

MASTER IN HISTORY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Main Language of Instruction:

French English Arabic

Campus Where the Program Is Offered: CSH

OBJECTIVES

The HRI Department offers a unique program centered on history and international relations. This program aims to train professionals and researchers specializing in international relations. The courses combine historical culture with a multidisciplinary approach to international relations, with a particular focus on the Middle East and its complex dynamics of integration and withdrawal, making it one of the world's most sensitive regions. Former heads of state and prominent figures from national and international politics are regularly invited to share their experiences with students.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (COMPETENCIES)

- Analyze and evaluate challenges within the international system from a scientific and future-oriented perspective.
- Identify contemporary issues in Lebanon and the Middle East, delivering innovative expertise.
- Design and manage humanitarian projects effectively.
- Develop an original and critical study on contemporary issues.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Required courses (120 credits)

Borders and Discontinuities (3 Cr.). Civilians and War: From Crimea to Hiroshima (3 Cr.). Contemporary Rivalries and International Order: Applying Geopolitics to International Relations Theory (2 Cr.). Corporate Government Affairs and Advocacy (3 Cr.). Diplomatic Encounters (2 Cr.). Energy and Power in the Middle East (3 Cr.). Geopolitics of China (3 Cr.). Geopolitics of Religions in Asia (2 Cr.). Geopolitics of the Contemporary World I (3 Cr.). Geopolitics of Tourism in the Middle East (2 Cr.). Geostrategy of International Trade (3 Cr.). History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Police in Lebanon (4 Cr.). Imperial Iran from the 1979 Revolution to the Shiite Crescent Realities (2 Cr.). International Political Economy (3 Cr.). Internship - Master in History and International Relations (3 Cr.). Introduction to Geopolitical Analysis Methods (3 Cr.). Islam and Islamist Movements from the Late 19th to the End of the 20th Century (6 Cr.). Issues of Renaissance in Arab Thought إشكاليات النهضة في الفكر العربيّ (3 Cr.). Master Thesis in History and International Relations (15 Cr.). Methodology Seminar - Master in HRI (4 Cr.). Military Archaeological Sites in the Middle East (2 Cr.). New Actors in International Relations (2 Cr.). Seminar by Professor Henry Laurens - Collège de France (2 Cr.). Seminar on Nordic Diplomacy (2 Cr.). The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربية (2 Cr.). The Palestinian Issue after Gaza (2 Cr.). The Palestinian Issue from the Nakba to the Present القضية الفلسطينية منذ النكبة حتى اليوم (2 Cr.). The Palestinian National Movement after Oslo (in Arabic) (2 Cr.). The Wars of Lebanon from 1975 to 1990 (6 Cr.). Transitional Justice and Conflict Transformation in Post-Conflict Societies (4 Cr.). Understanding Russian Geopolitics: Genesis, Structure, and Dynamics of Moscow's Foreign Policy (3 Cr.). Women and Diplomacy in the Arab World: History, Issues, and Challenges (2 Cr.). Women in the Arab World in the 20th Century (2 Cr.).

SUGGESTED STUDY PLAN

Semester 1

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIAAM3	Civilians and War: From Crimea to Hiroshima	3
011H8CGM1	Corporate Government Affairs and Advocacy	3
011H9EPM1	Energy and Power in the Middle East	3
011HIG2M1	Geostrategy of International Trade	3

011HISTM1	Internship - Master in History and International Relations	3
011HIAGM1	Introduction to Geopolitical Analysis Methods	3
011HII2M1	Islam and Islamist Movements from the Late 19 th to the End of the 20 th Century	6
011HIS3M3	Methodology Seminar - Master in HRI	4
011HIQPM1	The Palestinian Issue from the Nakba to the Present القضية الفلسطينية منذ النكبة حتى اليوم	2
	Total	30

