

# Teaching guide

## IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Degree:	International Relations		
Field of Knowledge:	Social and Legal Science		
Faculty/School:	Law, Business and Governance		
Course:	TODAY'S WORLD II: MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARABIC WORLD		
Type:	Compulsory	ECTS credits:	6
Year:	1	Code:	7017
Teaching period:	Second semester		
Area:	Geopolitics and Today's World		
Module:	Foundations for a Theory of International Relations		
Teaching type:	Classroom-based		
Language:	English		
Total number of student study hours:	150		

## SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

This course offers a comprehensive programme of study on the Middle East. It examines the history of this region from a diachronic and theoretical perspective. It is designed to help place current events in a historical context and to identify different theoretical frameworks of interpretation, while familiarising students with the resources needed to understand the complex reality of the Middle East. From a diachronic perspective, students learn about the main historical events in the region since the rise of Islam until today. From a theoretical perspective, the course emphasises the connection between past history and the problems and challenges of the present, the influence of religion, the role of local, regional and international agents and the centre-periphery dynamic that has helped to shape Middle Eastern policy and international relations.

## SKILLS

## Basic Skills

Students must have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in an area of study that is founded on general secondary education. Moreover, the area of study is typically at a level that includes certain aspects implying knowledge at the forefront of its field of study, albeit supported by advanced textbooks

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and possess skills that can typically be demonstrated by coming up with and sustaining arguments and solving problems within their field of study

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) in order to make judgments that include reflections on pertinent social, scientific or ethical issues

Students must be able to convey information, ideas, problems and solutions to both an expert and non-expert audience

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of independence

## General Skills

To acquire critical, analytical, synthetic, reflective, theoretical and practical thought to be able to understand, analyse, interpret and rigorously and independently sum up international reality from a multidisciplinary standpoint.

To acquire the ability to consider and creatively respond to the essential questions as to the whys and wherefores, and the consequences of human, social, political and economic events of global society.

To acquire the ability to present and discuss conflicting ideas, thereby generating meeting forums for individuals or social groups from different countries and cultures.

To understand and analyse the international reality from the standpoint of respect and protecting democracy, human rights, cultural diversity and the values of equality, justice and solidarity. To be able to take part in discussions on current affairs, based on knowledge of international relations and an analysis of today's world.

To suitably use all possible sources that make it possible to be familiar with the international reality in the historical, political, economic, legal and social spheres, in all formats, in order to organise and plan the study and analysis of the international reality.

## Specific skills

To be familiar with and assess the role of the media with regard to the international reality and their influence on public opinion.

To be familiar with and interpret information on international current affairs in all media.

To analyse human problems associated with conflicts, disasters and inequalities, and to exercise mediation duties.

To acquire the ability to express oneself fluently and effectively in Spanish and English, to analyse and study the various processes involved in international relations.

To understand and analyse decision-making in foreign policy in the main Middle Eastern and Arab states.

## DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TIME

CLASSROOM-BASED ACTIVITY	INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY
60 hours	90 hours