



Sokhumi State University
Syllabus

Name of the Course	Geopolitics and international relations 1991-2015yy.
Course Code	INRL M 222
Course Status	For the students of the Faculty of Social and Political Science, Master's program – International Relations, Compulsory course. The first semester.
ECTS – Number of Credits	<p>6 ECTS - 150 hours.</p> <p>50 contact hours, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ lecture -30 hours; ➤ Working group -15 hours; ➤ midterm exam – 2 hours; ➤ final exam - 3 hours. <p>100 hours of individual work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information and material processing- 50 hours; ➤ Homework assignments - 25 hours; ➤ Preparation for a Midterm exam- 10 hours; ➤ Preparation for a Final exam - 15 hours.
Course Format	Lecture/seminar: 2+1 per week (15 weeks);
Lecturer	<p>Guram Markhulia --Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor of Sokhumi State University, Department of International Relations.</p> <p>Mobile: 599 53 95 36</p> <p>Email:g.markhulia@yahoo.com</p> <p>Address: 61 Anna Politkovskaia str.</p> <p>Office hours: Monday, Tuesday -10.00- 12.00 (2 hours)</p>
Course Objective	<p>Course Objectives.</p> <p>The purpose of a course is formation of complete idea of structure, contents and tendencies of development of modern system of the international relations in undergraduates. The theoretical component of discipline is devoted to detection of features of structure and the functions of system of geopolitics and the international relations which have arisen from 1990th years of the 20th century. In this part of a course the complicated nature of the modern version of a world order in which life not only the states or their associations, but also non-state actors of constructive and destructive character take part in detail reveals. But despite an erosion of the Westphalian principles, the states at this stage all</p>

	<p>the same are the dominating and driving force of system.</p> <p>Therefore in a discipline course "Geopolitics and the modern international relations of 1991-2015" the greatest share of attention is allocated for them. In turn, among nearly 200 states of the world the maximum contribution to development of system is made by great powers, the phenomenon deserving special attention and the analysis. The practical part of a course is built around this factor: criteria of the status of the great power are formulated, the policy of a number of great powers and their relationship with the different states is considered. The characteristic of foreign policy activity means concentration of the analysis on the following aspects: foreign policy strategy, doctrines, concepts, mechanism of foreign policy activity, practical of foreign policy actions of bilateral, regional, global scale. For a specification, it is used mainly, experience of the USA, England, the Russian Federation whose foreign policy makes strong impact on system of the international relations.</p>
Course Prerequisites	N/A
Course Content	See Attachment N1
Required Reading	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chris Brown & Kirsten Ainley. 2005 Understanding International Relations 3rd Edition, Palgrave Macmillan , London 2. Doyle, M., 'Liberalism and international relations', in Beiner, R., and Booth, W. (eds), Kant and Political Philosophy: the contemporary legacy, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993)Brown, Chris Understanding International Relations 2003 Ch. 2 3. Jackson and Sorenson, Chapter 8, Introduction to International Relations, (Oxford: OUP, 2003) 4. Sylvester, Christine. 2002. Feminist International Relations: An Unfinished Journey. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Part III. 5. Alan Collins (2013), Contemporary Security Studies, 3rd edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press. 6. Paul D. Williams (2013), Security Studies: An Introduction, 2nd Edition, Abingdon: Routledge, Chapter 1. 7. John Mearsheimer (2010), "The Gathering Storm: China's Challenge to US Power in Asia". Chinese Journal of International Politics, 3(4), 381–396. 8. Cuhadar, Esra&Hanafi, Sari. "Israel and Palestine: Civil Societies in Despair", in ThaniaPaffaenholz (ed.) Civil Society and Peacebuilding: A Critical Assessment, London: Lynne Rienner, 2010.
Supplementary Reading	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gossman, Patricia and Kouvo, Sari. "TELL US HOW THIS ENDS: Transitional Justice and Prospects for Peace in Afghanistan", Afghanistan Analysts Network, 2013. Available online at: http://www.afghanistan-analysts.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/2013-06_AAN_TransitionalJustice2.pdf 2. Knox, Colin & Quirk, Paul. Peace Building in Northern Ireland, Israel and South Africa. London: Martin's Press, 2000.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Paffenholz, Thania. <i>Civil Society & Peacebuilding: A Critical Assessment</i>, London: Lynne Rienner, 2010. 4. Alashqar, Yaser. "The Implications of the Israeli War on Gaza", published by the Middle East Monitor, 2014, available at: https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/articles/middle-east/13500-the-implications-of-the-israeli-war-on-gaza 5. Kelman, Herbert. "Interactive Problem Solving in the Middle East." in Luc Reyhler and 6. Thania Paffenholz(ed.) <i>Peacebuilding: A Field Guide</i> .London: Lynne Rienner, 2001. 7. Pappe, Ilan and Chomsky, Noam. <i>Gaza in Crisis: Reflections on Israel's War Against the Palestinians</i>. London: Penguin Group, 2010. 8. Gray, Colin. <i>War, Peace, and International Relations: An Introduction to Strategic History</i>. Strategy and History. London and New York: Routledge, 2007. 9. Brown, Michael (ed.), <i>Ethnic Conflict and International Security</i>, Princeton; Princeton University Press, 1993. 10. Defay, Alexandre, <i>Jeopolitik</i>, Ankara: Dost, 2005. 11. Dodds, Klaus; Atkinson, David (ed.), <i>Geopolitical Traditions: A Century of Geopolitical Thought</i>, London: Routledge, 2000. 12. <i>Central Asia in International Relations. The Legacies of Halford Mackinder</i>. Edited by Nick Megoran and Sevara Sharapova. London, 2014 13. Dietrich, Wolfgang. <i>Elicitive Conflict Transformation and the Translational Shift in Peace Politics</i>, London, 2013
<p>Course Outcomes</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding After completing the course students will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of major concepts, theories, and key issues of Geopolitics and international relations 1991-2015 yy. • Knowledge of the dynamics of conflict management and peculiarities; <p>Applying knowledge students acquire the practical actions of Geopolitics and international relations 1991- 2015yy. management skills; They develop the ability to make rational decisions in specific situations</p> <p>Making judgments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geopolitics and international relations 1991-2015yy between causal analysis and conclusions; • Identify and evaluate the nature and types of Geopolitics and international relations 1991-2015yy.; • Geopolitics and international relations 1991-2015 yy. and

