

30141 - The world today

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 30141 - The world today

Faculty / School: 179 - Centro Universitario de la Defensa - Zaragoza

Degree: 563 - Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Organisational Engineering

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 4

Semester: Second semester

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

The subject and its expected results respond to the following approaches and objectives:

- To know the main political, social, cultural, economic and scientific phenomena that have shaped and moulded today's world.
- To know the origins and characteristics of the current world order, as well as its possible consequences and lessons that can be deduced.
- To differentiate the structures, units of power and typology of conflicts in today's world.
- To identify the main geopolitical theories.
- To understand the evolution of the missions of the Spanish Armed Forces (FAS).
- Defence Profile: These approaches and objectives are aligned with all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), in such a way that the acquisition of the learning results of the subject provides training and knowledge, skills and competencies to contribute to some extent to their achievement.

2. Learning results

1. To understand the evolution of conflict and international collaboration since 1945.
2. To understand the evolution of the economy, technology and the main political, social and cultural phenomena since 1945.
3. To become familiar with the basics of contemporary Geopolitics and Polemology, their evolution and current trends.
4. To identify the main areas of geopolitical interest for Spain, the European Union and the Atlantic Alliance.
5. To become familiar with the conflict and geopolitical environment in the areas where our Armed Forces participate in international missions.

3. Syllabus

INTRODUCTION

- Unit 0: Notions of geopolitics.

PART I: THE COLD WAR WORLD

- Unit 1: An interpretive guide to the Cold War world.
- Unit 2: The unfolding of the Cold War (1945-53).
- Unit 3: The heyday of the bipolar world (1953-62).
- Unit 4: The "Development" era (1945-60).

- Unit 5: Erosion of the bipolar order and effervescence in the Third World (1962-71).
- Unit 6: The "Distension" (1971-80).
- Unit 7: A world in transition (1970-1980).
- Unit 8: The end of the Cold War (1981-1991).

PART II: THE PRESENT WORLD

- Unit 9: Global order and war since 1991: an interpretive guide.
- Unit 10: The unipolar moment (1991-2001).
- Unit 11: The erosion of the unipolar order (2001-08).
- Unit 12: The emergence of a new world order (2009-16).
- Topic 13: A convulsive world (2017-23).
- Topic 14: Neoliberal globalization, resource geopolitics and the Internet era.
- Unit 15: The cracks of the globalized world.

4. Academic activities

- **Expository teaching:** sessions of development of the content of the subject.
- **Practical Exercises:** written essays in the classroom from the required readings and classroom discussions and debates.
- **Global Observatory:** written and/or oral work on the current affairs of a geopolitical area or actor.
- **Exam:** theoretical test of the contents of the subject based on the study of the required readings.
- **Personal study and work; tutoring.**

5. Assessment system

FIRST CALL

Continuous assessment

1. Practical activity (60% of the final grade):

1.1. One or more written Practical Exercises (45%)

1.2. Global Observatory written and/or oral (15%).

2. Exam (40% of the final grade): the questions will be open-ended and the answers must include developed arguments with the appropriate historical references.

Overall Test

Students who do not pass the subject by continuous evaluation or who would like to improve their grade, will have the right to take the overall test set in the academic calendar, prevailing, in any case, the best of the grades obtained. The questions will be of an open type and the answers should include developed arguments with the due historical references. This global test will have a 100% weight in the final grade. The minimum passing grade required for it is 5.00.

SECOND CALL

Students who do not pass the subject in the first call may sit for a global test set in the academic calendar for the second call. It will have a weight of 100%. The questions will be of an open type and the answers should develop arguments with the appropriate historical references. The minimum passing grade required for it is 5.00.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

They are established on the basis of the learning results of the subject.

In order to pass the subject, students must obtain an overall grade equal to or higher than 5.00 after completing all the evaluation instruments.

INSTRUMENTS VS. LEARNING RESULTS (RA)

Assessment instruments:	Weighting	RA-1	LR-2.	LR-3.	LR-4.	LR-5.
Practical Exercises	45%	X	X	X		

Observatory Global	15%			X	X	X
Exam	40%	X	X	X	X	X