.

because of COVID19, modified forms of work can be rolled out if this proves necessary

Study material

None

References

See references in textbook

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support through Ufora (forums, FAQ, e-mail).

Faculty Tutoring Service: Kaat Teerlinck

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written examination with both open questions and multiple choice questions

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodic assessment (100%)