Semester 2

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIRCM2	Contemporary Rivalries and International Order: Applying Geopolitics to International Relations Theory	2
011HIGOM2	Geopolitics of China	3
011HIGMM2	Geopolitics of the Contemporary World I	3
011HIEPM2	International Political Economy	3
011HICFM2	Seminar by Professor Henry Laurens - <i>Collège de France</i>	2
011HIDNM2	Seminar on Nordic Diplomacy	2
011HIMNM2	The Palestinian National Movement after Oslo (Arabic) (2 Cr.)	2
011HIL3M2	The Wars of Lebanon from 1975 to 1990	6
011HIJTM2	Transitional Justice and Conflict Transformation in Post-Conflict Societies	4
011HIAKM2	Women and Diplomacy in the Arab World: History, Issues, and Challenges	2
	Total	29

Semester 3

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIFDM3	Borders and Discontinuities	3
011HIGRM1	Geopolitics of Religions in Asia	2
011HIGTM3	Geopolitics of Tourism in the Middle East	2
011HIPOM3	History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Police in Lebanon	4
011HI15M3	Master Thesis in History and International Relations	15
011HINAM1	New Actors in International Relations	2
011HINAM3	Issues of Renaissance in Arab Thought شكاليات النهضة في الفكر العربي	3
	Total	31

Semester 4

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIRDM2	Diplomatic Encounters	2
011HILYM2	Imperial Iran from the 1979 Revolution to the Shiite Crescent Realities	2
	Master Thesis in History and International Relations	15
011HISAM3	Military Archaeological Sites in the Middle East	2
011HLRAM1	The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربية	2
011HIGZM2	The Palestinian Issue after Gaza	2

011HIRGM3	Understanding Russian Geopolitics: Genesis, Structure and Dynamics of Moscow's Foreign Policy	3
011HIFAM2	Women in the Arab World in the 20th Century	2
	Total	30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

011HIAAM3 Civilians and War: From Crimea to Hiroshima 3 Cr.

This course examines the complex relationship between civilians and war, focusing on the severe humanitarian consequences that often arise. It explores how civilians, who are not directly involved in military operations, can endure significant suffering during armed conflicts. This course highlights the challenges of protecting civilian populations and the critical importance of adhering to international humanitarian law and human rights standards to mitigate such suffering. Through this approach, students will gain an understanding of the impact of war on non-combatants and the efforts required to address these issues effectively.

011HIRCM2 Contemporary Rivalries and International Order: Applying Geopolitics to International Relations Theory 2 Cr.

This course examines contemporary rivalries in the international order, focusing on the tensions, competitions, and confrontations between various state and non-state entities worldwide. These rivalries can be economic, political, military, cultural, or technological, reflecting the conflicting interests of global actors.

It also explores the international order, which encompasses the rules, norms, institutions, and arrangements organizing relations between states on the global stage. This order may be characterized by stability and cooperation or, conversely, by tensions, conflicts, and rivalries.

Students will learn how to effectively use geopolitics in applied international relations theory by integrating geographical, strategic, economic, and cultural aspects into the analysis of state relations. This course aims to develop a comprehensive understanding of global dynamics, contemporary rivalries, and international interactions to better grasp and influence the international order.

011H8CGM1 Corporate Government Affairs and Advocacy 3 Cr.

This course offers students a comprehensive understanding of corporate government affairs and advocacy, highlighting their significance within companies. It emphasizes engaging with governmental bodies, policymakers, and stakeholders to influence public policy decisions. This course also provides a deep understanding of the regulatory landscape, equipping students with effective communication skills and the ability to navigate complex political environments, essential for excelling in government affairs and advocacy.

011H9EPM1 Energy and Power in the Middle East 3 Cr.

This course examines the Middle East's role as a major player in the global energy landscape due to its rich resources, particularly oil and natural gas. It explores how significant oil reserves in the region influence global energy markets and policies, and how political tensions, regional conflicts, and geopolitical changes impact energy production and distribution. Students will understand why the Middle East is crucial for monitoring global energy developments.

