



MA in International Relations, Global Economy and Strategic Analysis

Summary

A Master's degree course in "International Relations, Global Economy and Strategic Analysis", provides students with specialized knowledge and practical skills in the fields of:

- economy,
- politics,
- conflicts,
- energy,
- international law,
- European integration
- Cyber Security,
- market prices,
- terrorism,

How changes occur through force, monetary and “power games” and the strategy that should be designed and put forward in the Global and Regional System such as the affairs in the EU, the Balkans, the Middle East the Caucasus region and elsewhere.

Students will learn and understand how the international system works and which are the factors influencing the decision makers and the methods as well as the strategy they should use in order to prevent conflicts and wars and thus constructing stability peace and economic prosperity.

Graduates will have the opportunity to occupy managerial, expert and consultant positions in the private and public sectors or to work in International Organizations (EU, UN, NATO, and elsewhere).

Course Aims

Upon completion graduates will be able to:

- Understand the ways in which International Relations work, particularly in national, state, regional and global security levels. The full comprehension and importance of the interactions prevailing in the international system between states, societies and other actors, in relation to their power factors within the changes that are constantly occurring, (such as regional integration efforts within the European Union or in the context of globalization) . Because of the reference to security, it is equally of great importance to understand and analyze defense-related issues by avoiding provocation of conflicts and wars.
- Understand the theoretical importance of international relations as a scientific tool as well as configuration and continuous evolution of the international system and the structural changes taking place according to each historical period. Further to this, their validity rules, ethics, democracies and national interests as well. The concepts and practical applications of geopolitics, geographical strategies and the strategy itself as a concept and practice in order to achieve predetermined objectives.
- Understand and analyze the regional and world economic systems as it evolves daily, at a theoretical and practical level, and as the rules of the market, the converging and diverging of national and common interests require and define.
- Understand and analyze on a theoretical and practical level, the foreign policy of states and how decisions are taken on the basis of national interests, (within and outside the framework of international and regional organizations), whereby each member constitutes building blocks not only for the international and regional organizations, but collectively the international system itself.
- Analyze and understand how international and external relations, within and outside the framework of states, the private, international law and terrorism combined with conventional security issues, as well as cyberspace and technology security issues which may be used as tools of power.
- Understand the structure of the international system, the main players and how changes occur through force, i.e. by military, economic and technological means.
- Understand and analyze the importance of international laws, theories and sources, as well as the operating methods of the international system, its contribution to world peace issues, democracy, humanitarianism, security and the prevention of wars.
- Understand the differences between international and national law and how international law contributes through its own evolution in the international system changes and vice versa. That is to say, if and how the validity rules and the various players in the international system can restructure rules of international law.
- Understand the conceptual importance of regional or even global integration, particularly through the European Union's procedures as a primary role model and law in this direction. In connection with foreign policy, security of sovereign states, transfer of sovereignty on the grounds of development and remodeling of international relations and the international system.
- Understand the structure, the function and the institutions of the European Union in connection with the sovereign Member States, as well as in relation to European law, as determined through primary procedures and with relevant national laws and international laws.
- Understand the role and formation processes of the euro zone and the euro, the shortfalls, the problems and solutions within the framework of the European Union itself, in conjunction with the member states and the functioning of international relations, as defined through the various players, including traditional great powers, including the US, China and Russia.
- Understand and analyze foreign policies in relation to these security issues, economics, trade and social cohesion within regional and global alliances.

