



Academic year 2024/2025 1st
Semester | 3/6 ECTS | 9h/18h

Professor Raquel Duque
2^o e 3^o Ciclos

CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

PROGRAM

The last few decades have been marked by several events with great global impact. Non-state actors gained prominence in international politics. Both traditional and new security threats constantly test the *status quo*. Borders remain a vulnerable element. The flows of communication and information technologies which are characteristic of globalization have blurred borders and identities, awakened new threats to security, but also new hopes for political participation and a global network of communities.

Taking this complex scenario into account, this course will begin with an overview of the most relevant issues in contemporary international politics, debating different concepts, models of world order (hegemonic, unipolar, multipolar, non-polar, balance of power and collective security), analyzing the geopolitics and global governance at a time of heightened uncertainty. The objective is to allow students to understand and engage in discussions and research in current international politics, questioning analytical divergences and convergences, case studies, as well as diverse bibliographical sources and instruments for a more consistent approach to the interpretation of contemporary international politics.

Within this perspective, the following topics will be discussed in classes:

- 1 – A New World (dis-)order?
 - Globalization, Risk Society and Mobility,
 - Geopolitics and Global Governance,
 - Authoritarianism and Democracy backsliding.
- 2 – Key concepts to debating and understanding the international system:
 - World order models and “grand strategies”
 - Old & new theoretical frameworks
 - Old & new actors
- 3 – Conflicts in the post-Cold War era: new and old wars?
- 4 – Conflict Resolution Post-Conflict Peace Building
- 5 – Security Strategies in the 21st Century and Nuclear Proliferation
- 6 – Human Rights, Humanitarian Interventions & International law
- 7 – Migrations
- 8 – Energy Security, Food Security & Sustainable Development
- 9 – Intelligence within an open society
- 10 – Area & Case Studies



CORE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ART, Robert and Robert Jervis (2014), *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 12th edition, London: Pearson.
- BARRY, J. (1998), *The Sword of Justice: Ethics and Coercion in International Politics*. London: Praeger.
- BAYLIS, John e Steve Smith (eds.) (1999), *The Globalization of World Politics. An Introduction to International Relations*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- BROWN, Chris and Kirsten Ainley (2009), *Understanding International Relations*, Houndmills: Palgrave
- DIAMOND, Larry, PLATTNER et al. (2016), *Authoritarianism Goes Global. The Challenge to Democracy*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- DANNREUTHER, Roland (2013), *International Security: The Contemporary Agenda*, London: Polity Press.
- FUKUYAMA, Francis (2004), *State-Building, Governance and World Order in the 21st Century*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- HUNTINGTON, Samuel (1996), *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*, New York: Simon & Schuster.
- IKENBERRY, John G. (2014), "The Illusion of Geopolitics" in: *Foreign Affairs*, vol.93, n^o3, May/June.
- IKENBERRY, John G. (2001), *After Victory*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- KALDOR, Mary (2001), *New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era*, Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- MEAD, Walter Russel (2014), "The Return of Geopolitics" in: *Foreign Affairs*, vol.93, n^o3, May/June.

COMPLEMENTARY BIBLIOGRAPHY

- BASS, Gary J. (2008), *Freedom's Battle: The Origins of Humanitarian Intervention*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
- BAYLIS, John e Steve Smith (eds.) (1995), *The Globalization of World Politics. An Introduction to Governance*, Cambridge: Polity Press.
- BERZINS, Chris e Patrick Cullen (2003), "Terrorism and Neo-Medievalism", in: *Civil Wars*, vol 6, n^o 2 (Summer), pp. 8-32.
- CARTER, Sean (2014) *International Politics and Film: Space, Vision, Power*, New York: Columbia University Press.
- CREVELD, Martin (2009), *The Transformation of War*, New York: Simon & Schuster.



- DOYLE, Michael (2000), *Ways of War and Peace*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- FASSIN, Didier and Mariella Pandolfi (2013), *Contemporary States of Emergency: The Politics of Military and Humanitarian Interventions*, New Haven: MIT Press.
- GOLDSTEIN, Joshua S. and Jon C. Pevehouse (2004), *International Relations*, 10th edition, London: Pearson.
- GRAY, Colin S. (2007), *War, Peace and International Relations*, Oxon: Routledge.
- JARSTAD, Anna K. e Timothy D. Sisk (ed.) (1991), *From War to Democracy*, Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall.
- KALYVAS, Stathis N., Ian Saphiro et. al. (ed.) (2008), *Order, Conflict & Violence*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- KEENE, Edward (2005), *International Political Thought*, Cambridge, MA. Polity Press.
- MAZOWER, Mark (2012), *Governing the World*, London: Pinguin.
- MEAD, Walter Russel (2004), *Power, Terror, Peace, And War: America's Grand Strategy in a World at Risk*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
- MEARSHEIMER, John J. (2001), *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, New York: W. W. Norton & Company.
- METZ, Steven (2000), *Armed Conflict in the 21st Century: The Information evolution and Post-Modern Warfare*. Carlisle: Strategic Studies Institute.
- MÜNKLER, Herfried (2005), *The New Wars*, London: Polity.
- RAMSBOTHAM, Oliver et al (2011) *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*, Cambridge: Polity Press.
- REED, C and D. Ryall (ed.) (2007), *The Price of Peace: Just War In The Twenty First Century*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- SLAUGHTER, Anne-Marie (2005), *A New World Order*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- SMITH, Steve, Amelia Hadfield and Tim Dunne (2012), *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- WALZER, Michael (2006) [1977], *Just and Unjust Wars*, New York: Basic Books.
- WEBER, Cynthia (2013), *International Relations Theory: A Critical Introduction*, London: Routledge.

During the seminar, the students will be given specific complementary working materials in pdf format, available at the Moodle online platform.



METHODOLOGY AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Teaching: Theoretical-practical approach

<u>MA Evaluation</u> (9H): - Attendance and Participation in Seminar (Readings and Comments)*	20%
- Final Test (date TBA):	80%
<u>PhD, Mestrado</u> (18H): - Attendance and Participation in Seminar (Readings and Comments)*	20%
- Portfolio (Research Case Study):	20%
- Final Essay or Test (Deadline TBA)**:	60%

*For each working session, the different reading assignments will be previously announced, and all students are expected to prepare these texts in order to participate in the discussion.

**Plagiarism excludes the student from evaluation/from the Programme.