

Course Unit	International Relations	Field of study	Social and Human Sciences
Bachelor in	International Business Management	School	School of Technology and Management
Academic Year	2020/2021	Year of study	1
Type	Semestral	Semester	1
Level	1-1	ECTS credits	3.0
Code	8487-711-1105-00-20		
Workload (hours)	81	Contact hours	T - TP 26 PL - TC - S - E - OT 4 O -

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Alcina Maria Almeida Rodrigues Nunes, Benilde Joaquina Pereira Moreira

### Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Apply abstract theory and research methods to understand contemporary international political events and public international policies;
2. Understand the structure and activities of the various actors and institutions influencing policy decisions at the world stage;
3. Discuss and explain the different theoretical approaches that explain the today's world politics and international relations;
4. Understand the relevant issues for the study of State relations in the field of politics, economic integration, policy trade, finance, national security and others;
5. Identify the major issues concerning the global economy.

### Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:  
Not applicable.

### Course contents

Introduction to international relations. International relations theories. International institutions. Problems in the context of the international relations. International development and sustainable development. New international economic order.

### Course contents (extended version)

1. Introduction to international relations
  - Definition of State and national sovereignty
  - National interest and power
  - Individual, domestic and global perspectives of international relations
  - Actors in the context of international relations
2. International relations theories
  - Realism and State role
  - Hegemonic stability theory
  - Balance of power theory
  - Liberalism and the role of international norms and cooperation
  - Marxism theory
  - Contemporary international politics
3. International institutions
  - The United Nations (UN): goal, membership and structure
  - The World Bank (WB)
  - The International Monetary Fund (IMF)
  - The World Trade Organisation (WTO)
  - Other.
4. Problems in the context of international relations
  - Armed conflicts and terrorism
  - Economy and development
  - Financial Crisis
  - Demography
  - Environment and sustainability
  - Energy
5. International development and sustainable development
  - Unequal world wealth distribution
  - International aid
  - The role of non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
  - External Debt
6. New International Economic Order

### Recommended reading

1. Dunne, T., Kurki, M., & Smith, S. (2016). *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity* (4th Edition). Oxford University Press.
2. Kaufman, J. P. (2018). *Introduction to International Relations: Theory and Practice* (2nd Edition). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
3. Nau, H. R. (2020). *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions and Ideas* (7th Edition). CQ Press.
4. Pevehouse, J. C., & Golstein, J. S. (2016). *International Relations* (11th Edition). Pearson.

### Teaching and learning methods

Theoretical concepts are introduced through lectures. Lectures are supported with references and video tools. Students are should discuss and debate case-study during lectures. Individual study and research (internet, databases, literature review) and the solving of practical tasks are forms of self dependent study in order to produce a final assignment. Tutorial sessions will be promoted.

### Assessment methods

1. Alternative 1 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
  - Case Studies - 20%
  - Intermediate Written Test - 20%
  - Final Written Exam - 60%
2. Alternative 2 - (Regular) (Supplementary, Special)
  - Final Written Exam - 100%

**Assessment methods**

3. Alternative 3 - (Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)  
- Final Written Exam - 100%

**Language of instruction**

English

**Electronic validation**

Alcina Maria Almeida Rodrigues Nunes, Benilde Joaquina Pereira Moreira	António Borges Fernandes	Paulo Alexandre Vara Alves
19-10-2020	25-10-2020	25-10-2020