

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

**SYLLABUS**  
of a normative academic component  
**"Politological aspects and modern tendencies of international relations"**

**Bachelor Training**

**Specialty 291 "International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies"**

**Education and professional programme "International Relations"**

**The syllabus of the academic component** "Politological aspects and modern tendencies of international relations", 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, Assoc. prof. Ilona Balak.

**Approved**

by the Guarantor of Education and Professional Programme:



Assoc. prof. Ilona Balak

**The syllabus of the academic component** "Politological aspects and modern tendencies of international relations" was approved at the meeting of the Department of International Relations and Regional Studies  
Protocol № 1 of August 30, 2024

The Head of the Department:



rof. Kotsan N. N.

## I. The description of academic component

Indicator Name	Field of knowledge, specialty, educational and professional programme, education level	Characteristics of academic component
Full-time form of education	29 «International Relations»  291 «International Relations, Public Communication and Regional Studies» «International Relations» bachelor	Normative
Number of hours / credits 150/5		Year of study 4
		Semester 8
		Lectures 30 hours
		Seminars 42 hours
		Independent work 68 hours
Individual Student’s Work: <u>no</u>		Consultations 10 hours
		Form of control: exam
Language of study		English

## II. Information about the instructor

**Name** Mrs Ilona Balak

**Scientific Degree** PhD in Economics

**Academic Title** Associate Professor

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

**Contacts** [Balak.Ilona@vnu.edu.ua](mailto:Balak.Ilona@vnu.edu.ua)

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

## III. Description of the academic component

### 1. A Course Abstract

The academic component "Political aspects and modern trends of international relations" covers the theoretical foundations of political science and the concepts of modern international relations, the problems of leveling the difference between the foreign and domestic policies of states, deals with the research of the development of democratization, globalization of the world, the emergence of prerequisites for the multi-vector nature of the international system. An important place in the structure of the course is occupied by the problems of international security, the formation of a new world order, the information influence of states on the implementation of international relations, as well as the features of modern integration and disintegration processes.

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

The aim of the academic component is to examine the theoretical foundations and concepts of international relations, problems difference decrease between foreign and domestic policy, explore development of democratization, globalization of the world, factors of multipolarity of the international system .

The main objectives of the course are:

-to analyze the essence of the modern system of international relations;

- to define the essence and give the own assessment of the multipolarities of modern international relations;
- to reveal the role of modern democratic processes in international relations;
- to analyze the state and current problems of international security;
- to comprehend the processes, perspectives and consequences of modern integration and disintegration processes;
- to argue their own views on the main contradictions of the forces of the Sea and Land.

### 3. Learning outcomes (competencies)

	<b>Effects</b>	<b>The corresponding criterion code</b>
<b>General competencies</b>	The ability to isolate characteristics and trends of development, to understand the nature, dynamics, principles of organization of international relations, public communication and/or regional studies.	<i>GC3</i>
	Knowledge and understanding of the subject area and understanding of professional activity	<i>GC4</i>
	The ability to work in an international context	<i>GC5</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>
	<b>Effects</b>	<b>The corresponding criterion code</b>
<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	<i>SC1</i>
	The ability to analyze international processes in various contexts, including political, security, legal, economic, social, cultural and informational ones	<i>SC2</i>
	The ability to solve complex specialized problems and practical problems in the field of international relations, foreign affairs policies of states, public communications, regional of research	<i>SC4</i>
	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	<i>SC5</i>
	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	<i>SC9</i>
	The ability to analyze the nature and evolution of international organizations, their place in the system of international relations, the main forms and prospects of Ukraine cooperation with them	<i>SC11</i>
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<b>Effects</b>	<b>The corresponding criterion code</b>

To know and understand the nature and dynamics of international security, to realize the peculiarities of its provision at the global, regional and national level, to know the nature and approaches to solving international and internationalized conflicts.	<i>LO02</i>
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.	<i>LO03</i>
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.	<i>LO04</i>
To know the nature and mechanisms of international communications.	<i>LO05</i>
To know the nature and character of interactions of individual countries and regions at the global, regional and local levels.	<i>LO06</i>
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.	<i>LO07</i>
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.	<i>LO08</i>
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.	<i>LO13</i>
To have the skills of self-determination in educational goals and learning, finding educational resources necessary for their achievement.	<i>LO17</i>