- Understand and analyze on a theoretical and practical level, the security issues within and outside the European Union, within NATO and the global international system, (as determined by the rate and fierce rules), in line with international conventions and international laws by and large.
- Understand and analyze the causes and structures of a conflict, the challenge and the deterrence, through national strategies, converging and diverging national interests, in addition to the roles played by major powers and international organizations like the UN, NATO, the European Union and the Arab League, and the like.
- Understand and analyze the conditions of geopolitics and geostrategies in relation to foreign policies, the economy and security at regional and global levels, both on a theoretical and practical level.
- Understand and analyze, on a theoretical and practical level, the concept of strategy at various levels, notably at a national level, as well as methods and procedures that exist, or need to be found, to meet the final pre-established target. These are all linked to military, technological and economic issues as well as those of social cohesion. The rules of international and national laws such as sovereignty, as well as those of initiation, acceptance and servitude to the common goal.
- Understand, assess and analyze conflicts and wars, as key events shape international relations and systems in line with national strategies and achieving national targets. In addition to the balanced and unbalanced forces, with major powers determined by military, economic, technological tools and the like, as well as with rules of national and international laws.
- Understand, evaluate and analyze the concept of deterrence in connection with national strategies, regional and global alliances within international organizations such as NATO, and to be consistent with the procedures and techniques that are adopted and applied to resolve conflicts and to put an end to wars.
- Understand and analyze the concepts of cyber security as a new dimension in international relations, strategies, foreign policies and security issues. Thus giving cyberspace issues a need to coexist with those of the sea, land, air and space.
- Understand and analyze the importance of cyber security and technology of "weapons", (i.e. malware), in its various forms of cyber wars (economic, military, commercial). Through the emergence of these cyberspace technological tools and weapons, they can be used as a key factor power and as a means of achieving national objectives within a coherent national strategy.
- Understand and analyze the concept of 'prevention in a traditional sense' in relation to cyber security. Consequently emerging as a new form of deterrence, which in turn is absolutely necessary to avoid threats, particularly those arising from modern terrorism.
- Understand and analyze the various forms of threats as they emerge from international relations and simultaneously evaluate and analyze their preventative measures under specific strategic options, for halting the escalation of tensions and to prevent conflicts and wars, in turn leading to stability and peace.
- Understand, evaluate and analyze case studies, (on a theoretical and practical level), of major conflicts such as in Palestine, Cyprus and Nagorno- Karabakh. This is done in order to comprehend what the causes are, how escalations and de-escalations happen, how it can be solved and why it has not been settled as of yet.
- Understand and analyze the issues and the importance of energy resources in relation to the economy, the existing rules, geopolitical, geostrategic, national strategies of states, national interests, major global and regional powers, as well as in relation to the formation of alliances, either to prevent conflicts or to achieve predefined strategic goals.

Course Structure

| No. | Type | Course Name |
|------------|------|--|
| SEMESTER 1 | | |
| 1 | C | International Political Economy |
| 2 | C | International Law |
| 3 | C | Theory of International Relations and Conflict Analysis |
| 4 | O | One of the following courses International Finance Globalization and International Economic Affairs Theory |
| SEMESTER 2 | | |
| 5 | C | Energy Crossroads in the Global and Regional System |
| 6 | C | European Union Integration |
| 7 | C | Foreign Policy and Strategy |
| 8 | O | One of the following courses EU Economics Energy Markets in the International Economy |
| SEMESTER 3 | | |
| 9 | C | Economic Diplomacy |
| 10 | C | Classical Wars, Cyberwar and Conflict Analysis |
| 11 | D | Research Methodology and Final Project |

Module Descriptions

1. International Political Economy

Aims

To evaluate assumptions about the identity of economic agents, the visions in economic thought that this gives rise to and the significance for theory building.

To use these philosophical perspectives to critically explore contemporary issues in international political economy such as the nature and logic of capitalism, the rise of neo-liberalism, the new economic thinking, globalization and the global economic crisis.

2. International Law

Aims

To provide a critical appreciation of a broad range of issues relating to the theory, sources and practice of international law.

To promote open discussion and debate, critical analysis, research and development of changing boundaries of international law at the time of globalization, conflicts and wars.

To engender excellent research and writing skills based on stronger foundations in the study of international law.

To promote better understanding of the dynamics of the International Legal Studies through law related frameworks in areas such as international legal theory, customary law, conventions, institutions, international conflicts, self-determination, war crimes, human rights and minority rights.

3. Theory of International Relations and Conflict Analysis

Aims

To analyze theoretical and conceptual approaches from the disciplines of international relations and conflict analysis

To examine the structure in the evolution of the international system through relevant theories

Theories of international relations in practice in the context of the international system

To engage with key issues of contemporary debate in the field of international politics and conflict analysis.

