

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE
Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University
International Relations Faculty
International Relations and Regional Studies Department

SYLLABUS
of the normative academic component
Geopolitics and Geostrategy

Training of bachelors
Specialty 291 International Relations, Public Communications and
Regional Studies
Educational-professional programme International Relations

Syllabus of the academic component "GEOPOLITICS AND GEOSTRATEGY", Education Level Bachelor, Field of Knowledge 29 International Relations, Specialty 291 International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies, Educational and Professional Programme International Relations.

Developer: Galina Kopachinska, PhD (candidate of geographical sciences), associate professor

**Approved
by the Guarantor of Education and Professional Programme:**



assoc. prof. Yevheniia Voznyuk

The syllabus of the academic component was approved at the meeting of the International Relations and Regional Studies Department

protocol No. 1 dated August 31, 2023

Head of Department:



Prof. Natalia Kotsan

I. Description of the academic component

Indicator Name	Field of knowledge, educational and professional programme / education and research program, education level	Characteristics of academic component
Full-time education	029 «International relations» specialty 291 «International relations, public communications and regional studies» educational-professional program «International relations» education level «bachelors»	normative
Number of hours / credits 150/5		Year of preparation 4
		Semester 7 th and 8 th
ISRT: 7 th semester is not 8 th semester is		Lectures: 36 h.
		Practical (seminars): 46 h.
		Independent work: 58 h.
	Consultations: 10 h.	
	Form of control: 7 th semester - credit 8 th semester - exam	
Language of study		<i>English</i>

II. Information about the university teacher

S&N Kopachinska Galina

Scientific degree PhD (candidate of geographical sciences)

The academic title is associate professor

The position is associate professor

Contact information (kopachinska.galina@vnu.edu.ua).

Days of classes ([ПС-Розклад v.3.8.2](#)).

III. Description of the academic component

1. Abstract of the course

Geopolitics is one of the most influential intellectual directions of the XXI century, which determines the nature of research in such areas as foreign policy and military strategy of states, national interests, analysis and forecasting of local and global international conflicts.

As a scientific discipline, geopolitics is the science of the multifaceted policy of states and other subjects, aimed at studying the possibilities of active use of geospatial data in the interests of military-political, cultural-informational, economic and environmental security within the relevant fields of interaction.

In this context, the subject "Geopolitics and Geostrategy", which is taught to students of the faculty of international relations, acts as one of the important disciplines for a holistic understanding and study of the processes taking place in the modern world, as well as an analysis of the features of the modern world structure and the place of states and regions of the world in it, including Ukraine.

2. Purpose and tasks of the academic component.

The aim of course is to form knowledge about geopolitical interests, vectors of geostrategy, geo-economic priorities in foreign policy of regions and world countries.

The task of course is acquiring a comprehensive knowledge of geopolitical and geo-economic map of the world and place of countries|regions in it; forming the ideas about the balance of power in world geopolitics and geoeconomics; awareness of Ukraine’s objective geopolitical and geo-economic role and place in the world

3. Learning outcomes (competencies).

	Integral	General	Special (Professional)
Competences	The ability to solve complex specialized tasks and practical problems in the area of international relations, public communications and regional studies, states foreign policy activities, international interactions between states, international organizations and non-state actors, characterized by the complexity and uncertainty of conditions and involves the application of social sciences theories and special scientific methods in researching international relations issues.	GC3. The ability to learn and master modern knowledge..	SC1. The ability to distinguish signs and trends of development, to understand the organization nature, dynamics, principles of international relations, public communications and/or regional studies.
		GC4. Knowledge and understanding of the subject area and understanding of professional activity.	SC2. The ability to analyze international processes in various contexts, including political, security, legal, economic, social, cultural and informational ones.
		GC5. The ability to work in an international context.	SC4. The ability to solve complex specialized tasks and practical problems in the field of interstate relations, states foreign policy, public communications, regional studies.
		GC7. The ability to apply knowledge in practical situations.	
		GC8. The ability to abstract thinking, analysis and synthesis.	
		GC10. The ability to communicate the national language both orally and in writing form.	
		GC12. The ability to search, process and analyze information from various sources.	SC5. The ability to analyze the influence of the world economy, international law and domestic politics on the structure and dynamics of international relations and the states foreign policy.
		GC13. The ability to be critical and self-critical.	SC8. Awareness of the national interests of Ukraine in the international arena.
			SC9. The ability to apply knowledge of the

