

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	PSIR: 549.Contemporary Issues of International Relations - 3KU /6ECTS credits
	Department	Political Science and Philosophy
	Program	Graduate
	Term	Spring, 2024
	Instructor	Baba Bayramli
	E-mail:	bbayramov@khazar.org
	Phone:	(+994 12) 421-10-93 (ext. 274)
	Classroom/hours	11 Mehseti str. (Neftchilar campus), Room 506, Monday 18:30 -21:00
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	Consent of instructor	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Required	
Required textbooks and course materials	<p>Core textbook: Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, 2016-2017. (PDF is available)</p> <p><i>Supplementary sources :</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Baylis, Steve Smith, Patricia Owens. The Globalization of World Politics. Oxford University press, 2017(PDF is available) 2. Henry Kissinger. Diplomacy. New York, 1994 (It is available in the Academic Library of Khazar University). 3. Zbigniew Brzezinski. The Grand Chessboard. American Primacy and Its Geostrategic Imperatives. New York, 1997. 4. William Zartman, Victor A. Kremenyuk. Cooperative Security. New York, 1995. 5. William C. Olson. The Theory and Practice of International Relations. Washington, 1991. 6. Samuel P. Huntington. The Clash of Civilizations and the Remarking of World Order. New York 1996. 	
Course outline	This course is designed for the graduate students. Course addresses the main aspects of picture of the relations among all transnational actors, the historical developments that affect those actors' relationships, and the salient contemporary global trends that those interactions produce.	
Course objectives	This course is aimed to give the students a wider knowledge about the contemporary world politics, understanding world affairs, for anticipating probable developments, and for thinking critically about the potential long-term impact of those developments on institutions, countries, and individuals across the globe.	
Learning outcomes	<p>By the end of the course the students should be able:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To analyze main tendencies in world politics • To compare different theoretical approaches to globalization. • To generalize discussion on the issues of international politics • To prepare an essay and make presentation on the essay topic 	

Teaching methods	Lecture		x
	Group discussion		x
	Simulation		x
	Case analysis		x
	Course paper		x
	Others		
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	To be determined by the Dean's Office	30
	Case studies		
	Attendance	During the semester	5
	Assignment and quizzes		
	Essay	15 March– 30 May	15
	Group Discussion	During the semester	10
	Final Exam	To be determined by the Dean's Office	40
	Others		
	Total		100
Policy	<p>▪ Preparation for class</p> <p>The structure of this course makes your individual study and preparation outside the class extremely important. The lecture material will focus on the major points introduced in the text. Reading the assigned chapters and having some familiarity with them before class will greatly assist your understanding of the lecture. After the lecture, you should study your notes and work relevant problems from the end of the chapter and sample exam questions.</p> <p>▪ Withdrawal (pass/fail)</p> <p>This course strictly follows grading policy of the Graduate School of Science, Art and Technology. Thus, a student is normally expected to achieve a mark of at least 65% to pass. In case of failure, he/she will be required to repeat the course the following term or year.</p> <p>▪ Cheating/plagiarism</p> <p>Cheating or other plagiarism during the Quizzes, Mid-term and Final Examinations will lead to paper cancellation. In this case, the student will automatically get zero (0), without any considerations.</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>We appreciate an ability of students to prepare a good essay. The essay should be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An original research of the students. • Written according to the international standards with introduction, internal parts, conclusion, and used special literature. • Limited in size (10 -12 pages/Times New Roman - 12). 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Printed in computer, and has a cover page. <p>As soon as it is possible, we will offer you a list of themes for essays. Every student can choose for the essay a theme with the consent of instructor.</p> <p>Essay requirements/standards are available in DPSP.</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p>Students' activity during classes will be evaluated on the basis of their participation in discussions on various topics during the lesson. The instructor will make notes after each discussion and will evaluate students' activities before the final exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional behavior guidelines <p>The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited.</p>
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Tentative Schedule

We ek	Date/Day (tentative)	Topics	Textbook/Assignments
1	12.02.2024	Introduction to the Course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of World Politics Main aspects of the Syllabus 	Course Syllabus
2	19.02.2024	Discovering World Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Challenge of Investigating International Relations How do Perceptions Influence Images of Global Reality? 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 1
3	26.02.2024	Interpreting World Politics Through the Lens of Theory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theories and Change in World Politics Realism Liberalism Constructivism Feminist and Marxist Critiques International Theory and the Global Future 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 2

4	04.03.2024	Theories of International Decision Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Policy Making in International Affairs • Models of Decision Making by Transnational Actors • The Domestic Determinants of Foreign Policy Decisions • Global Influences on Foreign Policy 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 3
5	11.03.2024	Great Power Relations and Rivalries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Quest for World Leadership • World War I • World War II • The Cold War • The Post–Cold War Era • Looking Ahead: What Does the Future Look Like for the Great Powers? 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 4
6	18.03.2024	World Politics and the Global South <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colonial Origins and Consequences • North and South Today: Worlds Apart • Why Do Such Differences Persist? • Closing The Gap? The Global South’s Prospects in a World of Great Powers • The Global South’s Future 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 5
7	01.04.2024	Nonstate Actors and the Quest for Global Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonstate Actors in World Politics • Prominent Intergovernmental Organizations • Regional Intergovernmental Organizations • Prominent Types of Nongovernmental Organizations • Malevolent Nonstate Actors • Nonstate Actors and the Future of World Politics 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 6
8	08.04.2024	Midterm Exam	
9	15.04.2024	The Threat of Armed Conflict to the World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What Causes Armed Conflict? • Frequency and Types of Armed Conflict • Armed Conflict within States • Terrorism • Armed Conflict and Its Future 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 7
10	22.04.2024	The Pursuit of Power Through Arms and Alliances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realist Approaches to War and Peace 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power in World Politics • Changes in Military Capabilities • Coercive Diplomacy Through Military Intervention • Realist Interpretations of Alliances in World Politics • Realism and the Balancing of Power 	and Transformation, Chapter 8
11	29.04.2024	The Quest for Peace Through International Law and Collective Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberal and Constructivist Routes to International Peace • Maintaining Collective Security Through International Organizations • Law at the International Level • Legal and Diplomatic Responses to Armed Conflict • Institutions, Norms, and World Order 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 9
12	06.05.2024	The Globalization of International Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreting Contemporary Economic Change • Money Matters: The Transnational Exchange of Money • Bretton Woods and Beyond • The 2008 Global Financial Crisis • Recovery and Reform: Challenges Facing Global Finance 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 10
13	13.05.2024	International Trade in the Global Marketplace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalization and Trade • Contending Trade Strategies • Trade and Global Politics • The Fate of Free Trade • Triumph or Trouble for the Global Economy 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 11
14	20.05.2024	The Demographic and Cultural Dimensions of Globalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population Change as a Global Challenge • Global Migration Trends • New Plagues? The Global Impact of Disease • The Global Information Age • Globalization and the Global Future 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 12
15	27.05.2024	Looking Ahead at Global Trends and Transformations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Trends and Forecasts: Putting Yourself in the Picture 	Shannon L. Blanton, Charles W. Kegley. World Politics: Trend and Transformation, Chapter 15

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Global Predicament: Key Questions About a Turbulent World	
16	TBA	Final Exam	

This syllabus is a guide for the course and any modifications to it will be announced in advance.