



<b>Course Code</b> IREL-600	<b>Course Title</b> Peace, Security & the United Nations	<b>ECTS Credits</b> 7.5
<b>Department</b> European Studies and International Relations	<b>Semester</b> Fall, Spring	<b>Prerequisites</b> None
<b>Type of Course</b> Elective	<b>Field</b> International Relations	<b>Language of Instruction</b> English
<b>Level of Course</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cycle	<b>Year of Study</b> ANY	<b>Lecturer(s)</b> Professor Farid Mirbagheri
<b>Mode of Delivery</b> face-to-face	<b>Work Placement</b> N/A	<b>Co-requisites</b> None

### Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

1. Introduce the question of security in international environment in the context of considerations of sustainable development, social and economic policies, regionalisation, globalisation and the gradual erosion of state sovereignty, domestic and foreign policy of the state.
2. Study the UN as a centre of international power politics and an epitome of values.
3. Scrutinise the structure of the UN and its ability to cope with the challenges facing it.

### Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate a deep and broad understanding of the concepts of peace, security and war.
2. Examine the question of international security in the context of social economic policies, regionalization, sustainable development, globalization and the gradual erosion of state sovereignty, domestic and foreign policy of the state.
3. Critically evaluate related news reports on contemporary conflicts around the globe.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of research methods used in the field and analyze information using variety of methodological tools.
5. Illustrate knowledge of the history, the evolution and the future challenges of the UN.
6. Assess and analyze the workings of the United Nations System on a broad level.
7. Demonstrate the linkages between the theories of peace and security and their applicability as regards the United Nations.
8. Illustrate competence as oral communicators and effective listeners in a variety of contexts, ability to express own evaluation of discussed issues in written form in intelligent and analytical way.
9. Use basic IT skills as experience with data collection and communication tools.
10. Make efficient use of libraries, bibliographical material and academic research.

**Course Contents:**

1. Security: Traditional and Modern Concepts
2. Balance of Power or Collective Security?
3. War or Peace: Achieving the Security of the State
4. International Security vs State Security: An Analysis of Security Aspects in International Life
5. North vs South: Inherent Threat to Global Peace
6. Globalisation and Security
7. The United Nations: Axiological Myth or Pragmatic Politics?
8. Structure and Functions of the UN
9. UN, Sovereign Statehood and International Security: Mission Impossible?
10. UN, Human Rights and Security
11. UN and Terrorism
12. Peacekeeping and Peacemaking
13. Clash of Civilisations or Dialogue of Civilisations?

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Lectures and discussions, Self-study.

**Assessment Methods:**

Class participation, Presentation, Extended essay, Mid-term, Final Exam

**Required Textbooks/Reading:**

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Weiss, T. G. et al.	The United Nations and Changing World Politics	Westview Press	1997	
Chopra, J.	The Politics of Peace-Maintenance	Lynne Rienner Publishers	1998	

**Recommended Textbooks/Reading:**

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Zirig, Riggs, & Plano	The United Nations: International Organisation and World Politics (4 <sup>th</sup> ed.)	Thomson Wadsworth	2005	0-534-63186-X