	<p>aggressive behavior to the difference;</p> <p>Communication skills</p> <p>Effective oral and written communication skills;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The business relationship with the process of self-presentation skills; • to the information of the wider public and oral and written presentation skills. <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student is able to plan his learning process; assess achievement of scheduled tasks and educate himself independently using available studying materials. <p>Values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student adheres to the high ethics and moral standards in management of Geopolitics and international relations.
Teaching Format	<p>Teaching methodologies include interactive sessions and participative involvement of the students in in-class discussions. Sessions will include an introduction to the main topics, that are explored through the analysis and discussion of recommended readings, bringing out different approaches and allowing extensive discussion of theories and practice.</p>
Grading and Evaluation	<p>Grading is based on 100 point scale.</p> <p>Positive assessment includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (A) - Excellent - Minimal 91% and more; • (B) - Very Good - Maximal 81-90%; • (C) -Good - Maximal 71-80%; • (D) - Fair - Maximal 61-70%; • (E) - Satisfactory - Maximal 51-60%; <p>Negative assessment includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (FX) - Failure – maximal points from 41-50%, student can take make-up exam once; • (F) - Failure – maximal points from 40% and less, student must take course again. <p>Grade Components:</p> <p><i>Class participation & activity– 30 %</i></p> <p><i>Midterm Exam-30%</i></p> <p><i>Final Exam – 40%</i></p> <p>Total -100%</p> <p>activities (seminars / working groups, practical sessions, argumentative paper, presentation, essay and teacher and Other activity determined by) 0 - 30 points;</p> <p>Writing term examination form (VIII Sunday) 0 - 30 points;</p> <p>Final exam - written form (XVII - XIX Sunday) 0 - 40 points</p>

Final exam is given to students who midterm and final exam scores of maximum accumulates 51 points
Total: 0-100 points.

