uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Fundamentals of Geopolitics: concepts, theories and territories

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 02-01-2024

Department assigned to the subject: Humanities: History, Geography and Art Department

Coordinating teacher: GARCIA ALVAREZ, ANTONIO JACOBO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 1 Semester: 1

OBJECTIVES

- -To understand, handle and rigorously apply the fundamental concepts of, and approaches to, geopolitical and strategic studies.
- -To understand and critically analyze the main theories aimed to explain the world geopolitical system in the context of globalization.
- -To understand and critically analyze geopolitical conflicts.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

PART I: GEOPOLITICS AS A DISCIPLINE: CONCEPTS, APPROACHES AND REPRESENTATIONS

LESSON 1. DEFINITION AND OBJECT OF GEOPOLITICS.

LESSON 2. GEOPOLITICAL TRADITIONS, SCHOOLS AND TRENDS (1). CLASSICAL GLOBAL THEORIES AND GEOPOLITICAL SYSTEMS.

LESSON 3. GEOPOLITICAL TRADITIONS, SCHOOLS AND TRENDS (2). FROM CLASSICAL GEOPOLITICS TO CRITICAL GEOPOLITICS. CONTEMPORARY DEBATES.

PART III: GEOPOLITICAL ANALYSIS OF TODAY; S WORLD: KEY ELEMENTS AND ISSUES

LESSON 4. THE REPRESENTATION OF GEOPOLITICAL FACTS: FROM CARTOGRAPHY TO POPULAR GEOPOLITICS.

LESSON 5. GEOPOLITICAL APPROACHES TO CONFLICT ANALYSIS.

LESSON 6. THE STATE SYSTEM IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Learning and training activities include:

- Class presentations by the teacher, in which the main theoretical contents of the course are developed. Course bibliography is provided to complement these presentations.
- Critical reading of texts selected by the teacher either to expand and consolidate the knowledge of the subject, for further discussion in class or to comment by means of papers or analytical written essays.
- Presentations and discussions in class, moderated by the teacher, of topics related to the contents of the subject.

Tutorials will be carried out through the procedures established by the university.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Ordinary call:

- -Classroom and online attendance and active participation, including both the theoretical sessions and the oral presentations and discussion within the practical sessions: 20% of the course grade.
- -Mid-term exam (Part I): 40% of the course grade
- -Final paper with analytical and critical essays on three proposed texts (Part II): 40% of the course grade.

Extraordinary call: In order to pass the course in the extraordinary call, students must take and pass an

% end-of-term-examination:	40
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals):	60

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- AGNEW, J. Geopolitics. Re-visioning world politics. 2nd ed., Routledge, 2003
- CATTARUZZA, A, & SINTÈS, P. Géopolitique des conflits, Bréal, 2016
- DITTMER, J. & SHARP, J., eds. Geopolitics. An introductory Reader, Routledge, 2014
- DODDS, K. Global geopolitics. A critical introduction, Pearson, 2005
- DODDS, K. Geopolitics. A very short introduction, 2nd ed., Oxford University Press, 2014
- FLINT, C. Introduction to geopolitics, Routledge, 2006
- GLASSNER, M.I. & FARHER C. Political Geography. 3rd. ed., John Wiley, 2004
- LASSERRE, F.; GONON, E.; MOTTET, É. Manuel de géopolitique. Enjeux de pouvoir sur les territoires, 2ª ed., Armand Colin, 2016
- LOYER, B. Géopolitique. Méthodes et concepts, Armand Colin, 2019
- LÓPEZ TRIGAL, L. Diccionario de geografía política y geopolítica, Universidad de León, 2013
- MÉNDEZ, R. El nuevo mapa geopolítico del mundo, Tirant lo Blanch, 2011
- O¿LOUGHLIN, J., ed. Dictionary of Geopolitics, ABC-CLIO,, 1993
- ROSIÈRE, S. Géographie politique et Géopolitique, Ellipses, 2007
- TAYLOR, P. & FLINT, C. Political Geography: World-Economy, Nation-State and Locality, 7th edition. , Routledge, 2018
- Ó TUATHAIL, G.; DALBY, S.; ROUTLEDGE, P., eds. The Geopolitics Reader, 2nd ed., , Routledge, 2006