			characteristics of the development of countries and regions features and regularities of global processes and the place of individual states in them to solve complex specialized tasks and problems.
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Learning outcomes		
	LO01	To know and understand the nature of international relations and regional development, the evolution, the state of theoretical studies of international relations and world politics, as well as the nature and sources of the states' policies in the international arena and the activities of other participants in international relations.
	LO03	To know the nature of international cooperation, the nature of interaction between international actors, the ratio of state and non-state actors in world politics.
	LO04	To know the principles, mechanisms and processes of ensuring the states' foreign policy, the interaction between foreign and domestic policies, the definition and implementation of the national interests of states on the international arena, the process of forming and implementing foreign policy decisions.
	LO06	To know the nature and character of interactions of individual countries and regions at the global, regional and local levels.
	LO11	To carry out an applied analysis of international relations, the foreign policy of Ukraine and other states, international processes and the international situation in accordance with the set goals, prepare informative and analytical reports.
	LO13	To conduct a professional discussion on issues of international relations, international communications, regional studies, foreign policy activities, argue one's position, respect opponents and their points of view.
	LO15	To understand and apply current legislation, international regulatory documents and agreements, reference materials, current standards and technical conditions, etc., to solve complex specialized problems of international relations, public communications and regional studies.
	LO17	To have the skills of self-determination in educational goals and learning, finding educational resources necessary for their achievement.

4. The structure of the academic component.

Names of content modules and topics	Total	Lect.	Lab.	Independent work	Cons.	Form of control/ Grades
7th semester						
Content module 1. Theoretical foundations of the study of geopolitics and geostrategy						
Topic 1. Theoretical foundations of the study of geopolitics	15	4	6	4	1	DS/24
Topic 2. Historical stages of formation of geopolitics as a science	13	4	4	4	1	DS/16
Topic 3. Classical geopolitical ideas and concepts	17	4	8	4	1	DS/24 DB/4
Topic 4. Modern schools of geopolitics and their representatives	15	4	6	4	1	DS/24
Topic 5. Geopolitical and geoeconomic map of modern times	11	4	2	4	1	DS/8
Total by module 1/ Total for the 6th semester	71	20	26	20	5	100
8th semester						
Content module 2. Global and regional applied geopolitics						
Topic 6. Geopolitical interests of North American states	10	2	2	5	1	DS/6
Topic 7. Geopolitical interests of the states of Latin America and Africa	9,5	2	2	5	0,5	DS/3
Topic 8. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of European states	9,5	2	2	5	0,5	DS/3
Topic 9. Geopolitics of the states of East, Southeast, South and Southwest Asia.	11,5	2	4	5	0,5	DS/6
Topic 10. Geopolitics of Australia and the states of Oceania	9,5	2	2	5	0,5	DS/3
Total by module 2	50	10	12	25	3	21
Content module 3. Peculiarities of the formation of geopolitics of Ukraine						
Topic 11. Peculiarities of the formation of Ukrainian geopolitical thought	13	2	4	6	1	DS/6
Topic 12. Geopolitical interests and geostrategy of modern Ukraine	29	6	8	13	2	DS/6 ISRT/7
Total by module 3	13	2	4	6	1	19
Types of final works						Grades
Modular control work						60
Total for the 7th semester	95	16	20	36	7	100
Total hours for the course/Points	150	36	46	58	10	7 th sem.-100 8 th sem.-100

Control methods*: DS – discussion, DB – debates, T – tests, TR – training, SP/C – solving problems/cases, ISRT/IWS – individual scientific research task/individual work of the student, WSG – work in small groups, MCR/TP – module test paper/test paper, Ab – abstract, analytical note, analytical essay, analysis of the work.

