

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine  
**Lesya Ukrainka Volyn National University**  
**International Relations Faculty**  
**International Relations and Regional Studies Department**

**SYLLABUS**

of a normative academic component

**“METHODOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS RESEARCH”**

**Bachelor training**

**Specialty 291 «International Relations, Public Communications and Regional  
Studies»**

**Educational and professional programme «International Relations»**

Lutsk 2023

The syllabus of academic component «Methodology of International Relations Research», Education Level Bachelor, Field of Knowledge 029 International Relations, specialty 291 «International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies», Educational and professional programme «International Relations».

**Developer :** PhD in Economics, associate professor Oksana Pikulyk

**Approved**

by the Guarantor of Education and Professional Programme:



assoc. prof. Yevheniia Voznyuk

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

Protocol № 1 of August 31, 2023

The Head of the Department:



Prof. Natalia Kotsan

## I. THE DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMIC COMPONENT

Indicator Name	Field of knowledge, specialty, educational and professional programme, education level	Characteristics of academic component
<b>Full-time form of education</b>	029 «International Relations»  291 «International Relations, Public Communication and Regional Studies»  «International Relations»  bachelor	<b>Normative</b>
<b>Number of hours / credits</b> <b>150/5</b>		<b>Year of study – 3.</b>
		<b>Semester – 6.</b>
<b>Individual Student's Work:</b> no		<b>Lectures – 36 hours</b>
		<b>Seminars – 40 hours</b>
		<b>Independent work – 64 hours</b>
		<b>Consultations – 10 hours</b>
		<b>Form of control:</b> Exam
<b>Language of study</b>		<b>English</b>

## II. INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

**Name** Oksana Pikulyk

**Scientific Degree** PhD in Economics

**Academic Title** associate professor

**Title** Associate Professor of the Department of International Relations and Regional Studies

**Contacts** [Pikulyk.oksana@vnu.edu.ua](mailto:Pikulyk.oksana@vnu.edu.ua) 0504380466.

**Days classes** <http://94.130.69.82/cgi-bin/timetable.cgi>

## III. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACADEMIC COMPONENT

### 1. A Course abstract.

The course «Methodology of International Relations Research» covers theoretical knowledge of the basic approaches, concepts and methods of international relations research, features and specifics of the application of individual methods in the study of international relations.

### 2. Goal and tasks of the academic component

The purpose of the course is to study the the basic approaches, and methods of international relations research.

The main **tasks** of the course are to study the conceptual and terminological apparatus, basic approaches, concepts of international relations research, the quantitative and qualitative methodology and methods, general and specific scientific methods, features and specifics of the application of individual methods in the study of international relations.

### 3. Learning outcomes (Competencies).

	Effects	Criterion code
<b>General Competences</b>	The ability to learn and master modern knowledge	<i>GC3</i>
	Knowledge and understanding of the subject area and understanding of professional activity.	<i>GC4</i>
	The ability to generate new ideas (creativity).	<i>GC6</i>
	The ability to apply knowledge in practical situations.	<i>GC7</i>
	The ability to abstract thinking, analysis and synthesis.	<i>GC8</i>
	The ability to communicate the national language both orally and in writing form	<i>GC10</i>
	The ability to search, process and analyze information from various sources.	<i>GC12</i>
	Effects	Criterion code
<b>Special (professional) competencies</b>	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.	SC1
	The ability to assess the state and directions of research in international relations and world politics in political, economic, legal sciences, in interdisciplinary studies.	SC3
	The ability to solve complex specialized tasks and practical problems in the field of interstate relations, states foreign policy, public communications, regional studies	SC4
	The ability to carry out communication and information-analytical activities in the field of international relations (in Ukrainian and foreign languages).	SC12
	<b>Effects</b>	<b>Criterion code</b>

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	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	LO01
	To carry out a description and analysis of the international situation, to collect from various sources the necessary information about international and foreign political events and processes.	LO07
	To collect, process and analyze large volumes of information about the state of international relations, foreign policy of Ukraine and other states, regional systems, international communications.	LO08
	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.	LO11

#### 4. Structure of the academic component

Names of content modules and themes	Total	Lectures	Seminars	Independent student's work	Cons.	Form of control/grades
<b>Content Module 1. Theoretical and conceptual basis of the study of international relations.</b>						
Topic 1. The essence of the concept of research	10	2	2	5	1	DS/2
Topic 2. Research process	12	4	2	5	1	DS/2
Topic 3. Approaches to the study of international relations	12	2	4	5	1	DS/4
Topic 4. Basic theories of international relations	14	4	4	5	1	DS/4
Topic 5. Foreign policy analysis	11	2	2	6	1	DS/2
Total for module 1	59	14	14	26	5	14
<b>Content Module 2. Methodological foundations and methods of international relations research</b>						
Topic 6. Problems of method in international relations research	9	2	2	5		DS/2
Topic 7. General scientific methods in the study of international relations	13	4	4	5		DS/4
Topic 8. Methods of data collection	10	2	2	5	1	DS/2
Topic 9. The analysis of the documents. Explicative research methods in international relations	12	2	4	5	1	DS/4
Topic 10. SWOT Analysis in the study of international relations	14	4	4	5	1	DS/4

Topic 11. Mathematical and statistical methods in international relations research	13	4	4	5		DS/4
Topic 12. Modeling and forecasting in the study of international relations	9	2	2	4	1	DS/2
Topic 13. Publication of research results	11	2	4	4	1	DS/4
Total for module 2	91	22	26	38	5	26
Module control test						MKR/ 60
<b>Total hours :</b>	150	36	40	64	10	100

