

### Course Profile - Department of International Relations

Course Number : <b>POLS 431</b>	Course Title : <b>Central Asia and Caucasus in World Politics</b>						
Required / Elective : Elective	Pre / Co-requisites :						
Catalog Description: The Russian invasion to Caucasus and Central Asia; ethnic identity and national delimitations; the end of Tsarist Russia and revolutions; the emergence of USSR and its political design; Stalin period in Central Asia and Caucasus; the effects of Russo-Sino relations in Central Asia and Caucasus; the independence of Central Asian states; and its political implications.	Textbook / Required Material : Emilian Kavalski. (2010), <i>The New Central Asia The regional impact of International Actors</i> . New Jersey: World Scientific Pub.						
<b>Course Structure / Schedule : ( 3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS</b>							
<p>Extended Description :</p> <p>This course analyzes the history and politics of Central Asia and Caucasia. A series of introductory lectures shall focus on the historical background and strategic significance of the region for world politics. The revival of political Islam in the post-Soviet period, energy security and contemporary conflicts between the actors of the region with their diverging dimensions shall be amongst the main topics that are to be dealt within the framework of this course.</p>							
Design content : None	Computer usage: None						
<p><b>Course Outcomes:</b></p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a broad understanding of international conflicts and follow the post-conflict process.</li> <li>• Explain the ethnic, political and cultural conditions of the Central Asian and Caucasian societies.</li> <li>• Differentiate the politics of the states during the USSR period and after the dissolution.</li> <li>• Compare and contrast the differences between Central Asia and the Caucasus.</li> <li>• Point out the contemporary problems of the region and prospective solutions.</li> </ul>							
<p>Teaching methods:</p> <p>Lectures with slides and mind-maps; discussions; movies related to the subject.</p>							
<p>Assessment methods:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Final exam</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">50 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Class participation</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">20 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Quizzes, Take-Home Essay, Remark papers</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">30 %</td> </tr> </table>		Final exam	50 %	Class participation	20 %	Quizzes, Take-Home Essay, Remark papers	30 %
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Contribution of Course Learning Outcomes to Program Outcomes							
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 60%;">Program Outcomes</td> <td style="width: 30%;">*Level of</td> </tr> </table>		Program Outcomes	*Level of				
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		Contribution				
		1	2	3	4	5
IR1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of International Relations and be able to apply them to historical and current events				x	
IR2	Understand the historical processes of political structures and institutions					x
IR3	Be able to follow the world political conjuncture					x
IR4	Grasp the structures and functions of international/regional/intergovernmental organizations					
IR5	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects					x
IR6	Understand the international legal framework					
IR7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on international relations					
PS1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of Political Science and be able to apply them to historical and current events					
PS2	Understand the historical processes, structures, and functions of political institutions					
PS3	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects					
PS4	Understand the mechanisms of political change (such as voting, lobbying, political movements, legal reforms, revolution, etc.)					
PS5	Possess knowledge about those fundamental issues that shape political and societal life (such as race, gender, class, environment, security, religion, identity, etc.)					
PS6	Acknowledge that political phenomena can be explained differently by different schools of thought					
PS7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on politics					
8	Think independently, creatively, and critically					
9	Be an entrepreneur and take initiative					
10	Have self-confidence					
11	Have the ability to carry out systematic comparisons and rightly differentiate similarities and differences					x

12	Be open-minded and prepared to work together with people from different cultures and groups					
13	Be aware and a follower of social responsibilities as well as political rights and freedoms					
14	Internalize work ethics and behave accordingly					X
15	Be able to speak and deliver presentations in front of public				X	
16	Understand, read, and write in English					X
17	Have the ability to observe, analyze, and report				X	
18	Be able to implement the principles and methods of scientific research					
19	Understand and interpret statistical data					
20	Be prone to team work					
21	Possess computer and technological literacy			X		

\*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

**Student workload:**

Reading	71 hrs
Lectures	38 hrs
Class discussion	5 hrs
Writing assignments	30 hrs
Examinations (Quizzes and midterm)	6 hrs

**TOTAL ..... 150 hrs to match 25x6 ECTS**

Prepared by : Staff

Revision Date : 02.07.2013