



SUBJECT: Geopolitics of Africa and the Middle East

MASTER DEGREE: Geopolitics and Strategic Studies
Profesoras: ANA CAMACHO y ARACELI JIMENEZ

ECTS: 6

QUARTER: 2

TIMETABLE FOR THE SUBJECT

WE EK	SES SION N	DESCRIPTION OF EACH SESSION (En su caso, incluir las recuperaciones, tutorías, entrega de trabajos, etc.)	GROUP (X mark)		Indicate if a different lecture room is needed (computer, audiovisual, etc.)	HOMEWORK PER WEEK		
			1	2		DESCRIPTION	ATTENDING HOURS	HOMEWORK Max.7H/ Week
1	1	INTRODUCTION: The basic elements for the geopolitical analysis of Subsaharian Africa				Overview of the course syllabus, activities, and requirements of the course.	1,5	4
1	2	2.GEOGRAPHY, BORDERS, AND IDENTITIES 2.1 Geography and its impact on the shaping of human borders.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	3
2	3	2.2 Religion and identities in East Africa. Case Study: Ethiopia, Sudan, and the Swahili Coast.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
2	4	2.3 Identities in West, Central and Southern Africa with roots in pre-colonial history.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	3



3	5	3.THE LEGACY OF EUROPEAN COLONIALISM 3.1 The arrival of the first Europeans. Portugal, Spain, and the beginning of the slave trade to the New World.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
3	6	3.2 Effects of the Transatlantic slave trade and the Abolitionist battle in the West: The Rise of Pan-Africanism and the founding of Sierra Leone and Liberia.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
4	7	3.3 The drivers of the first scramble for Africa and the Berlin conference of 1884.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	3
4	8	3.4 The question of artificial borders. The case of Western Sahara, the last unsolved colonial conflict.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
5	9	3.5 The legacy of colonialism in today's geopolitics. The case of France and the evolution of Françafrique.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	3
5	10	4.AFRICA IN THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER 4.1 The African economic 'boom': opportunities and challenges of the new regional powers. The cases of Nigeria, South Africa, and Ethiopia.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
6	11	4.2 African solutions to African problems: from the OAU to the African Union.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	3



6	12	4.3 The new face of destabilization: from the cold war to the new strategic scenario. The new features of violence.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
7	13	4.4 The new race for African cake. The keys to China's power in Africa.				Lecture and debate.	1,5	4
7	14	4.5 The irruption of Russia and other new players in the new scramble for Africa (Due to this class falling on a holiday this session will be rescheduled to the 16 th of March, at 19.30-21.00)				Lecture and debate.	1,5	3
TOTAL HORAS AFERICA SUBSAHARIANA								50
8	1	Course overview: the importance of MENA – from ancient times to the 21 st Century and beyond.				Introduction and overview of the course syllabus, activities and what is expected from students.	1,5	3
8	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is MENA? Geography, its importance and its Impact on Geopolitics.• Importance of natural resources, conflict and future wars:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Gas and Oil.b) Water and food scarcity.				Master class and discussion. Students will require presenting in groups certain geographical themes pertaining to the MENA region. Debate.	1,5	4



9	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Who are the MENA people? The great kaleidoscope: ethnicity, Religion, tribe, clan, family. Majorities and minorities and their interactions.Human resources: the uneven distribution of the human capital in the MENA region.				Master class and discussion. Students will be required to brief on chosen minorities. Discussion.	1,5	5
9	4	Islam: basic tenets, different sects and denominations.				Lecture and discussion.	1,5	3
10	5	European Imperialism and the end of the Ottoman Empire I: Sykes Picot, the Balfour Declaration and the creation of the State of Israel.			VIDEO	Lecture on the historical relations between Europe and the MENA region. Debate and small test.	1,5	5
10	6	European Imperialism and the end of the Ottoman Empire II: Trauma, resistance and the search for identity: Decolonization, Pan-Arabism and the birth of Radical Islamism.				Lecture and discussion.	1,5	3
11	7	Old Conflicts die hard I: Arab-Israeli conflict. The Six Day War and its long lasting effect.				Lecture and simulation exercise: ½ the class will have to defend each side of the conflict, as well as the best possible policy solutions. Debate and discussion.	1,5	5



11	8	Geopolitical rivalries I: Morocco vis-à-vis Algeria.				Lecture, discussion and group presentation and debate.	1,5	3
12	9	Old Conflicts die hard II: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Iran-Iraq War – the Iran Contra Affair and long lasting effect on the Persian psych.• Lebanon and the regional never-ending chessboard.				Lecture and discussion.	1,5	3
12	10	New World Order in the MENA Region: from the end of the Cold War, the Invasion of Iraq to the Arab Spring.				Lecture and discussion.	1,5	3
13	11	Regional geopolitical rivalries II: Saudi Arabia Vs. Iran. The Shi'a Crescent vs. a decomposing Sunni Gulf Block?				Lecture and discussion.	1,5	4
13	12	Regional geopolitical rivalries III: Regional conflicts and the growth of non-state actors. Case Study : Iraq and Syria. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-State Actors: Al Qaeda, Daesh, Iraqi Shi'a Militias and Lebanese Hezbollah.• Regional and Global players – Old Players and New Comers.				Lecture and discussion. Students will be required to brief on two competing actors in a chosen conflict.	1,5	4



14	13	Regional geopolitical rivalries III: Regional conflicts and the growth of non-state actors. Case Study: Libya and Yemen <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-State Actors• Local Factions• Regional and Global players – goals and policies.				Lecture and discussion. Students will be required to brief on two competing actors in a chosen conflict.	1,5	3
14	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reconfiguration of Alliances: Israel and the Gulf Countries.• Future of JCPOA and Relations vis-à-vis Iran.• Final conclusion: Recapitulation and overview of the main ideas discussed throughout the course.				Lecture and discussion.	1,5	
TOTAL HORAS MENA								46
TOTAL HORAS AFRICA Y ORIENTE MEDIO								96