Attachment N1

Course Schedule

Week	Session Hours	Lectures/ Discussion (Participation) Boards/presentation
I	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>International relations as system: Structure, principles of functioning, dynamics of development.</p> <p>Concept of "Geopolitics and International Relations". Emergence of the national state and formation of systemacy in the interstate relations. Westphalian, Vienna, Frankfurt, Versailles, Yalta and Potsdam systems. Backbone factors and their characteristic. Destructive anti-system factors. The main categories in research of the international relations. Group of the categories "elements": functional and role and attributive signs of activity of the state in the foreign policy sphere. Concept "power of the state" and her compound components, problem of calculation of real state power and comparison with other countries. Concepts "superstate", "great power", "predominant force", "regional power". Non-state actors and their role in functioning of system of the international relations.</p> <p>Category "foreign policy". Internal sources of foreign policy. Tools of foreign policy. A diplomacy role in implementation of the foreign policy purposes of the state. Mechanism of foreign policy activity of the state. Character of the foreign policy relations between the states: cooperation – a neutrality – the conflict. Confederation, union, community, coalition, block, alliance, strategic partnership. A neutrality in system of the international relations. Competition and rivalry. Opponents and enemies. Concepts "world" and "war". Driving forces of foreign policy of the state: vital interests, important interests, interests. Concepts "control", "influence", "sphere of influence". Sovereignty and borders: dialectics and dynamics of evolution.</p> <p>Time factor role in development of the international relations: theoretical approaches Evolution of extent of processes of the international relations: history and present. Information space.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
II	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>The main theories and concepts in the sphere of the international relations research</p> <p>Theory of political realism, neo-realism. Geopolitical school. School of "idealism" and her development: institutionalist and constructivists. French sociological school. Development of the theory of the</p>

		international relations after the end of cold war. Liberal interventionism. Concept of "end of history" of F. Fukuyama. Geoeconomy, Renaissance of geopolitical ideas. Concept of "collision of civilizations" of S. Huntington. Theoretical developments of problems of globalization.
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
III	Lecture (2 Hours)	Conflict in a system of the international relations. Definition of concept. Reasons of emergence and escalation of the conflict. Main characteristics of the international conflict: space, time, intensity, structure, motivation and purposes of participants, type, character and quantity of controversial issues, situational context, perception each other participants, behavior type, conflict function. Crises in the international relations: technology and typology of emergence and development. Decision-making in the conditions of crisis. A human factor in crisis situations: the role of the state leaders. Management of crises.
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
IV	Lecture (2 Hours)	A role of a military factor in the international relations Military organization of the state and its projection to the international relations. Military technical capabilities of modern armies and a role of weapons of mass destruction, systems of precision weapons. Definition of the concept "War". A ratio of war and policy in modern conditions as methods of realization of the state interests. Detection of strategic interests of the state, opponents and allies. Establishment is more whole than war. Political actions for the benefit of ensuring strategy. Choice of the moment of use of military force. Armed forces and policy of the state. Structure of military power. Policy of the state during warfare. Effective use of results of war.
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
V	Lecture (2 Hours)	Foreign policy of the United States of America after 1991: purposes, tasks, mechanism of foreign policy activity The role of the U.S. President in formation and carrying out a foreign policy. Value of National Security council, State department, Congress, Pentagon, intelligence agencies, lobbyist structures and the academic circles in development, implementation, control of foreign policy activity of the USA. Results of "the cold war" and view of formation of a new world order at J. Bush Sr. administration: new opportunities and old problems (a "neoisolationism", "selective involvement", "the coordinated safety", hegemony of the USA). Strategy of national security of 1991, 1993. Dynamics of evolution of the American foreign policy strategy at B. Clinton's administration and strengthening of the leading role of the USA in the developing system of the international relations. Strategy of