5. Tasks for independent work

Number of order	Topic	Number of hours
1	Task #1: to select the necessary literature, develop and compile an abstract review on the topic "Features and historical stages of the development of geopolitics as a science".	8
2	Task #2: to analyze the common and distinctive features of the works of the classics of geopolitics, to present the obtained results in the form of a synopsis.	12
3	Task #3: to determine the peculiarities, problems and prospects of the development of modern geopolitics in different regions of the world, to present the obtained results in the form of a report during seminar classes on the relevant topic.	15
4	Task #4: to select the necessary literature, develop and compile an abstract review on the topic "The place and role of Ukraine in the geopolitical orientation of the leading states and regions of the world."	10
5	Task #5: to analyze, single out and justify the geostrategy vectors of modern Ukraine, to present the obtained results in the form of a synopsis and a report during a seminar on the relevant topic.	13
TOTAL:		58

6. Individual Scientific Research Task

To conduct an analytical study and write an abstract review on the topic "Problems and prospects of realizing the geopolitical interests of Ukraine at the current stage." To fulfill this task, pay considerable attention to the historical features of the development of geopolitics in the State, as well as its current geopolitical situation.

IV. Evaluation policy

During seminars, evaluation is made in accordance to student's ability to analyze and transfer the acquired knowledge, re-reading the information from the paper is prohibited. ISRT is represented during seminars, all references to used materials and resources must be made in accordance to true resources, and each student is personally responsible for academic integrity. Missed lectures can't be repassed, seminars can be repassed only if there is objective evidence of the student's absence. Deadline for the representation of ISRT and missed seminars is until the day of exam passing. Repassing of the exam is hold in accordance with the approved schedule of the exam session.

The maximum number of absences without true reasons - 2.

In the 7th semester, the discipline consists of 1 content module and does not provide for the completion of ISRT. In this case, the final grade on a 100-point scale consists of the total number of grades for the current assessment on the relevant topics.

The credit is issued on the condition that the student has completed all types of educational work defined by the program of the academic discipline and received at least 60 grades. In the situation of an unsatisfactory final grade, or if the student wishes to improve the rating, the student goes to pass credit.

In the 8th semester, the discipline consists of two content modules, and its study involves the completion of the ISRT. In this case, the final grade on a 100-point scale consists of the total number of points for:

1. current assessment of relevant topics and implementation of the ISRT (maximum 40 points);
2. modular control work (maximum 60 points).

After mastering content module 2 and content module 3, a modular control work is written, which is evaluated at a maximum of 60 grades. The total amount, including current and module control, is 100 grades.

If the current semester grade is at least 75 points, then with the student's consent, it can be counted as a final grade for the academic discipline. In the opposite case, or at the desire to increase the rating, the student passes the exam. At the same time, points scored based on the results of modular control work are canceled.

V. Final control

In the 7th semester the form of the final semester control from the discipline is credit, which is passed orally. Credit is passed according to the condition that the student has completed all the educational activities specified by the curriculum and received at least 60 grades. In case of unsatisfactory final evaluation, or if desired to increase the rating, the student goes to pass credit, in this case all his grades are canceled.

In the 8th semester the form of the final semester control from the discipline is exam, which is passed orally. Exam ticket includes 3 questions (1 theoretical and 2 practical).

If the current semester evaluation is not less than 75 grades, by the agreement of the student, it can be scored up as a final evaluation of the discipline. Otherwise, or by the wish to improve the rating the student passes the exam orally. Herewith, the grades got by the results of module control works are canceled.

Exam evaluation is defined in grades (0 to 60) by the results of the examination tasks. In this case the final semester evaluation is determined as the sum of the current semester and examination estimation in grades, by accordance to the rating scale. Assessment and mastering of the course are presented according to the rating scale.

EXAM QUESTIONS

8th semester

1. The essence of the concept of world politics.
2. Basic theories and principles of world politics.
3. Geopolitics as a scientific discipline.
4. Modern geopolitical schools and theories.
5. Main categories of geopolitics.
6. Basic laws of geopolitics.
7. Paradigms of geopolitics.
8. History of the development of geopolitics
9. K. Haushofer and his influence on the formation of geopolitics.
10. Z. Brzezinski and his main works.
11. F. Fukuyama and his main geopolitical visions.
12. Leading geopolitical centers of our time.
13. Balance of power as one of the key concepts of geopolitics.
14. Geopolitical doctrine and features of its formation (on the example of states).

