



Academic Year 2019-2020

Syllabus

Course: History of International Relations

CFU 12

Prof. Angela Romano

Course Description

The course covers the history of international relations since 1945 and present students with the onset, changes, and evolution of the international order. The main focus is on processes that marked the period in terms of global organisation and governance, and their interactions. The development of a bipolar world order and the successive generation of a multilateral system comprising hegemonic powers with clashing ideals will be central to the course. Yet other processes intersected with or openly challenged the Cold War dominant structure, and hence qualify its strength as all-out explanation and interpretative paradigm for the whole period. The course will thus devote particular attention to global processes – decolonisation and the rise of the Third World, and the remoulding of the Western system to meet these challenge – as well as to key regional processes affecting the Cold War system at its hearth, that is European integration both East and West, and their entanglements.

The course will constantly highlight how these historical processes are connected with today's post-Cold War global order, its features, actors, and dynamics. A final section of the course will address the shape and challenges of the new post-Cold War order. Hence the course aims at providing some of the factual grounding and conceptual apparatus necessary to better understand the contemporary world.

Teaching Method

The course will combine lectures with seminar activities. The latter include in-class assessed presentation and discussion of assigned readings, as well as hands-on work on primary sources (text analysis and contextualisation, critical assessment of information, etc). Students are expected and required to attend every class, come prepared to classes, and participate in discussions. Each student will, in turn, present to the class **two assigned readings**, critically assessing content and arguments, and introducing related questions for the class discussion.

Schedule of Topics

Topic 1	Origins and major themes of the Cold War
Topic 2	Communism: the Soviet Union, China, and international challenges
Topic 3	Neutrality, Development, and the Rise of the Third World
Topic 4	Processes of integration and cooperation in Europe
Topic 5	East, West, South and Globalization
Topic 6	Cold War endings and new world governance

Textbook and Materials

A) Textbooks

- Mark Mazower, *Governing the World: The History of an Idea*, Penguin Books, 2013.
- Melvin Leffler and Odd Arne Westad (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. 3 Endings*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Catherine Schenk, *International Economic Relations since 1945*, Abingdon: Routledge, 2011.

B) Further specific readings will be made available for download.

Assessment

- 1) Attendance and participation in class discussions (20%)
- 2) Two in-class presentations and discussion of assigned readings (70%)
- 3) Participation in final in-class discussion (10%)

Non-attending students will only take a final oral exam; they shall contact the Professor who will indicate textbooks and materials for preparing the oral exam.

Office hours

On appointment. To book an appointment or ask specific questions about any aspects of the course, please contact Prof. Angela Romano at angela.romano@eui.eu
Prof. Romano never replies to emails during weekends.