

## Global Learning Semesters

### Course Syllabus

Course: IREL-510 World Politics in the Twentieth Century

Department: International Relations

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
IREL-510	World Politics in the Twentieth Century	3.7
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Fall	42	None
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
International Relations	Upper Division	English

### Course Description

Balance of Power/Breakdown of the Congress System; The Origins of World War I; World War I; Post-War Settlements and the League of Nations; Transformation of Russia; The Interwar Period and the Rise of Fascism/Aggression in the 1930s; World War II; The Holocaust; Post-War Settlements; World Order and the United Nations; Imperialism and Decolonisation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; The Arab-Israeli Conflict; European Integration; The Cold War 1945-1962; The Cold War 1962-1984; Gorbachev's Reforms and the End of the Cold War; The Post-Cold War Era; 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### Instructor

Hubert Faustmann, PhD

### Course Aims and Objectives

Studying International Relations requires a solid knowledge of the main historical and political events that shaped the course of the last century. In dealing with those events, the changing nature of the international system during the twentieth century will be analysed. The course will start by examining the concept of the balance of power and how its breakdown led to World War I. The multidimensional repercussions of World War I will then be assessed, followed by the founding of the League of Nations. The expectations it raised as well as its failure will then be analysed before reviewing the factors that led to World War II. The focus will then turn to the Cold War which emerged from the ruins of World War II. The major conflicts of the period and how US-Soviet relations influenced their course will be discussed. The emergence of international institutions and alliances will also be examined. The course will also address the world system of the post-Cold War era. An outlook into the international system of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be attempted in the last session of the course.

This course will provide students with a systematic overview of the course of twentieth century history. Moreover, students will understand how events of the past still influence relations between states as well as the international system. They will also become familiar with various conceptual models relevant to various historical events (Balance of power, Realism, Idealism, Communism, Theories of Fascism, Cold War theories, Clash of Civilisations etc.)

### Teaching Methods

Lectures, student class presentations, discussions, assigned readings, student essays, video films.

### **Course Teaching Hours**

42 hours. The course is delivered during the Fall semester in 14-weeks (3 hours/week).

### **Evaluation and Grading**

Essay:	30%
Mid-Term Essay:	30%
Participation/Attendance:	10%
Final Exam:	30%

### **Readings and Resources**

#### **Required Textbooks**

- R. Goff/W. Moss/J. Terry/J.H. Upshur: The Twentieth Century. A Brief Global History.  
6<sup>th</sup> edition (Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2001)
- H. Kissinger: Diplomacy.(New York: Touchstone, 1994)