To study the structure of a conflict management, negotiations and solutions

4. Selection between the following two courses

A. International Finance

Aims

To introduce students to global financial markets and international trade.

To introduce students into international finance from both corporate and international banking viewpoints, as well as financial constraints on international business and differences between domestic and international environments.

To examine the international monetary system, the differences between foreign trade and foreign investments, international sales terms, measurement and management of foreign-exchange exposure, international financial markets and banking, import/export financing, current-asset management.

B. Globalization and International Economic Affairs Theory

Aims

To familiarize the audience with terms, concepts and important publications related to the evolution of globalization and its impact on national and international cybersecurity

To identify the origins of globalization as an idea and as a phenomenon

To grasp the basic political, economic concepts which lie behind markets, firms, international trade and finance as well as national security issues and challenges

To critically assess arguments made about the causes, consequences and nature of globalization

To recognize the impact globalization is having on different levels of society: individuals, firms and industries, nations, states and the world political economy

To utilize the tools of economic and political analysis to globalization issues and their challenges to national security

To assess how globalization affects security policy options

To understand the effects of the internet on globalization

5. Energy Crossroads in the Global and Regional System

Aims

To understand the importance that energy plays in the international system as an instrument of strength, stability, peace, conflict and war.

To understand how essential energy and energy routes are in the context of geopolitical power games and how they affect the shaping of the international system.

To examine how energy routes influence the social, political, economic, environmental areas, the oil prices and geopolitical consequences.

To focus on whether energy and energy routes are instruments of stability and peace or of conflicts and wars.

6. European Union Integration

Aims

To understand the classical and contemporary theories of integration/the European project and the history of integration.

To illustrate the main institutions of the European Union

To present selected contemporary issues related to the politics and government of the European Union and their broader context such as security issues, single European market-Euro, democratic deficit, new European, economic and banking mechanism as well as the role of the EU in the regional and global system.

7. Foreign Policy and Strategy

Aims

To shed light on Diplomacy and Foreign Policy which are central to the understanding of strategy and international politics.

To provide theoretical understanding of the Foreign policy and Diplomacy

To apply these theoretical tools to the formulation of Strategy in order to meet contemporary diplomatic issues and great power politics.

8. Selection between the following two courses

A. EU Economics

Aims

To introduce students to the economic arguments underpinning the development of the European Union.

To expose students to the principles of economic integration, as well as the motivation behind EU regional trade agreements.

To examine a variety of major European policy initiatives.

To examine the political, institutional and historical viewpoints of EU.

B. Energy Markets in the International Economy

Aims

To examine energy issues that pertain to the environment.

To apply economics to particular issues of energy markets.

To review the economics behind a particular energy issue.

9. Economic Diplomacy

Aims

To introduce students to the concepts of diplomacy, negotiations and decision-making processes within the global economic environment.

With the aid of various case studies, students will gain valuable knowledge regarding the context of international economic relations, by being exposed to a variety of methods, means and approaches, used by both state and non-state actors

10. Classical Wars, Cyberwar and Conflict Analysis

Aims

To define war and cyberwar and whether the cyberwar concept exists independently of traditional conflicts.

Cyber security and national strategy.

To examine and understand how cyber space and cyber war change the structure of the international system and international relations.

To examine why and to what extent cyber space and cyber techniques, methods and weapons constitute national strength.

To understand and examine cyber-attacks in the context of global, economic and commercial system.

To deal with actual offensive cyber operations techniques.

To appreciate the ethical issues surrounding the use of digital techniques to engage in "armed" conflict

To understand what are the new cyber weapons, which are the cyber army, how they act in the international system and the impact they have in economic, commercial and military areas, conflict and wars.

To understand how our society should best steer a course forward in setting norms, international guidelines, and expected behavior in the use of digital weapons and cyber conflict.

11. Research Methodology and Final Project

Aims

To provide participants with practical guidance on how to conduct an academically-sound research project.

To provide guidance on the key elements of good academic practice and a practical understanding of the major research methods and techniques used in project work.

To guide students towards planning and conducting a research project in a professional manner and be able to contribute to the advancement and the development of the field.