



Universidad  
de Navarra

*Geopolitics*  
*Guía docente 2026-27*

## COURSE PRESENTATION

- **Grade:** DEGREE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
- **Subject:** GEOPOLITICS
- **ECTS:** 6
- **Course, semestre:** 3rd Year IIRR; 1st and 2nd Semesters
- **CHARACTER:** Mandatory subject for "GEOPOLITICS AND DIPLOMACY" program students
- **FACULTY:** BG (Res.) Salvador Sánchez Tapia (PhD)
- **LANGUAGE:** English
- **CLASSROOM; SCHEDULE:** SEMINAR ROOM # 6; Mondays 10:00-12:00

## RESULTADOS DE APRENDIZAJE (Competencias)

## LESSONS PLAN (TENTATIVE)

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**IMPORTANT: FOR DETAILS ON THE LESSONS, PLEASE, REFER TO THE SYLLABUS BOOKLET (.pdf VERSION). IT IS AVAILABLE ON THIS ADI PAGE**

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## FORMATIVE ACTIVITIES

**Presence policy:** Participation in the weekly lessons is MANDATORY. Unjustified absences will negatively reflect on the CLASS PARTICIPATION concept. Notwithstanding the possibility of the faculty randomly conducting roll-calls, and because this is a course for adults, the implementation of this requirement will be self-regulated and based on trust.

**Participation:** Presence is not enough. Beyond that, students must commit to the course objectives. Specifically, this means:

1. Critically reading the REQUIRED text assigned for each lesson and any other material provided by the faculty ahead of the lesson
2. Participating in class debates on the Required Reading or on any other topic as directed by the faculty
3. Maintain a positive, polite, respectful, attitude toward faculty and peers alike
4. FAILURE TO COMPLETE ANY ASSIGNMENT will result in failure in the subject. Please, find under ASSESSMENT the specific course requirements



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5. Actively participating in TEAM tasks, making their fair share to the team effort
6. Reviewing the lesson material after the class to facilitate assimilation of the key concepts
7. Performing other tasks as directed by the faculty in the exercise of his teaching duties
8. Actively following geopolitics-related current events to increase understanding of course topics

Participation will be measured against the CLASS PARTICIPATION concept (see "Assessment")

**Punctuality:** Lessons start at 10:00. No access to the classroom will be authorized after the beginning of the lesson (closed door policy)

**Early release:** If, for a duly justified reason, you must leave the room before the end of the lesson, please, seek FACULTY AUTHORIZATION ahead of the lesson

**Classroom etiquette:** We are users, not owners, of the classrooms. They are a space shared by many students. That requires following certain basic rules:

1. - Follow an appropriate dress code
2. - Food and drinks (other than your personal bottle of water) are not allowed
3. - Demeanor: sit down properly
4. - Avoid idle chit-chat during the lessons

**Class routine:** As a rule, lessons will include a combination of the following:

1. - Class discussion on Required Reading or current events
2. - Lectures by the faculty
3. - Oral presentations by selected students on a topic related to the lesson
4. - Team or individual classroom activity/task/exercise
5. - Class exercises and Quizzes

**Student briefings (oral presentations):** Students may be required to deliver short presentations on topics assigned by the faculty and related to the contents of the lessons. They will be no longer than 10 minutes (absolute MAXIMUM). Oral presentations makes up 5% of the final grade. Annex B provides you with some tips to help you prepare the oral presentation. See "Assessment" for further detail.

**Readings:** Every lesson includes a selection of readings. There are two categories:

**REQUIRED:** They must be critically read and understood. They will be used for in-class debate.

**RECOMMENDED:** Not mandatory. Students are encouraged to read them.

All readings (except books) will be available on ADI in the respective Session folder.

**Academic Integrity:** Students must abide by the highest standards of academic integrity. Examples of academic fraud include, among other possibilities:

1. It is a serious academic offense and will not be tolerated. Plagiarized papers will automatically be graded "0".
2. Cheating of any kind (for example, using unauthorized assistance during final exams or class exercises; or unethically resorting to means like ChatGPT)
3. Submitting work of which the student is not the author or having a substitute complete any academic assignment or completing an academic assignment for someone else, either paid or unpaid.

Any case of academic misconduct identified will result in a grade of ZERO (0) in the requirement, irrespective of other academic consequences that might be derived from each specific case.



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**Electronic devices policy:** NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES are authorized unless indicated by the faculty. Some class activities may require the use of laptops. Keep your electronic devices OFF and out of sight at all times.

CELL PHONES WILL BE TURNED OFF.

