



**Code: SPS/04**

**Credits: 9**

**Matter: International Relations**

**Main language of instruction: Italian**

**Other language of instruction: English**

## Teaching Staff

### Head instructor

**Prof. Giuliano Caroli - [giuliano.caroli@unicusano.it](mailto:giuliano.caroli@unicusano.it)**

### Introduction

#### *1. Objective of the course :*

The International Relations Course has the following educational objectives: to deepen the characteristics of the international system in the 20th century and of the study methods; the evolution, successes and failures of the collective security system of the Twenties with political, economic and social aspects; the origins and developments of the Cold War. From Yalta to the collapse of totalitarianism in Europe; the characteristics, constants and variables of Italian foreign policy from the end of the Second World War to the post-Cold War multilateralism; aspects and problems of contemporary international politics, between the end of the Cold War and multilateralism. The knowledge and characteristics of these periods will therefore be developed in the course, with particular reference to the elements of a political-diplomatic, economic, financial, geopolitical, military and social nature, which distinguish them in the international relations, providing more articulated and in-depth interpretative tools for understanding contemporary international reality.

### Objectives

#### *2. Course Structure:*

The International Relations Course provides 9 formative credits.

The course is developed through the pre-recorded audio-video lessons that constitute, along with slides and handouts on the platform, the materials available on the platform.

Self-assessment tests are then proposed, of asynchronous type, which accompany the pre-recorded lessons and allow students to ascertain both the understanding and the degree of knowledge acquired of the contents of each of the lessons.

The teaching methods are divided into 5 modules and 54 video lessons (54 hours of video recording).

The total study load includes 210 hours for the visualization and study of the videotaped material.

A 30-hour study load is required for self-assessment tests.

The interactive teaching is carried out in the forum of the "virtual class" and includes 1 monthly Eivity which provides a comparison within a group of students on a theme or a text proposed by the teacher, with the possible elaboration of papers and has a load 10-hour study period.

For 4, 5 or 6 credits, according to the student's choice, video lessons and related study materials, from Module 1 to Module 3, plus Module 5, or, alternatively, only Module 4. Display of video lessons, and study load related to each of these alternatives is equal to half of the course of 9 credits.

### **Competencies:**

Attendance of the course requires a general knowledge of the twentieth century international events studied in the three-year course.

### **Syllabus**

#### *3. Programme of the course:*

**Subject 1.** - International Relations between XX and XXI Century (2 hours of lesson, plus 20 study load)

Videolections 1 and 2

**Subject 2.** - The crisis of the European system after the First World War and the illusion of political and economic security, 1919-1929 (5 hours of ED plus 35 study load)

Videolections 3 – 9

**Subject 3.** - The Cold War. Historical aspects and interpretative problems (4 hours of lesson plus 22 hours of study load)

Videolections 10 - 19

**Subject 4.** - Italian foreign policy from Unity to today. Historical aspects and interpretative problems (3 hours of lesson plus 21 hours of study load)

Videolections 20 - 48

**Subject 5.** - Aspects of the current international system: unilateralism and multilateralism; globalization and fragmentation; lights and shadows of the "BRICS" (China, India, Russia, Brazil); the uncertain role of the European Union, the

assumptions of power and transatlantic relations (3 hours of lesson plus 21 hours of study load)

Video lessons 49 - 54

Etivity - Elaboration of a dissertation based on texts provided by the teacher (10 hours of study load, 1 point for the evaluation in order to pass the exam).

### **Evaluation system and criteria**

The exam consists in carrying out an oral or written test aimed at ascertaining the abilities to analyze and re-elaborate the concepts acquired and a series of activities (Etivity) carried out during the course in the virtual classes.

The exam can be taken orally at the Rome office or written at the teaching poles by prior booking by the student.

The expected learning outcomes regarding the knowledge of the subject are evaluated by the oral or written tests and, in progress, through the Etivity.

The oral exam consists of an interview based on a maximum of three questions to ascertain the level of preparation of the student.

The written test in the educational poles is divided into the "2 + 4" model (2 open-ended question to be chosen from 3 proposals and to be carried out for at least two pages and 4 closed questions):

- the maximum value of 25 points is assigned to the open question relating to the contents of the examination program;
- the 4 open questions are assigned a maximum score of 1 point each based on the teacher verification on the expected learning outcomes;

Etivity is assigned a maximum score of 1 point.

### **Bibliography and resources**

#### *4. Materials to consult:*

The educational material on the platform is divided into 9 modules. They fully cover the program and each of them contains lecture notes, slides and video lessons in which the teacher comments on handouts and slides. This material contains all the elements necessary to deal with the study of the subject.

#### *5. Recommended bibliography:*

Texts advised for in-depth study of the various themes:

BUZON BARRY, *The United States and the Great Powers: World Politics in the Twenty-First Century*. Polity Press, Cambridge, 2004.

G. J. IKENBERRY, *After the victory. Institutions, strategies of moderation and reconstruction of the international order after the great wars.* Princeton University Press, 2001.

HENRY KISSINGER, *Diplomacy.* Simon & Schuster, New York-London, 1994.

JOSEPH SMITH, *The Cold War (1945-1991).* II ed., Oxford, Blackwell, 1998.

ODD ARNE WESTAD, *The Global Cold War.* Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2007.