

Title of the course:	World politics		
Course ID:	VE-NPT017		
Level of education:	Erasmus	Academic semester:	Spring
Professor's name:	Prof. György Neszmélyi PhD	Academic title:	Professor
Hours per semester:	26	Credits:	4
Exam:		Pre-requisites:	

Aims of the course

The purpose of this course (World Politics) is to serve as an introduction to concepts, theories and methods in international (world) politics, and a basic worldview of the different political ideologies about world order and conflict management. In the first part the course focuses on the fundamentals of international relations and international conflicts. In the second part we will focus on the regions outside Europe, firstly on the BRICS group and their geographic proximity while focusing on other peculiar developing regions of the world, like the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin-America and some parts of Asia. This course is designed to introduce students to key and important characteristics of some of the world's major and significant political and economic conflicts and problems. At the end the students will come not only by the basics of the international relations and conflict management ideas, but also the implementation of research models and thoughts.

Course outline

The topics of the course will be explored both by lectures and presentations of the students, discussing the mandatory readings. We will combine readings, lectures and class conversations. Students' active participation in the course is a requirement. The lectures will touch on the readings, but they will not always use the reading materials. In order to facilitate a dynamic classroom, students should have finished the reading prior the class. During the weeks the students will have lectures and conversations about the topics below:

- 1 Introduction, orientation. Course requirements. The main actors of the international politics: nation states, international organizations. International conflicts.
- 2 The establishment and the roles of the major inter-governmental organizations (United Nations, NATO, Council of Europe, OECD, IMF and the World Bank Group)
- 3 Theoretic fundamentals of the emergence of the developing world during the Cold War. The impacts of decolonization after WWII and at present
- 4 The role and forms of the overseas development assistance (ODA) and its importance in the inter-regional economic relations
- 5 Trends and re-alignment in the world. Challengers of the unipolar political and economic power. The BRICS group and others.
- 6 Brazil and the Latin American region

- 7 Russia and the post-Soviet region. The implications of the collapse of the Soviet Union. Russia's ambitions to resurrect the „Russian world”. The case of Ukraine. Hot and frozen conflicts. The Central Asian region.
- 8 China's development from the early XX century by now. China's regional and global endeavours. (OBOR, One-China principle, disputes over the control of the South China Sea, etc.)
- 9 The newly industrialized Asian economies (ANIEs)

- 10 The emerging Southeast Asia (ASEAN)

- 11 India as global power and the biggest democracy. The South Asian region

- 12 The Middle East and the South Mediterranean (MENA and Maghreb) region

- 13 The prospects and challenges of the Sub-Saharan Africa. A new hope or a lost continent?

Readings

The students have to read the mandatory readings and will need to prepare a presentation) and/or essays about the timely topic. The readings below are just some excerpt from the international relations and world politics

It's advisable to check out the periodicals of international affairs, for example the Foreign Affairs (<http://www.foreignaffairs.org>), International Relations (<http://ire.sagepub.com>), Journal of Conflict Resolution (<http://jcr.sagepub.com>), the Security Journal (<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/sj/index.html>) and the Economist (<https://www.economist.com/>)

Compulsory reading:

