

**Syllabus:
GEOPOLITICS**

Academic credit: 4 UMA,s (60 class hours)

Code: GEO

Semester III, Year II

Professor: Roberto Antonio Wagner raw@ufm.edu

“For the first time we can perceive something of the real proportion of features and events on the stage of the whole world, and may seek a formula which shall express certain aspects, at any rate, of geographical causation in universal history.”

— Halford Mackinder

Course description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the main concepts in geopolitics and its theories. Geopolitics represents an interaction between the relationship of power and place, and how this interaction has led to the construction and reconfiguration of world affairs. This course aims to review the different images of International Relations through the lens of geopolitics during an era of globalization. We will examine the formation of geopolitical images of the world, from the imperial geopolitics of Mahan, Mackinder and Haushofer all the way to present theories from the end of the 20th century all the way to the present nature of world affairs.

Course aims:

- Gain an understanding of the major theoretical perspectives on geopolitics;
- To promote a critical debate and analysis of the current state of world affairs and conflicts with the comprehension of modern history;
- Compare and analyze the relationship between geopolitics and globalization.
- Foster the students ability to reserach and debate and present a precise and strong argument through written work and debate.

Methodology:

Three weekly sessions: one teacher led, one student led and a third session Thursdays/ Fridays composed of seminar presentation and debate.

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Understand what geopolitics is and the different political dimensions it covers.
- Interpret and discuss the factors that determine the geostrategical guidelines that move the different actors that make up the international system.
- Understand the importance of current geopolitics and the value of the discipine to understand and explain international conflicts, international political economy and market trends.

Course schedule:

Date	Objectives	Contents	Evaluation
09/01/2017	Introduction	Course syllabus	N/A
11/01/2017 – 27/01/2017	Theories of International Relations Globalization and Geopolitics	<i>The End of History</i> F.Fukuyama <i>Clash of Civilizations</i> S.P. Huntington	Class discussion and Seminars January 20/27
30/01/2017 – 24/3/2017	Geopolitical Theories	<i>Preface, Caps. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII</i> KAPLAN, <i>The Revenge of Geography</i>	Paper 1 – 3/2/2017 Seminars February 3, 10, 17, 24 March 3, 10, 17, 24
27/03/2017 – 19/05/2017	Review of current Geopolitics: Eurasia, Middle East, Latin America	Caps. 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 13 – 19, 24, 25, 27, 28 KHANNA, <i>The Second World</i>	Paper 2 – 31/03/2017 Seminars March 31 April 7, 21, 28 May 5, 12, 19

Evaluation:

- 2 papers – 5 points each (10 points)
- Class debate – 20 points (monthly feeds)
- Seminars – 40 points (monthly feed)
- FINAL ESSAY – 30 points

Reading list

FUKUYAMA, F. (1989) “The end of History”, *The National Interest*

HUNTINGTON, S. (1993) “The Clash of Civilizations”, *Foreign Affairs*

KHANNA, P. (2008) *The Second World* New York, Random House

KAPLAN, R. (2012) *The Revenge of Geography*. New York, Random House

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