		national security of the USA of 1994, 2000.Strategy of national security of the USA at J. Bush Jr. 2002 and 2006.Correction of foreign policy of the USA in the period of democratic administration of B. Obama. Strategy of national security of the USA of 2010, 2015.
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
VI	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>The Russian foreign policy in the 1990th - in the beginning of 21 centuries.</p> <p>Change of a political regime and collapse of the USSR: geopolitical consequences. Discussions about interests of Russia on the international scene: the main "groups of interests" in Russia and their foreign policy installations. Resource bases of foreign policy activity of the Russian Federation.</p> <p>The foreign policy mechanism in the Russian Federation: structure and evolution: a role of the President, the Security council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, intelligence agencies, other ministries and departments, the lobbying groups, political parties, the academic circles. Evolution of conceptual installations of the Russian authorities of 1992 - 1999. The period of diplomacy of A. Kozyrev in the Russian foreign policy: background of strategy and policy of "liberal romanticism" of the Russian diplomacy. Correction of a foreign policy at E. Primakov: features of turn to "great power statehood". Results of foreign policy of Administration of the President of B. Yeltsin. Character and dynamics of foreign policy of Russia at V. Putin's administration: multivector diplomacy and strategic directions of realization of interests of the Russian Federation. Concept of foreign policy of the Russian Federation 2000.A role the Russian Foreign Ministry and I. Ivanova in carrying out the new foreign policy line of Russia. S. Lavrov as Foreign Minister. Crisis tendencies in the relations Russia - the West.The Munich speech of the Russian President V. Putin in 2007.Concept of foreign policy of the Russian Federation 2008.Russian-Georgian war of 2008.Attempts of normalization of the relations of Russia with the West of 2009-2012.Concept of foreign policy of the Russian Federation 2013. Strain of relations Russia - the West and the open conflict during the Ukrainian crisis.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
VII	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>The Russian-American relations at the present stage</p> <p>Features of the USA and Russia as subjects of system of the international relations (results of cold war and collapse of the USSR, geopolitical and geoeconomic situation, state of the economy and armed forces). Specifics of building of the Russian-American cooperation in the 1990th years (sources and the reasons of crisis, an anti-Americanism and russophobia, calculations and miscalculations of leaders of the Russian Federation and the USA). From disappointment to a pragmatism: the Russian-American relations at the beginning of the 21st century.</p>

		<p>Spheres of cooperation between the Russian Federation and the USA and problems in the bilateral relations (strategic questions and arms control, regional problems, the anti-terrorist coalition and "the axis is evil", Chechnya, human rights, economy, etc.) .Results of the Russian direction of the American foreign policy at J. Bush Jr.'s administration. "Reset": purpose, tasks, main directions. The termination "resets, the reasons of a failure of normalization of the Russian-American relations in 2009-2012. Deterioration and an aggravation of the Russian-American relations in 2013-2015. Anti-Russian strategy of Washington. Whether the normal long-term relations between the Russian Federation and the USA are possible?</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
VIII	Midterm Exam (2 Hours)	
IX	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>A triangle of USA-Europe-Russia in the 21st century</p> <p>Transatlantic economic relationship in system of world economy: scale, character, dynamics of development. Formation of the European structures of safety and a position of the USA in a question of prospects of creation of the European army and activization of a role of NATO. Whether Europe is capable to throw down a challenge to the leading role of America in the modern world? Cultural interaction between the Old World and USA: cooperation and competition. Models of the American leadership in relationship of Washington with the leading European powers. "An approximate tandem" of transatlantic community: "the special relations" between Great Britain and USA. "Marriage of convenience": the germano-American relations after association. France and USA: difficult partnership. Coordination of foreign policy of the USA and the great powers of the European Union during the Ukrainian crisis. Institutional fixing of the Russian-European cooperation at 1990 beginning of the 21st century. Trade and economic cooperation of the Russian Federation-EU. Influence of expansion of the EU to the east on increase of problems in the relations of Russia with the EU. The Russian-German and Russian-French relations at the beginning of the 21st century. Russia-Great Britain: reasons of a stable conflictness of the bilateral relations. Russia-EU in the context of the Ukrainian crisis.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
X	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>The American and Russian policy in Asia</p> <p>Value of the continent for development of the USA economy. Geopolitical challenges on Asian space. US policy in the Asia-</p>