#### 4. Structure of the academic component

Name of the content module and topic	Total	Lectures	Seminars	Independent student's work	Consultations	Form of control / Grades
<b>Content Module 1. Politological aspects of international relations</b>						
<b>Topic 1.</b> Political teachings during the days of the Ancient World	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 2.</b> Political thought during the Renaissance and Modern times	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 3.</b> Political opinion in Ukraine	7	2	–	3	2	
<b>Topic 4.</b> Concepts, types and functions of politics	5	–	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 5.</b> Political power as a social phenomenon	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2

<b>Topic 6.</b> The political system of society	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 7.</b> Political ideologies	7	2	–	3	2	
<b>Topic 8.</b> Political elites and political leadership	5	–	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 9.</b> The state as a political institution	5	–	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 10.</b> Political regimes and their types	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 11.</b> Political parties and party systems	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 12.</b> Elections and electoral systems	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 13.</b> Civil society	7	2	2	3	–	DS/2
Total for Module 1	85	20	22	39	4	22
<b>Content Module 2. Modern tendencies of international relations.</b>						
<b>Topic 14.</b> Blurring of boundaries between domestic and foreign policy.	4	–	2	2	–	DS/1
<b>Topic 15.</b> Democratization of modern international relations.	7	2	2	3	–	DS/1
<b>Topic 16.</b> Multipolarity of modern international relations.	4	–	2	2	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 17.</b> International security in international relations	5	–	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 18.</b> Modern world and international order.	4	–	2	2	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 19.</b> The role of information in modern international relations.	4	2	–	2	–	
<b>Topic 20.</b> The phenomenon of economic, social and political integration and disintegration in modern international relations.	5	–	2	3	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 21.</b> Globalization of international relations.	4	–	2	2	–	DS/2
<b>Topic 22.</b> Planetary dualism in modern international relations.	4	2	–	2	–	
<b>Topic 23.</b> Digital revolution and modern international relations	7	–	2	3	2	DS/2
<b>Topic 24.</b> The influence of environmental changes, emergency situations and pandemics on the development of international relations.	8	2	2	2	2	DS/2
<b>Topic 25.</b> Ukraine in modern international relations	9	2	2	3	2	DS/2
Total for Module 2	65	10	20	29	6	18
<b>Final works</b>						<b>Grades</b>
<b>Module Test Paper</b>						MTP/60
<b>Total hours / Grades</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

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.

Elements of the independent student's work	Number of hours
reading literature for classes	24
constant review of the press and other media	24
final test	10
final exam	10

Elements of the independent student's work	Number of hours
<b>Total number of hours</b>	68

#### IV. Evaluation Policy

**The instructor's evaluation policy related to the student.** The answers to the questions should be based on the student's own vision of the problem, if the results of other people's researches are used, its' authors and sources should be indicated. Communication during classes should be based solely on respect for respondents, regardless of age, gender, religion, race, political views. If on-line learning is held, students must use with the video mode.

**Academic integrity policy.** Zero write-off tolerance threshold.

**Deadlines and retaking policy.** Delays can occur if they are not regular and do not interfere with the lesson. Omissions of seminars with the possibility of working off are allowed in case of a student's illness. Maximum number of spaces allowed without justification causes – 3 testing are possible in a team discipline platform Microsoft Teams in the form of photos, videos, presentations.

#### V. Final Control

While performing the tasks of the current assessment, the student is able to get 40 points, and, having written appropriate modular tests, – another 60 points. The total amount of points a student can receive during the study of this discipline is 100 points.

If the final semester score is not less than 75 points, then, with the consent of the student, it can be counted as the final score of the discipline. In the opposite case the student passes the exam. At the same time, the points scored on the results of modular control works are canceled. The examination score is determined in scores (from 0 to 60) based on the results of the examination tasks. Modul test for the semester: 45 minutes, 30 questions.