15. The French school of geopolitics and its characteristic features.
16. American School of Geopolitics and its representatives.
17. The German school of geopolitics and its characteristic features.
18. Peculiarities of geopolitics of Ukraine.
19. History of formation of geopolitics of Ukraine.
20. Leading classics of geopolitics and their main works.
21. F. Ratzel and his main ideas.
22. R. Kjellen and its significance for the development of geopolitics.
23. A. Mehen and his main works.
24. G. Mackinder and his "geographical axis of history".
25. K. Haushofer and his geopolitical visions.
26. European geopolitical ideas of the XX century.
27. American geopolitical ideas of the XX century.
28. Geopolitics of the late XX century - beginning XXI century, and its main representatives.
29. Geoeconomics. The main categories of geoeconomics.
30. Geopolitical structure of the world. A variety of approaches.
31. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of the USA in the world.
32. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of the USA in Europe.
33. Geopolitical interests of the USA in the post-Soviet space.
34. Geostrategy of the USA in relation to China.
35. Geopolitical and geoeconomic aspects of relations between the USA and Japan.
36. US geostrategy in Southeast Asia.
37. US geostrategy in South Asia.
38. Geoeconomic and geopolitical interests of the USA in the Middle East.
39. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of the USA in Africa.
40. Geoeconomic integration in NAFTA.
41. US geopolitical and geoeconomic control over Latin America.
42. Geopolitical and geoeconomic aspects of the formation and development of the EU.
43. Transformation processes in the EU.
44. NATO: geopolitical principles of creation and development.
45. Geopolitical expansion of NATO, main consequences.
46. Modern geostrategy of NATO.
47. Geopolitics and geoeconomics of Great Britain in Europe and in the regions of the world.
48. Brexit and its consequences for the EU.
49. Geostrategy of France in the international arena.
50. Geostrategy of united Germany in Europe.
51. The role of Germany in NATO and the EU.
52. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of Germany in the regions of the world.
53. Geoeconomic pragmatism of Italy, peculiarities of its geopolitics.
54. Switzerland and its place on the geopolitical map of the world.
55. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.
56. Geopolitical position of Ukraine. Problems of determining the foreign policy strategy of Ukraine after gaining independence.
57. Leading geopoliticians of Ukraine, their main ideas and visions.
58. Modern geostrategy of Ukraine in global geospace.
59. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of Ukraine in the post-Soviet space.

60. "Western" vector of Ukraine's foreign policy.
61. Ukraine's geostrategic vector for integration with NATO; ways of its implementation.
62. Geostrategic vector of Ukraine for integration with the EU; problems of practical implementation.
63. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of Ukraine in the Black Sea region. Ukraine's participation in BSEC.
64. Geoeconomic interests of Ukraine in Asia, Africa, Latin America.
65. Geopolitical position of the People's Republic of China. Geostrategy of the People's Republic of China in the modern world.
66. The concept of "Greater China".
67. Geopolitical and geoeconomic aspects of relations between the People's Republic of China and the USA.
68. Geo-economic interests of the PRC in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.
69. Geostrategy of Japan.
70. Relations between Japan and China.
71. Geoeconomic strategy of Japan in the Asia-Pacific region.
72. Geoeconomic role of the Republic of Korea in the world and Asia Pacific.
73. Regional geopolitical "power center" in Southeast Asia.
74. Geoeconomic integration in ASEAN and the specifics of its implementation.
75. Geoeconomic role of Singapore.
76. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of India in the world.
77. Relations between India and Pakistan.
78. Geopolitical and geoeconomic aspects of relations between India and China.
79. India's geostrategy in the Indian Ocean basin.
80. Pakistan as a "pole of power" in South Asia.
81. Geoeconomic potential of Iran.
82. Iran's geopolitical interests in the Persian Gulf, Transcaucasia, and Central Asia.
83. Geopolitics and geoeconomics of the states of the Persian Gulf basin.
84. Geopolitics of Turkey.
85. Turkey's geostrategic vector for EU integration.
86. The role of Turkey in the Black Sea region and the Middle East.
87. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of modern Israel.
88. Geopolitical situation on the African continent.
89. Geoeconomic interests of African countries. Regional integration in Africa.
90. The influence of Western countries on the geopolitical and geoeconomic space of Africa.
91. North Africa. Geopolitical and geoeconomic role of Egypt.
92. West and Central Africa: geopolitical interests of states.
93. East Africa: geopolitical and geoeconomic situation, interests of states.
94. Geopolitical and geoeconomic interests of South African countries.
95. Geopolitics and geoeconomics of South Africa.
96. Geopolitics and geoeconomics of Latin America. Integration processes in Latin America.
97. Geopolitical and geoeconomic situation in Mesoamerica.
98. Peculiarities of geopolitics and geoeconomics of Mexico.
99. Geopolitical and geoeconomic situation in South America.
100. Geostrategy of Brazil in the international arena.
101. Geopolitics and geoeconomics of Argentina and Chile.

