

**ISTINYE UNIVERSITY**

**INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (WITH THESIS)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER**

**International Relations Theories**

This course aims to teach the theories formed in International Relations literature; realism, neo-realism, behaviorism, critical theory, etc... Along with geopolitical theories and the course also offers explanations to contemporary international events within the framework of the theories mentioned.

**Turkish Modernization**

This course will examine the modernization efforts starting from the Tulip Era; post-Mahmud II westernization and modernization movements. 1876 and 1908 constitutional movements of the Ottoman Empire, Second Constitutional Era, Republican Era's modernization will be analyzed within the political and socio-economical framework.

**Research Methods And Ethics**

In this course; the scope of scientific research, the basics of conducting a research, access to scientific knowledge, data collection methods, reading and understanding scientific texts, data analysis, preparing research reports, scientific ethics and hampering non-ethical acts will be presented.

**2<sup>nd</sup> SEMESTER**

**International Law And Contemporary Disputes**

The roots and development of international law will be analyzed in historical course. Contemporary disputes will not only be analyzed within the framework of international law and philosophy but also the serious reflections and effects to the sub-branches of international law will be examined. By taking this framework into consideration, regarding the use of force, environmental law, maritime law, human rights and law of treaties' rules, applications and proposals faced certain challenges as reviews and even rethinking. In this course, such concepts and traditional international law fields will be evaluated by forming connections with the contemporary disputes.

### **Political Sociology**

This course will explain the definition(s) of politics and state sociology. By addressing the classical state approaches, post-19th century state, society and political relations will be covered. Evolution of society as a result of the birth of modern state, industrial revolution and development of capitalism will be examined along with the concepts of harmonious and conflicting society

### **Turkish Foreign Policy**

The course will cover the formation of Turkish foreign policy through historical process and analytical examination of the historical process. The changes and the evolution of Turkish foreign policy in Ottoman and Republican era will be investigated theoretically and analytically.

### **Seminar**

The course aims to encourage students to choose their thesis topic, performing a literature review on the subject chosen and forming a research question(s) for their thesis

### **ELECTIVE COURSES**

#### **Global Terrorism And Politics Of Violence**

In the post-Cold War period, as a result of extreme turmoil in international system, many social organizations resorted to violence in order to achieve their goals and this tendency leads, inevitably to further uncertainties at national, regional and international level. In this graduate course, that phenomenon will be profoundly examined in academic framework.

#### **Theories Of Nationalism**

This course, designed for International Relations students for graduate level covers, primarily, the conceptual development of nationalism in spatial and temporal context with an interdisciplinary approach to social sciences. Secondly, the focus of course will be on specific cases, which could constitute examples of various nationalist currents at national, regional and global scale.

#### **Theories Of State**

In this course, after examining the emergence of State in Ancient Greek and roman era, we will focus on State in Middle Ages. Subsequently, what would be studied is modern political ideas and Enlightenment that appeared in the course of transition from feudal to modern epoch and then, lastly, discussion will be focused on the current issues related to State and its critics.

### **Comparative Political Systems**

This course will mainly focus on comparative political method, different approaches in comparative politics, development and structure of nation state, different government types, democracy's distinctive features, political culture, electoral system, party systems, interest groups and political participation, secularization process, civil society and social movements.

### **Turkish Constitutional Movement History**

Constitutional movement in Turkey will be examined with specific references to the historical process of constitutionalism. It will analyze the constitutional documents of the Ottoman period, as well as different constitutions during the Republican period. The 1982 Constitution and the other constitutions in the Republican Period (1924 Constitution and 1961 Constitution) will be compared. The relationship between the need for the limitation of state power and the notion of constitutionalism will be discussed.

### **Current Issues In The Middle East**

It will be argued that the end of dictatorial regimes which have resulted in changing governments and political structures in the Middle East after the Arab Spring. In this respect, how social developments in Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Iraq, Yemen, Egypt and Syria will affect politics will be examined. In addition, the Palestinian-Israeli affairs will also be examined in this course.

### **Post-Cold War Asia-Pacific Politics**

The Cold War process and period politics that emerged after the Second World War will be examined. After the collapse of the Eastern Bloc, the battle of sovereignty in the Pacific Ocean, one of the political and military tensions between the US and China, will be discussed by explaining the significance of contemporary Asian politics. The political situation in Japan will be analyzed by India and South Korea, which grew up in Asia-Pacific, where South Korea, China, Russia and North Korea showed military strength.

### **Current Political Situation In Central Asia And The World**

In this course, the historical political and economic process in Central Asia will be studied. In this context, the political situation in Central Asia and the developments in the economy will be examined under Tsarist Russia and USSR administration. Then the structure of the independent states starting with the dissolution of the USSR under the nation state structure and the problems created by the nation state in Central Asia will be examined.

### **International Organizations And Current Issues**

International organizations, international law, international political organizations will be explained. We will examine the functioning of important institutions and organizations in the World. In this context, Concert of Europe, NATO, UN and the EU will be subject of the course. In the twenty-first century, the political and social problems facing international organizations will be examined.

### **Globalization And Cyber Security Policy**

Globalization and global policies will be analyzed. In addition to these problems, basic concepts related to cyberspace and cybersecurity, cybercrime, information law, computer law and cyber-law, forensic investigations and information technology, security and control of information, Computer and network security, cyber war, politics and energy security will be examined in this course.

### **Russian Foreign Policy And Regional Effects**

The historical evolution of Russian foreign policy will be discussed in this course by analyzing Russian history. The founding of the USSR and its communist policy, influential actors in the functioning of foreign policy, and the continuity and changes of Soviet foreign policy will be examined. The period after the Second World War will focus on relations between the USSR and the United States. The foreign policy of Russia after the dissolution of the USSR will be the main subject of this course. Crimea, Georgia, Ukraine, the Syrian crisis will be examined.

### **Usa Foreign Policy And Change In Power Balances**

The historical evolution of the US foreign policy will be discussed within the context of this course. The US political system, the actors influencing the construction of foreign policy, and the continuity and change in the US foreign policy. The post-World War II period will focus on USSR and US relations. In the aftermath of dissolution of the USSR, the US foreign policy will be the main topic of this course and in this context the effects on the Gulf War, Arab Spring and the Middle East will be examined.

### **History Of Diplomacy**

Evolution and change of the diplomacy will be discussed in the historical process. In this context, terms such as Power Balance, Concerts of Europe, Secret Agreements and Open Diplomacy will be discussed. The transition from the traditional diplomacy to the modern diplomacy will be examined.

### **Religion And Modernity**

The influence of religion on politics in the historical process and the emergence of religion in politics that has come up will be discussed in this course. The influence of religion on politics after the 1950s and the rise of religious politics on postmodern life will be principal topic of the course.

### **Balkans And Turkey**

In this course, the Balkan states of Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Turkey and ex-Yugoslav state of politics, history, demographic, social and economic structure will be examined. The current political and economic situation of the Balkan countries will be addressed. The post-Cold War political and economic situation of the Balkan countries will be discussed.