#### The questions for the exam

1. Political teachings in the period of the Ancient East
2. Political teachings in Ancient China (Lao Tzu, Confucius, Shang Yang, Mo Tzu)
3. Political teachings in Ancient India ("Laws of Manu", "Arthashastra")
4. Political teachings in Ancient Greece (Plato, Aristotle)
5. Political teachings in Ancient Rome (Cicero, Marcus Aurelius)
6. Political teachings in Antiquity
7. Political teachings during the European Renaissance (T. More, T. Campanella, N. Machiavelli, J. Boden)
8. Political teachings in England in the 17th-19th centuries (T. Hobbes, J. Locke, I. Bentham)
9. Political teachings in France in the 18th - 19th centuries (S.-L. Montesquieu, J.-J. Rousseau, A. de Tocqueville)
10. Political teachings in Germany in the 18th and 19th centuries (I Kant, G Hegel)
11. Political thought during the days of Kyivan Rus ("Ruska pravda" by Yaroslav the Wise, the political content of "The Lesson" by Volodymyr Monomakh)
12. Political thought of Ukraine in the Lithuanian-Polish and Polish-Cossack era (S. Orikhovskyi-Roksolan, I. Vyshenskyi, "Constitution" by P. Orlyk)
13. Political opinion of Ukraine in the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries
14. Political opinion of members of the Cyril and Methodius Society (M. Kostomarov, T. Shevchenko)

15. Political ideas of I. Franko
16. Political ideas of M. Drahomanov
17. Political ideas of M. Hrushevskyi
18. Political ideas of V. Vinnichenko
19. Theoretical origins of the concept of "politics" (Plato, Aristotle, M. Weber)
20. Politics as policy, politics and polity
21. Types of politics, subjects and functions of politics
22. Directive, functional, communicative understanding of types of politics
23. Social, institutional and functional subjects of politics
24. Functions of politics: management, integration, definition of goals, socialization
25. Concepts and types of power
26. Concepts of political power (relational, teleological, systemic, behavioral)
27. Approaches to explaining the nature of power (biological, anthropological, political)
28. Signs of political power
29. Functions of political power
30. Resources of political power
31. Concept of resources of political power
32. Mechanisms of implementation of political power
33. Concept of political system
34. Structure of the political system
35. Functions of the political system
36. Concepts of the political system (D. Easton, G. Almond)
37. Typologies of political systems by H. Almond
38. The political system of modern Ukraine
39. Political ideology of liberalism
40. Political ideology of conservatism
41. Political ideology of communism
42. Political ideology of social democracy
43. Political ideology of nationalism
44. Political elites
45. Political leadership
46. State: concepts and signs
47. State system
48. Forms of state government
49. Concept of political regime
50. Democratic political regime
51. Authoritarian political regime (concepts, signs)
52. Totalitarian political regime
53. Concepts, functions and typologies of political parties
54. Party systems
55. Concept of elections
56. Democratic principles of elections
57. Concepts and types of electoral systems
58. The electoral system of modern Ukraine
59. Concept and principles of functioning of civil society



60. Public organizations and movements in the structure of civil society
61. Internal, external, international policy.
62. Henry Kissinger's approach. Consensus and tolerance.
63. Connections of James Roseno.
64. Penetrative systems of Wolfram Hanrider.
65. Reasons and principles of transformation of internal political factors.
66. The concept and problems of democratization.
67. Models of transition from authoritarianism to democracy.
68. Democracy as the main model of the world socio-political system.
69. Factors of democratization of international relations.
70. Cultural identity as an obstacle to global democratization.
71. Other restraining factors of democratization. Prospects for democratization.
72. Monopolarity, bipolarity, multipolarity, nonpolarity, devolution as models of the structure of the system of international relations.
73. Historical stages of the formation of the multipolar system.
74. Rules of functioning of the multipolar system of international relations (according to M. Kaplan.).
75. Prospects for the functioning of the multipolar world socio-political system in the 21st century.
76. System of international security. Effectiveness factors of the international security system.
77. Types of international security. Objects and subjects of international security. Principles of international security.
78. Functional areas of the international security system.
79. The main factors of conflicts in the modern world.
80. Global problems of humanity - threats to security. Challenges and threats to international security. Political, technogenic, natural, demographic threats.
81. Collective security. The United Nations is a universal system of collective security.
82. Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
83. Hybrid war as a new form of destruction of the modern system of international security.
84. The central problem of international relations. Concepts of "world order" interpretation. Realistic, socio-constructive and institutional approaches.
85. International and world order. Moral principles and the real essence of the modern world order.
86. Necessity and expediency of developing a new model of the international order.
87. Consolidation of new elements in the rules of behavior between states within the modern international order.
88. The growth of individual and group influence on the entire system of the international world order.
89. International information in the system of international relations. Sources, distribution channels.
90. Information policy of international organizations.
91. Information activities of the UN. UNESCO.
92. European information policy.

