Universidad de Navarra

International Relations (RRII)

Guía docente 2026-27

PRESENTACIÓN

Breve descripción: In this course we will examine the major historical movements that shape international relations today, based on the interactions of nation-states and non-governmental organizations fields such as politics, economics, and security. The field of study is history of the post-1945 world, with a particular focus on the Cold War, both in Western and Eastern Europe, in the Asia-Pacific region, Latin-America and in the Middle East.

- **Titulación**: International Relations
- **Módulo/Materia**: Fundamentos de las relaciones internacionales, Fundamentos históricos
- **ECTS**: 6
- **Curso, semestre**: 1º (Second Semester)
- **Carácter**: Básico
- **Profesorado**: Cristina Erquiaga Martínez (cerquiaga@unav.es)
- **Idioma**: Inglés
- **Aula, Horario**:
  - Wednesday, 12:00h in Aula B2, Amigos Building
  - Friday, 10:00h in Aula B1, Amigos Building

RESULTADOS DE APRENDIZAJE (Competencias)

CB1 Que los estudiantes hayan demostrado poseer y comprender conocimientos en un área de estudio que parte de la base de la educación secundaria general, y se suele encontrar a un nivel que, si bien se apoya en libros de texto avanzados, incluye también algunos aspectos que implican conocimientos procedentes de la vanguardia de su campo de estudio

CB3 Que los estudiantes tengan la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos relevantes (normalmente dentro de su área de estudio) para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión sobre temas relevantes de índole social, científica o ética

CG01 Analizar, valorar y razonar las diferentes situaciones internacionales a la luz de los conocimientos adquiridos.

CG05 Saber expresarse oralmente de manera correcta y adecuada sobre temas internacionales

CG07 Valorar con espíritu crítico la realidad internacional y sus problemas específicos.

CE01 Conocer los conceptos y técnicas aplicadas al análisis de los actores y relaciones internacionales.

CE07 Conocer las características de la geopolítica mundial y el concepto la denominada sociedad internacional.

CE20 Evaluar las relaciones internacionales y cada uno de sus componentes sociológicos, históricos, jurídicos, políticos y económicos.

PROGRAMA

The Effects of WWII

Postwar: International Relations after 1945

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The End of the European Empires

The Spread of Communism

Communist China

The Middle East: A Never-Ending Turmoil

International Relations from the 1970's to the 1990's

The End of the Cold War

The Word Order after the Berlin Wall

New Key Players

ACTIVIDADES FORMATIVAS

Lectures

Discussion seminars

Tutorials

Independent study

Supervised assignments

GROUND RULES

To ensure an optimal learning environment by minimizing distractions and maximizing cognitive engagement:

1. Smartphone Policy

- Smartphones must be **silenced and kept out of sight** (pocket, bag, or designated area) for the entire class.
- The presence of smartphones—even when unused—reduces cognitive capacity and negatively affects learning performance.

2. Laptop and Tablet Policy

- **Laptops and tablets are not permitted** during lectures or in-class activities.
- Exceptions may be granted **only** for documented accommodations approved in advance.
- Unrestricted device use encourages multitasking, which harms both individual learning and that of nearby students.

3. Exceptions and Accommodations

- Students requiring technological accommodations must contact the instructor **at least one week before the first class**.

4. Students with Special Educational Needs

- Students must contact the **Studies Coordination Office of the Faculty of Law** to obtain official authorization for assessment adaptations.
- This authorization must be submitted to the instructor **at the beginning of the semester** and **no later than February 1**.
- Late submissions will not be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE

Any attempt at **fraud, copying, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct** constitutes a serious offense under **Title IV, "Academic Discipline Rules for Students,"** of the **University of Navarra** regulations and will be addressed accordingly.

EVALUATION

The final grade will be based on the following components:

- **Class participation and seminars:** 20%
- **Project:** 20%
- **Midterm Exam (February):** 10%
- **Final Exam (May):** 50%

To pass the course, students must obtain at least 50% of the total assessment score, having passed the midterm exam and scored above 4 out of 10 on the final exam.

Class participation and seminars – 20%

This part of the grade assesses students' active participation in class, beyond mere attendance. Particular attention will be paid to the sessions devoted to the commentary of historical sources and analytical texts, in which students are expected to contribute to the discussion in an informed and critical manner.

Project – 20%

This is an individual assignment in which each student will formulate and answer their own research question within the thematic scope of the course, going beyond the material covered in class. Students must notify the lecturer of their research question and the sources they intend to use to answer it. The results of the research will be presented in the form of a written essay completed in class.

Midterm exam – 10%

The midterm consists of identifying and locating countries on a map. **Passing this exam is a prerequisite** for sitting the final exam. Students **must** score at least **14 out of 20** on this section. **Failure to meet this threshold will result in a score of 0 for the entire exam.** Each correct answer = **+1 point**, each incorrect answer = **-1 point**, blank answers = **0 points**.

Final exam – 50%

The final exam is divided into two parts. The first part consists of short-answer questions designed to assess specific knowledge acquired through the study of the course material. The second part consists of a long-answer question in which students are expected to demonstrate their ability to connect different topics covered throughout the course and reflect critically on them.

Resit policy: Students who fail the midterm will have the opportunity to retake the map section during the final exam sitting. However, the final exam itself will only be graded if the map retake is passed. In other words, a student who fails the map section — whether in the original midterm or the resit — will not have their final exam corrected.

Extraordinary Call (Convocatoria Extraordinaria)

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Students who take the extraordinary exam will have the opportunity to be assessed for the full grade. To this end, they may retake the exams and submit a new project. In-class activities can be made up through an alternative assessment. The exams structures will be identical to those of the Midterm and Final exams.

To pass the extraordinary sitting, students must obtain at least 50% of the total assessment score and score above 4 out of 10 on the exam.

HORARIOS DE ATENCIÓN

Prof. Dra. Cristina Erquiaga Martínez (cerquiaga@unav.es)

- Despacho 2041. Edificio Ismael Sánchez Bella
- Los alumnos podrán concertar una tutoría enviando un mail a la profesora.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA

General Bibliography

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Further reading

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Alexiévich, Svetlana, Ferrer, Jorge José. El fin del "Homo sovieticus", Barcelona, Acantilado, 2015. Find it in the Library

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