*Control methods: DS – discussion, DB – debate, T – tests, TR – training, PM/CM – problems/cases management, IST/ISW – individual task/individual work of the student, SGW – work in small groups, MTP/TP – module test paper/test paper, Ab – abstract, analytical note, analytical essay, analysis of the work.*

### 5. Tasks for independent work

Independent student's work involves in-depth study of issues related to the topics of lecture classes, study of recommended literature for preparation for seminar classes

#### Elements of the independent student's work

Elements of the independent student's work	Number of hours
reading literature for classes	20
carrying out research	20
data collection	3
data analysis and interpretation	5
execution of assignments and doing homework	10
preparation of a report / presentation	6
<b>Total</b>	64

## IV. EVALUATION POLICY

### The instructor's evaluation policy regarding the student.

- class attendance is mandatory;
- maximum number of permitted absences- 2;
- under the condition of important reasons (participation in scientific events, sick leave), training can take place according to an individual plan agreed with the teacher.

### Academic Integrity Policy.

- compliance with copyright law;
- zero tolerance for write-offs

### Deadlines and retaking policy.

Seminar classes are retaken if there are substantial reasons. Topics that are submitted in violation of deadlines without valid reasons are evaluated at a lower grade.

## **V. FINAL CONTROL**

If the final semester mark is at least 75 points, then with the student's consent, it can be counted as the final mark in the discipline. Otherwise, or if student want to increase the mark, the student passes the exam. In this case, the points obtained by the results of the module control work are canceled. The exam is conducted orally. The exam ticket includes 3 questions. The exam mark is determined in points (0 to 60) based on the results of the exam. In this case, the final semester mark is defined as the sum of the current semester control and exam mark.

### **EXAM QUESTIONS**

1. Meaning of research
2. Types of research
3. Descriptive and analytical research
4. Applied and fundamental research
5. Quantitative and qualitative research
6. Conceptual and empirical research
7. Research process
8. The Study of International Relations.
9. The Historical and Descriptive Approaches in the study of international relations.
10. The Analytical and Normative Approaches in the study of international relations.
11. The Scientific Approach in the study of international relations
12. Systems Approach to the Study of International Relations
13. Basic theories of International Relations.
14. The concept of Method and Methodology.
15. Classification of research methods.
16. Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods.
17. General scientific methods: analysis, synthesis .
18. Induction, deduction methods.
19. Comparing method.
20. Method of analogy.
21. Collection of Primary Data.
22. Observation Method.
23. Interview Method.
24. Collection of Data through Questionnaires.
25. Collection of Data through Schedules.
26. Collection of Secondary Data.
27. Analysis of the documents.

28. Content analysis.
29. Event analysis.
30. Cognitive mapping.
31. SWOT analysis as a method of research in international relations.
32. Experiment in the study of international relations.
33. Forecasting in the study of international relations.
34. Modeling of international relations.
35. Delphi method.
36. Mathematical and statistical methods in international relations research.
37. Methods of statistical data processing. Factor analysis and cluster analysis.
38. The role of computer in research.
39. Publication of research results.
40. Types of scientific publications.
41. Scientific monograph.
42. Scientific article.
43. Thesis of the scientific conference.
44. Scientific report.
45. Requirements for publications.

## VI. Grading Scale

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

1. Bojko E., Voronkova V., Nikitenko V. Methodology and organization of scientific researches in the field of social-humanitarian and behavioural sciences. Bojko Elena, Voronkova Valentyna, Nikitenko Vitalina. Гуманітарний вісник ЗДІА. 2018. Випуск 72. С.23-35.
2. John W. Creswell, J. David Creswell. Research Design. Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. SAGE Publications, 2022. 320 p.
3. Pikulyk O. B. Quantitative methods in international relations research. Сучасні аспекти науки, освіти, технологій та суспільства: збірник тез доповідей



- міжнародної науково-практичної конференції (Полтава, 14 квітня 2022 р.). Полтава: ЦФЕНД, 2022. С. 53-55
4. Бірта Г. О., Бургу Ю.Г. Методологія і організація наукових досліджень. [текст] : навч. посіб. К. : «Центр учбової літератури», 2014. 142 с.
  5. Евтушенко М., Хижняк М. Методологія та організація наукових досліджень: навч. посіб. Київ: Центр навчальної літератури, 2019. 350 с.
  6. Пікулик О.Б. Методи прогнозування в дослідженні міжнародних відносин. Актуальні проблеми науки, освіти і технологій: теорія і практика: збірник тез доповідей міжнародної науково-практичної конференції (Полтава, 8 лютого 2022 р.): у 2 ч. Полтава: ЦФЕНД, 2022. Ч. 2. С 47–49.
  7. Пікулик О.Б. Методологія досліджень міжнародних відносин : методичні рекомендації з освітнього компонента (англійською мовою). Луцьк : Волинський національний університет імені Лесі Українки, 2023. 40 с.
  8. Чмиленко Ф.О., Жук Л.П. Посібник до вивчення дисципліни «Методологія та організація наукових досліджень» Д.: РВВ ДНУ, 2014. 48 с.
  9. Швець Ф.Д. Методологія та організація наукових досліджень: навч. Посіб – Рівне НУВГП, 2016. 151 с.