93. Information policy and information system of NATO.
94. Information concept of the OSCE.
95. Information policy of CEI.
96. National information policy: essence and practical implementation in different states.
97. Ukraine in the global information space.
98. Information security in modern international relations.
99. Management of information flows. Traditional means of mass communication.
100. Media diplomacy. Virtual diplomacy.
101. Global news agencies. Mass media in Ukraine.
102. International information resources of scientific and information activities.
103. Information provision of the political system of international relations.
104. The role of integration processes in international relations. Types and levels of integration.
105. International and regional integration associations.
106. The EU as an example of economic and partly political integration.
107. The main causes of modern disintegration processes in the globalized world.
108. Types and manifestations of disintegration due to internal and external causes.
109. Problems of Great Britain leaving the EU: procedure and consequences.
110. History of origin, the essence and stages of globalization.
111. The process of globalization in international relations. Determinants of globalization.
112. The process of localization in modern international relations. Advantages of globalization.
113. The influence of globalization on the formation of international policy and on the practice of its implementation.
114. Globalization processes and their impact on national economies.
115. A structural approach to the formation of the foreign economic strategy of the state in the conditions of globalization.
116. The concept of sea power A. Mehen.
117. Planetary dualism and the "geographic axis of history" in Mackinder's concept.
118. Planetary dualism in the works of Vidal de Blanche and Nicholas Speakman.
119. Concepts of Karl Haushofer and Karl Schmitt.
120. The evolution of the modern geohistorical phase of planetary dualism as a way of realizing the main contradiction between the forces of Land and Sea.

## 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

## VI. Recommended references

1. Історія політичної думки: підручник / за заг. ред. Н. М. Хоми. Львів: «Новий Світ – 2000», 2016. 1000 с.
2. Кузь О. М. "Європа регіонів" як ідентичний проект / О. М. Кузь. *Політико-правова ментальність українського соціуму в умовах європейської інтеграції* : монографія / [О. О. Безрук, В. С. Бліхар, Л. М. Герасіна та ін.] ; за ред. М. П. Требіна. Харків : Право, 2019. С. 149–165.
3. Міжнародні відносини та світова політика: навчальний посібник / О. М. Кузь, Д. С. Коротков, Д. Ю. Михайличенко, О. В. Бровко ; за заг. ред. д-ра філос. наук, професора О. М. Кузя. Харків : ХНЕУ ім. С. Кузнеця, 2020. 201 с.
4. Політологія: Навчальний посібник . Вид. 3-е, доп. Тернопіль: ТНЕУ, 2018. 224 с
5. Політологія: навчально-методичний посібник (у схемах і таблицях) / за наук. ред. проф. В. С. Бліхара. Львів: ПП «Арал», 2018. 540 с.
6. Теорія міжнародних відносин. Міжнародні відносини та світова політика : навч. посіб. / М. П. Требін, Л. М. Герасіна, В. Л. Погрібна та ін. Харків: Право, 2016. 540 с.
7. Balak I., Pikulyk O. Modern tendencies of the international relations. *Actual problems of regional researches: materials V International. scientific-practical Internet conference* (Lutsk, December 11, 2020). Lutsk, 2020. P. 202–204.
8. Dontoh M. E., Balak I. O. Modern Angola's foreign policy. *Актуальні проблеми регіональних досліджень*: матеріали IV Міжнар. наук.-практ. інтернет-конференції (Луцьк, 12–13 грудня 2019 р.) / за ред. В. Й. Лажніка. Луцьк: Вежа-Друк, 2019. С. 239–241.
9. European Union. URL: <https://europa.eu/>
10. McGlinchey S. International Relations. URL: <http://www.e-ir.info>
11. Nambili L. N., Balak I. O. Namibia's foreign trade policy by goods and services. *Актуальні проблеми регіональних досліджень*: матеріали IV Міжнар. наук.-практ. інтернет-конференції (Луцьк, 12–13 грудня 2019 р.) / за ред. В. Й. Лажніка. Луцьк: Вежа-Друк, 2019. С. 293–296.