**Use of Artificial Intelligence:** Understanding how and when to use generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, DALL-E) is quickly emerging as an important skill for future professions.

This course assumes that work submitted by students – all process work, drafts, brainstorming artifacts, final works – will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups as directed by class assignment instructions. The use of generative AI tools in this class, however, is acceptable as long as it aligns with the learning outcomes or goals associated with assignments.

Each student is fully responsible for the information he submits based on a generative AI query (such that it does not violate academic honesty standards, intellectual property laws, or standards of non-public research you are conducting through coursework). If you use AI to generate ideas:

1. Cite the query as a source (Footnote) indicating the tool (ChatGPT, DALL-E...) and the query you did
2. Add a detailed Annex in your report on how you used AI indicating, as a minimum, the specific tool you used; where did you use it; the reason why you used it (to generate ideas, to translate text, to confirm own research, to create an initial outline, etc.); and the queries/questions you asked. You may be asked to forward additional information. and the queries/questions you asked. You may be asked to forward additional information.

## ASSESSMENT

The final grade will be measured based on the following:

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**Requirements to pass the course on GEOPOLITICS:** All of the items below will have to be completed. Please, note: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY ONE OF THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL AUTOMATICALLY MEAN FAILURE IN THE SUBJECT

1. **Write the two FINAL EXAMS** (one in DECEMBER, one in MAY) and score a **minimum grade of FOUR (4) in each one**. YOUR PRESENCE IN THE EXAMS IS MANDATORY. NO ONLINE EXAMS WILL BE TAKEN. Failure to meet this requirement will send the student directly to JUNE. Please, note that the JUNE final will re-examine students on the whole course material (both semesters) regardless of the grade they got in DECEMBER and MAY.
2. Deliver at least **ONE Oral Presentation** (Faculty will assign presentations on a weekly basis)
3. Complete the **course project (the Geopolitical Analysis of a country/region)** as assigned by the faculty). Submit it NLT the day indicated as deadline (TBD). No late submissions will be accepted.
4. Complete a **minimum number of QUIZZES/TWO-PAGERS** in both semesters. The accumulation of **more than THREE missed** Quizzes/Two-Pagers (combined) along both semesters will result in automatic course failure (BOTH IN MAY AND IN JUNE).

**NO ONLINE EXAMS WILL BE TAKEN**

**CRITERIA FOR JUNE EXAMS:** To succeed in the course in JUNE, the following criteria must be met:



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1. Write an exam on the scheduled day on 100% of course material
2. Get a minimum grade of FIVE (5) in the exam
3. Demonstrate submission of written requirements (Course Project)
4. Maximum grade possible in JUNE: SEVEN (7).

## OFFICE HOURS

Faculty will be available, on campus or online, upon appointment. Requests may be forwarded directly with Faculty or via email [ssanchezt@external.unav.es](mailto:ssanchezt@external.unav.es)

## BIBLIOGRAFÍA Y RECURSOS

The list that follows has only guiding value. STUDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED to read them. The titles are offered as basic bibliography that will inspire the contents of the course, and that may be useful for the individual development of the students, and to learn more on specific topics.

BLIJ, HARM DE: *Why Geography Matters. More Than Ever*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.

BRZEZINSKI, ZBIGNIEW: *The Grand Chessboard*, New York, NY: Basic Books, 1997.

COHEN, SAUL BERNARD: *Geopolitics of the World System*, Lanham, MD, Rowman & Littlefield, 2003.

DODDS, KLAUS: *Geopolitics. A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.

FLINT, COLIN: *Introduction to Geopolitics*, New York, NY: Routledge, 2006.

GALLOIS, PIERRE M.: *Geopolítica. Los caminos del poder*, Madrid: Ediciones Ejército, 1992.

GRAY, COLIN S: *The Geopolitics of Superpower*, Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 1988.

GRAZIANO, MANLIO: *Essential Geopolitics: A Handbook*, 2011.

KAPLAN, ROBERT D.: *The Revenge of Geography*, New York, NY: Random House, 2012.

KISSINGER, HENRY: *World Order*, New York, NY: Penguin, 2014.

MARSHALL, TIM: *Prisoners of Geography*, London: Elliott and Thompson, 2015.

MEARSHEIMER, JOHN J.: *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, New York, NY: Norton, 2014.

MEARSHEIMER, JOHN J.: *The Great Delusion. Liberal Dreams and International Realities*, New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2018.

SEMPA, FRANCIS P.: *Geopolitics. From the Cold War to the 21st Century*, London: Routledge, 1989.