1. Richard J. Payne & Jamal R. Nasser: Politics and Culture in the Developing World: The Impact of Globalization; Pearson / Longman Publishers, New York, 2008.
2. Joseph S Nye, Jr.: Understanding International Conflicts: An Introduction to Theory and History; Pearson / Longman Publishers, New York, 2009.
3. BRICS And Beyond. Goldman Sachs Global Economics Group, 2007
<http://www.goldmansachs.com/our-thinking/archive/archive-pdfs/brics-book/brics-full-book.pdf>
4. "Brazil Economic Outlook. Focus Economics, 2016. Aug. 9
<http://www.focus-economics.com/countries/brazil>
5. Brown, L. R.: Can the World Feed China? Earth Policy Institute, Washington D.C., 2014.
http://www.earth-policy.org/images/uploads/updates_pdf/25_February_2014_Update_Hung_Translation_02.pdf
6. Viktor Marsai & István Tarrósy (2022) - The Potential for Violent Extremist Organizations in Africa to Take Advantage of the COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis in Ungoverned Spaces: The Cases of al-Shabaab and Boko Haram
African Security, 15:2, 163-185, DOI: 10.1080/19392206.2022.2077682
7. Moldicz, Csaba (ed): Dilemmas and Challenges of the Chinese Economy in the 21st Century: Economic Policy Effects of the Belt and Road Initiative
Budapest Business School, University of Applied Sciences - Oriental Business and Innovation Center (OBIC), Budapest,, 2018.
<https://450916c867.clvaw-cdnwnd.com/ad9cf2e2df675fff4c6e64414fc8ae14/200000233-58d6459cd7/DILEMMAS%20AND%20CHALLENGES%20OF%20THE%20CHINESE%20ECONOMY%20IN%20THE%2021ST%20CENTURY%20->

%20ECONOMIC%20POLICY%20EFFECTS%20OF%20THE%20BELT%20AND%20ROAD%20INITIATIVE.pdf?ph=450916c867

8. Neszmélyi, Gy. (2020): Nigeria at the Cross-Roads - Can the "Giant of Africa" Overcome Her Social, Political and Economic Challenges?;
https://re.volsu.ru/eng/contacts/1_Neszm%D0%B5lyi.pdf
9. Neszmélyi, Gy. (2017): The Challenges of Economic and Agricultural Developments of Taiwan: Comparison with South Korea. Tribun EU s.r.o., 2017. 151 p.
10. Neszmélyi Gy. (ed.) Changing Trade and Investment Relations of the Taiwanese Economy Budapest Business School, University of Applied Sciences - Oriental Business and Innovation Center (OBIC), Budapest, 2022.
<https://450916c867.clvaw-cdnwnd.com/ad9cf2e2df675fff4c6e64414fc8ae14/200003802-c31afc31b2/OBIC%20Book%20Series%201.pdf?ph=450916c867>
11. Neszmélyi, Gy. – Kovács-Gergely Marianna (eds.) (2022): The 55 Years of ASEAN Unity in Diversity
Budapest Business School, University of Applied Sciences - Oriental Business and Innovation Center (OBIC), Budapest, 2022.
<https://450916c867.clvaw-cdnwnd.com/ad9cf2e2df675fff4c6e64414fc8ae14/200003286-c4150c4153/obic13-web.pdf?ph=450916c867>
12. Mallet, V: India stays at top of growth table with 7.3% GDP rise. Financial Times, 08-02-2016 <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/cef618be-ce71-11e5-831d-09f7778e7377.html?siteedition=intl#axzz4JHfDjR5l>
13. South Africa Economic Outlook. Focus Economics, August 23, 2016
<http://www.focus-economics.com/countries/south-africa>

Recommended reading:

- Besenyő, J – Marsai, V. (eds): The Dynamics of Conflicts in Africa in the Early 21st Century Dialóg Campus, Budapest, 2016; 238 p; ISBN 978-615-5889-58-5 (ebook)
https://nkerepo.uni-nke.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/12648/web_PDF_Dynamics_of_Conflicts_in_Africa.pdf;jsessionid=5C8EDAD5BFC22FC45B031C90C9555957?sequence=1
- Neszmélyi, Gy. (2014.) [Ed.]: Socio-Economic and Regional Processes in the Developing Countries. Szent István University Publishing, 2014, 200 p
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/307993559_SOCIO-ECONOMIC_AND_REGIONAL_PROCESSES_IN_THE_DEVELOPING_COUNTRIES

Other useful links:

- The International Crisis Group (<http://www.crisisgroup.org>),
- The International Conflict Research (<http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk>),
- The Carnegie Endowment (<http://www.carnegieendowment.org>),
- The Radio Free Europe – Radio Liberty (<http://www.rferl.org>),
- The Carter Center (<http://www.cartercenter.org/homepage.html>),
- Institute for Conflict Research (<http://www.conflictresearch.org.uk>)