		<p>Pacific region. American-Japanese relations: strategy of division of labor in regional policy. Two Koreas and relations of the USA to settlement of the Korean question. A problem of the North Korean nuclear program in American foreign policy. The countries of Southeast Asia in foreign policy of the USA. Southern Asia and USA: American-Indian and US-Pakistan relations: search of consensus with the nuclear powers of Hindustan. "Painful points" on the Middle East: the reasons of deep confrontation of the USA with the countries of the region and ways of resolution of conflict. The Middle Eastern countries in the American foreign policy orbit, the concept of the Big Middle East. A role of the USA in overthrow of secular dictatorships of the region and a problem of fight against the extremist Islamic movements and the organizations. The Asian continent in strategy of foreign policy of the Russian Federation the 1990th - the beginning of 21 century. Strengthening of a role of the Asian direction of foreign policy of the Russian Federation in the conditions of confrontation between Russia and the West in 2013-2015. Geopolitical triangle of Russia-India-China: intentions and reality. Russian policy for Japan: economic and political aspects. Korean segment of foreign policy of Russia. Development of strategic partnership between the Russian Federation and India. Russia in the Middle East in the 21st century. Turkey and Iran as regional powers. A problem of non-proliferation of the nuclear weapon in Asia and policy of the Russian Federation.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
XI	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>USA-China-Russia in the late nineties - the beginning of 21 century.</p> <p>China in the USA foreign policy doctrine. US foreign policy in the installations of the Chinese leadership. The military-strategic confrontation between Beijing and Washington in the Asia-Pacific region. Reaction of the USA to increase of nuclear missile capacity of the People's Republic of China. A role of the Taiwan problem in the American-Chinese relations. Experience of crisis regulation in practice of the relations of the People's Republic of China – the USA. Trade and economic relations of China and USA. Reaction of the American public opinion to strengthening of the international positions of the People's Republic of China. The Chinese public opinion about a role of the USA in the modern world: the spontaneous or operated anti-Americanism? Prospects of creation of G-2: utopia or reality?</p> <p>China in foreign policy strategy of the Russian Federation in the</p>

		<p>period of B. Yeltsin's administration: from normalization to strategic partnership. Boundary negotiations between the People's Republic of China and Russia. Activation of the Russian-Chinese relations in the period of V. Putin's presidency. The place of the People's Republic of China in the Russian concepts of foreign policy 2000, 2008, 2013. Conclusion of the Russian-Chinese Contract on neighborliness, friendship and cooperation, creation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Delimitation and demarcation of disputable sites of the Russian-Chinese border. The Chinese migration in the Russian Federation: state policy and public opinion. Strengthening of economic cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China: achievements, problems, prospects of development of the external economic cooperation. Dynamics of the relation of public opinion of China and Russia concerning the bilateral relations in 21 century.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
XII	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>LATIN AMERICA IN SYSTEM OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.</p> <p>"Initiative for America". Positions of the USA in the region. MERCOSUR as integration factor. Rio group. Latin America in the modern international relations. Relation of the EU with the countries of Latin America. Latin America and Caribbean Region. Integration processes in Latin America. Geopolitical strategy of Latin America.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
XIII	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>THE AFRICAN REGION IN SYSTEM OF THE MODERN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.</p> <p>General characteristic of the region. "Afropessimism" of the 1990 th. Conflict zones. Attempts of creation of system of regional security. Interaction with the West. African union. Policy of the People's Republic of China in Africa. Policy the vedushchykh of the western countries in Africa. Geopolitical and geo economical interests of the USA and Russia in Africa.</p>
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
XIV	Lecture (2 Hours)	<p>THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN EUROPE.</p> <p>The European subsystem of the international relations in 1990-s: key parameters and processes. The European integration in 1990 – s: creation and development of the European Union. The relations of the EU – Russia. The place and a role of NATO in Europe in 1990 – s.</p>

		Transformation of NATO and Russia. European Union: deepening and expansion of integration. Specifics of the foreign policy doctrine of England, France and Germany as most active participants of the international relations.
	Working Group (1 Hour)	
XV - XVI	Lecture (4 Hours)	<p>The main problems of geopolitics and the international relations at the present stage.</p> <p>Problem of legal regulation of the international relations. Problem of safety and arms control. Problem of the conflicts. Civil war in Syria. Participation of the international forces in the geopolitical conflict in Syria. A separatism problem in the international relations. Nature and forms of terrorism. Nagorno-Karabakh Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. A problem of the relations "the North – the South". A role of the UN and system of her organizations in preservation of the international stability. Essence, contents and typology of the international conflicts. Humanitarian problems of the international relations. Human rights and activity of the international organizations. A role of new information technologies in the modern international relations. A science role in the international relations.</p>
	Working Group (2 Hours)	
XVII	Final Exam (3 Hours)	
XVIII - XIX	Supplementary Examination	