

<b>DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:</b>	
<b>IR 4145 SENIOR THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS</b> (Updated Fall 2023)	
<b>US CREDITS: 3/0/3</b> <b>UK LEVEL:6</b> <b>UK CREDITS:15</b>	
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	Students must have completed 90 credits IR 3220 Research Methods in International Relations
<b>CATALOG DESCRIPTION:</b>	Research and in-depth analysis of European and international relations problems and developments. Systematic and critical study of its key concepts and arguments. Appreciation of the historical context and the impact on contemporary political reality. Special emphasis on the development of skills required for the analysis and presentation of a position.
<b>RATIONALE:</b>	Through the senior thesis students are offered the opportunity to enhance their critical and research skills as well as their originality in thinking through an in-depth analysis of an international relations issue or the sources related to it. Indispensable to all IR students and especially for those who wish to prepare themselves for postgraduate studies.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	As a result of taking this module, the student should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Undertake extensive and comprehensive research of scholarly sources concentrating on a focused topic related to a core issue in International Relations and European Affairs.</li> <li>2. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the critical debates and argumentation on the topic under examination, assessing the value of relevant sources and interpretations in a systematic and scholarly manner.</li> <li>3. Deliver in an engaged manner an oral presentation of the main conceptual themes discussed and the position followed in the thesis.</li> <li>4. Demonstrate mastery in interpretative and critical skills in relation to the international relations issue and/or primary or secondary sources under research.</li> <li>5. Demonstrate originality in thinking.</li> </ol>
<b>METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:</b>	In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual sessions which are devoted to supervising student research progress, including discussion of research topics, tutorials on conducting research and feedback on student work.</li> <li>• Timely supervisor feedback on work submitted.</li> <li>• - Office hours held by the instructor to provide further assistance to the students.</li> <li>• Use of library facilities for further study and preparation for the exams.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of the Blackboard course management platform to further support communication, by posting lecture notes, assignment instruction, timely announcements, formative quizzes, and online submission of assignments.</li> </ul>								
<b>ASSESSMENT:</b>	<p>Summative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="621 373 1365 678"> <tr> <td data-bbox="621 373 1187 611">           -Thesis            (6,000 words to 6,500 words)            Literature Review/            Methodology/Critical evaluation of positions            (Topic to be chosen by students in consultation with academic staff)         </td> <td data-bbox="1187 373 1365 611" style="text-align: center;">90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="621 611 1187 678">           -Oral Defence of the thesis         </td> <td data-bbox="1187 611 1365 678" style="text-align: center;">10%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Formative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="621 747 1365 825"> <tr> <td data-bbox="621 747 1187 785">           Discussion of research components drafts         </td> <td data-bbox="1187 747 1365 785" style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="621 785 1187 825"></td> <td data-bbox="1187 785 1365 825"></td> </tr> </table> <p>The formative assessment aims to prepare students for the Research Paper.  The summative assessment tests all the Learning Outcomes.</p> <p><i>The final grade for this module will not be determined through grade averaging. Students are required to resit any failed assessments.</i></p>	-Thesis (6,000 words to 6,500 words) Literature Review/ Methodology/Critical evaluation of positions (Topic to be chosen by students in consultation with academic staff)	90%	-Oral Defence of the thesis	10%	Discussion of research components drafts	0		
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-Oral Defence of the thesis	10%								
Discussion of research components drafts	0								
<b>INDICATIVE READING:</b>	<p>REQUIRED READING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given the independent nature of this module which involves the writing of a thesis paper, no prescribed readings can be given. The reading list is determined by the chosen topic of each student.</li> </ul> <p><b>RECOMMENDED READING:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secondary literature relevant to the research topic chosen.</li> <li>Cf. Above</li> </ul>								
<b>INDICATIVE MATERIAL:</b> <i>(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</i>	<p>REQUIRED MATERIAL: N/A</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</b>  These will depend on the topic chosen for the required material.</p>								
<b>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Verbal presentation in advanced professional English and critical speech skills. Research paper in Word.								
<b>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Microsoft Word								
<b>WWW RESOURCES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://foreignaffairs.com">http://foreignaffairs.com</a></li> </ul>								

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="http://foreignpolicy.com">http://foreignpolicy.com</a></li><li>- <a href="http://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en">http://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en</a></li><li>- <a href="http://iiss.org">http://iiss.org</a></li><li>- <a href="http://www.state.gov/">http://www.state.gov/</a></li></ul>
<b>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</b>	No content outline is provided since this is a self-directed research activity under supervision.