

DEGREE: **DEGREE IN JOURNALISM**

### 1. GENERAL DETAILS OF THE SUBJECT

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Name: **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Level: First Term: Autumn

Type:  Basic

Compulsory

Elective subject

Credits (LRU / ECTS): 6

Theoretical credits: 4

Practical credits: 2

Year: 2010

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### 2. DESCRIPTION

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Students are expected to acquire a solid knowledge of the structure and mechanisms of the international society. He/she should be able to identify the different actors, be familiar with the main political and legal tools and have a certain knowledge of the main challenges of the international community. Particular attention shall be paid to the treatment of international affairs in mass media.

### 3. SITUATION

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#### PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

A thorough knowledge of contemporary history is required. It is highly recommended to have (or to get) the habit of following international news in the media.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Use of computers  
Use of twitter

#### ADAPTATION FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS (FOREIGN STUDENTS, STUDENTS WITH SOME KIND OF DISABILITY)

### 4. SKILLS

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#### SPECIFIC SKILLS

Students should acquire the necessary skills to, firstly, be able to understand and interpret international affairs news and, essentially, to produce their own texts. As a specific skill, they will be expected to distinguish the different actors in the global stage. They must have the habit of following international news and connect them to domestic issues. Likewise, the knowledge of the theoretical and academic framework of the subject will also be developed. Critical attitudes towards actions or statements of the main actors shall be encouraged.

## 5. OBJECTIVES

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- Understand key concepts of the international system.
- Evaluate the behavior of state and non-state actors.
- Acquire the ability of analyze international news.
- Analyze the effect of economy and business on the international stage.
- Gain access to the main theoretical debates on international policy.
- Develop a critical approach facing the main challenges of international community.

## 6. METHODOLOGY AND TEACHING TECHNIQUES

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### METHODOLOGY

Each class will combine the explanation of theoretical concepts with the analysis of the international agenda and the implementation of activities by the students.

### TEACHING TECHNIQUES

- Master class and discussion    Tutorial session    Practical lessons  
 Visits and trips    Reading test    Others: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. LIST OF TOPICS

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### **Part 1. Introduction: A globalized world.**

1. Concept and features of the international system.
2. A little bit of history.
3. The age of globalization
4. The role of mass media in international relations.
5. The role of multinational corporations in international relations.
6. Theoretical approaches: Realism, transnationalism, structuralism.

Our aim is to develop the knowledge of international system and its key concepts. Students are expected to acquire the habit of following the international agenda.

Assessment: Essay (1,000 words)

### **Part 2. Actors in international relations.**

7. The State.
  - a. Sovereignty as key principle. Elements of statehood.
  - b. The role of the State in the global society
8. International Organizations.
  - a. United Nations
  - b. European Union
9. Other international actors: NGOs, Multi-national corporations

The goal is to distinguish who is who in the international system.

Assessment: Exam

### **Part 3. The challenges of the contemporary international community**

10. Basic concepts of international law and human rights.
11. Peace and Security. War and the use of force. Fighting terrorism
12. Global challenges of the international community: environmental protection, sustainable development.

We will analyze the main challenges of the contemporary world. We will develop capacity to discuss and foster critical spirit.

Assessment: Class presentation.

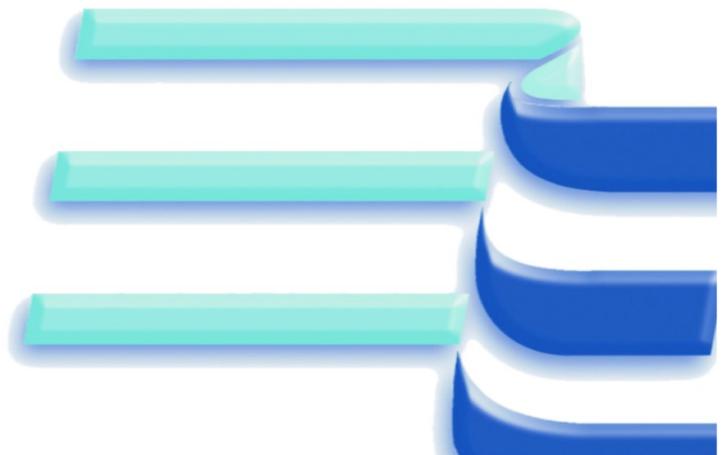
## 8. REFERENCES

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- Chris Brown and Kirsten Ainley, Understanding International Relations 4th edition, (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009)
- Wolfrum, R. (Ed.) Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law (Oxford University Press, 2011)
- E-international relations. <http://www.e-ir.info>

## 9. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

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Class participation and exercises (40%)
Average of assessment elements or final exam (60%)

## 10. TEACHING ACTIVITIES

ECTS	
Lessons (6 * 10)	60
Students' work (6 * 15)	90
<b>TOTAL (6 * 25)</b>	<b>150</b>

	Theoretical sessions		Practical sessions		Activity			Exams		Units
	Lessons	Students' work	Lessons	Students' work	Nº	Length	Students' work	Exams	Students' work	
Week 1 <sup>a</sup>	3	2	1	0						1
Week 2 <sup>a</sup>	3	2	1	2						2
Week 3 <sup>a</sup>	3	4	1	2						3
Week 4 <sup>a</sup>	3	4	1	2						4
Week 5 <sup>a</sup>	3	5	1	2						5
Week 6 <sup>a</sup>	3	5	1	2				PART 1		6
Week 7 <sup>a</sup>	3	5	1	2						7
Week 8 <sup>a</sup>	3	5	1	2						8
Week 9 <sup>a</sup>	3	4	1	3				PART 2		9
Week 10 <sup>a</sup>	2	4	2	3				PART 3		10
Week 11 <sup>a</sup>	2	3	2	3				PART 3		11
Week 12 <sup>a</sup>	2	3	2	3				PART 3		12
Week 13 <sup>a</sup>	2	3	2	3				PART 3		12
Week 14 <sup>a</sup>	2	3	2	3				FINAL		
Week 15 <sup>a</sup>	2	3	2	3						
Week 16 <sup>a</sup>										
Week 17 <sup>a</sup>										
Week 18 <sup>a</sup>										
Week 19 <sup>a</sup>										
Week 20 <sup>a</sup>										
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)		(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Horas Totales</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>00,0</b>	<b>00,0</b>			

Activities	
Nº	Description
1	Presentation of the news of the week. Every Monday
2	Presentation of a political figure – Every Wednesday
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

Organization	
Theoretical and practical lessons (A)+(C) Activities developed in the class (E) Exams and test (G)	60
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>60</b>
Study (theory and practice) (B)+(D) Preparation of the activities (F) Study for exams (H)	90
<b>Students' work</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>TOTAL (STUDENTS' WORK)</b>	<b>150</b>