102. The anti-American "axis" in the geopolitics and geoeconomics of certain Latin American states and the peculiarities of its formation.

103. Hot spots of the planet and their influence on the geopolitical structure of the modern world.

VI. Rating scale

7th semester

A scale for evaluating the knowledge of education seekers on educational components, where the form of control is credit

Scores	Linguistic Grade
90-100	Passed
82-89	
75-81	
67-74	
60-66	
1-59	Fail (needed to retake)

8th semester

A scale for evaluating the knowledge of education seekers on educational components, where the form of control is exam

Scores	Linguistic Grade	ECTS Grading Scale	
		Grade	Definition
90-100	Excellent	A	outstanding performance
82-89	Very good	B	above the average standard
75-81	Good	C	generally sound work
67-74	Satisfactory	D	not bad
60-66	Sufficiently	E	performance meets the minimum criteria
1-59	Fail	Fx	needed to retake

VII. Recommended Literature and Internet Resources

1. Вегеш М., Палінчак М., Петрінко В. *Геополітика в поняттях і термінах: підручник для студентів та аспірантів спеціальні " Політологія".* Ужгород: Видавничий дім "Гельветика", 2020. 786 с.
2. Дністрянський М. С. *Загострення геополітичних взаємин у період постмодерну та становище України : монографія.* Львів : ЛНУ імені Івана Франка, 2021. 154 с.
3. Закономірності функціонування глобальної економіки. URL: [http : // www.helpiks.org/4-19769.html](http://www.helpiks.org/4-19769.html). (дата звернення: 04.07.2022)
4. Мирослав Дністрянський, Галина Копачинська, Наталія Дністрянська *Проблеми нерегульованості політичного статусу територій як чинник поглиблення суперечностей у міжнародних відносинах. Наукові записки Тернопільського національного педагогічного університету імені Володимира Гнатюка. Серія:*

- географія*. Том 51, № 2 (2021). С: 74-81 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25128/2519-4577.21.2>
URL: <http://nzg.tnpu.edu.ua/issue/view/14796>
5. Незалежний аналітичний центр геополітичних досліджень «Борисфен Інтел» URL: <https://bintel.org.ua/> (дата звернення: 04.07.2022)
 6. Jeremy Black. *Why geopolitics matters*. URL: <https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/01/why-geopolitics-matters/> (date of application: 04.09.2022)
 7. Geopolitics: Definition, Foundations & Example URL: <https://study.com/academy/lesson/geopolitics-definition-foundations-example.html> (date of application: 04.09.2022)
 8. Kopachinska G. Geopolitical view of Ukraine: History of development and specifics of its current transformation. *Quaestiones Geographicae* 40(4), Bogucki Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Poznań, 2021 pp. 47–62. 4 tables. DOI: 10.2478/quageo-2021-0037 URL: <https://sciendo.com/issue/QUAGEO/40/4> (Scopus+WoS)
 9. Myroslav Dnistrianskyi, Galina Kopachinska, Nataliia Dnistrianska. Modern conflicts regarding the political status of territories: typological differences, features of spread and prospects for resolution. *Bulletin of Geography. Socio-economic Series*. No. 57 (2022). P: 113-123 Doi: <http://doi.org/10.12775/bgss-2022-0026> URL: <https://apcz.umk.pl/BGSS/article/view/34379/32895> (Scopus+WoS)
 10. Natalia Kotsan, Galina Kopachinska, Yevheniia Vozniuk, Roman Kotsan Basic models of protection and functioning of the Ukrainian border in modern geopolitical realities: a view from Ukraine. *European Spatial Research and Policy* Vol. 29, Number 1 (2022) P: 79-96. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18778/1231-1952.29.1.04> URL: <https://czasopisma.uni.lodz.pl/esrap/article/view/9908> (Scopus+WoS)
 11. Roman Kotsan, Natalia Kotsan, Galina Kopachinska, Yevheniia Vozniuk Transformation of Ukrainian-Polish border regions: experience of Ukraine *Forum Geographic* Vol. 21, Issue 1. 2022 P: 92-101. DOI: 10.5775/fg.2022.071.i URL: <http://forumgeografic.ro/> (Scopus)