

International Relations since 1945 –IR, 819
(Elective Course)

Course Description: This course provides an in-depth examination of key developments, issues, and transformations in international relations (IR) since the end of World War II. Students will explore significant events, theories, and actors shaping the global political landscape, including the Cold War, decolonization, globalization, regional conflicts, and contemporary challenges. Through historical analysis, case studies, and theoretical frameworks, students will critically assess the evolution of international relations in the post-1945 era and its implications for global governance, security, and diplomacy.

Course Objectives: The objectives of this course are to:

- study the background and nature of important issues in international relations
- focus on the evolution of world politics since the end of the World War II
- to comprehend the complexities of power politics in a historical context
- provide an in-depth analysis of international problems in the realm of global politics

Learning Outcome:

1. Students can form a vision of the past and can understand and analyze present-day international politics
2. Since the course provides the background of international problems, students will be able to explain the causes of the emergence of specific issues.
3. Students will be able to understand the role of international institutions, political processes, diplomatic events, interaction between states, and other factors that are responsible for shaping world politics.
4. The course will enable the students to develop their own opinions about the political dynamics of recent developments in international relations.

Course Content

Week 1:	East-West Relations:
Week 2:	Impact of World War II on global politics
Week 3:	Emergence of Cold War and Bipolarity

Week 4:	Policy of Containment and Related Events
Week 5:	Response of the Soviet Union towards Containment
Week 6:	Third World Developments-South Asia, Middle East, Afghanistan
Week 7:	Decolonization
Week 8:	Emergence of Non-aligned Movement
Week 9:	<i>Midterm Exam</i>
Week 10:	Sino-Soviet split and Sino-American rapprochement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Détente: East-West Cooperation and Peaceful Co-existence
Week 11:	Post-Cold War Era/ United Nations in the post-Cold War Era
Week 12:	Russia in the Post-Soviet setting
Week 13:	The Changing Role of NATO and Emerging Regionalism and Economic Organizations
Week 14:	New Poles of International Power and Influence
Week 15:	The disintegration of the Soviet Union: Causes and consequences
Week 16:	<i>Final Exams</i>

Reading Material

- John W. Young, John Kent, *International Relations Since 1945: A Global History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004).
- Ngaire Wood, *Explaining International Relations Since 1945* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996).
- Joseph S. Nye, *The Future of Power* (New York: Public Affairs, 2011).
- Friedberg Aaron, "The evolution of US strategic doctrine – 1945 to 1981", in Samuel P. Huntington) (ed.) *The Strategic Imperatives* (Cambridge: Ballinger, 1982).
- Bernard Brodie, *Strategy in the Missile Age* (Princeton University and Press: Princeton NJ, 1971).
- Lawrence Freedman, *Deterrence* (Cambridge: Policy Press, 2004).
- Bernard Brodie, *War and Politics* (New York: Collier- Macmillan Publishers, 1973).

- Gaddis, John Lewis, *Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of Postwar American Security Policy* (Oxford University Press, 1982).
- Thomas C. Schelling, *The Strategic of Conflict* (London: Oxford University Press, 1960).
- Murray William, Knox and Bernstein, *The Making of Strategy Rules, States and War*.
- Scott D. Sagan and Kenneth N. Waltz, *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1995).
- Wohlstetter, "The Delicate Balance of Terror", *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 37, No. 2, January 1959.
- Nandy, Ashis, *The Intimate Enemy: The Loss and Recovery of the Self under Colonialism* (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1983).
- Paret P., *Makers of Modern Strategy: From Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age*.
- Kenneth Waltz, "The Spread of Nuclear weapons: More May Be Better," *Adelphi Paper*, No. 171 (Autumn 1981).