011HIGOM2 Geopolitics of China 3 Cr.

This course examines China's growing energy demands and its strategic responses, particularly its deepened ties with Middle Eastern energy exporters. It explores the historical foundations of Chinese strategic thought and focuses on Beijing's specific geostrategy in the Middle East. Topics include China's control over crucial communication routes between the Middle East and Far East, management of vital maritime spaces, and rivalries with powers such as India and the United States. This course also analyzes the Sino-American relationship, integrating regional geostrategy into the broader context of Chinese geopolitics and its recurring tensions with Washington.

011HIGRM1 Geopolitics of Religions in Asia 2 Cr.

This course explores the interplay between religious factors and geopolitical dynamics in Asia. It examines power

relations, conflicts, policies, and socio-cultural implications associated with various religions across the region. The complexity arises from Asia's rich diversity in culture, religion, and politics.

011HIGMM2	Geopolitics of the Contemporary World I	3 Cr.
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This course aims to:

1. Introduce a specific method to organize and objectify perceptions of the world, seeking connections between geographical, demographic, historical, and political factors while emphasizing a critical geopolitical approach.
2. Engage students in the practical application of this discipline through processing extensive information and case studies to develop a habit of "thinking geopolitically."
3. Place short-term events within a longer perspective by identifying the novel elements to better understand the interests and stakes of international actors, particularly states.

011HIGTM3	Geopolitics of Tourism in the Middle East	2 Cr.
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This course is designed for Master students in History and International Relations. It is also open to all USJ students. It introduces the concepts of geopolitical risk and tourism. Students will then gain a deeper understanding of tourism geopolitics in the Middle East, a region affected by conflicts, wars, and crises, yet experiencing continued growth in tourism due to the emergence of new host countries.

011HIG2M1	Geostrategy of International Trade	3 Cr.
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This course helps students develop a multidisciplinary approach (political, legal, economic) to major issues in international trade.

011HIPOM3	History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Police in Lebanon	4 Cr.
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This course examines the structure and functioning of the police in Lebanon, focusing on how these aspects are governed by Lebanese authorities and shaped by the country's political and social context. It addresses the challenges posed by Lebanon's often complex and unstable political situation, which can affect the maintenance of order and internal security. Students will explore how political and sectarian dynamics impact police operations.

011HILYM2	Imperial Iran from the 1979 Revolution to the Shiite Crescent Realities	2 Cr.
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This course covers the complex transformations Iran undergoes since the 1979 revolution, which establishes an Islamic Republic led by Ayatollah Khomeini. It examines the profound impacts of this revolution on Iran's politics, society, and culture, as well as its regional geopolitical position. This course explores how the establishment of the Islamic Republic radically alters Iran's political structure, including the role of Shia clergy and the introduction of a system based on Shia Islamic principles. Students will analyze the significant changes in governance, laws, and institutions, and understand the strong influence of religion on various aspects of public life. Furthermore, this course addresses how Iran experiences major political, social, and regional changes since the revolution, influencing the Middle East and confronting internal and external challenges.

011HIEPM2	International Political Economy	3 Cr.
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This course aims to provide an in-depth framework for understanding international political economy, and to develop analytical skills for examining key political and economic issues, and the power relations surrounding them.

011HIAGM1	Introduction to Geopolitical Analysis Methods	3 Cr.
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This course provides students with a structured approach to understanding and interpreting global power dynamics. It introduces and contextualizes the major schools of thought and ideas in contemporary geopolitics. Students will be challenged to engage in geopolitical reasoning and the intellectual rigor it demands through interactive sessions and the production of written work.

011HIIL2M1	Islam and Islamist Movements from the Late 19th to the End of the 20th Century	6 Cr.
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This course investigates the universality of Western models and values—namely, the nation-state, democracy, and capitalism—and questions whether they should be adopted, adapted, or rejected in favor of authenticity

and identity. It explores how Muslim intellectuals have grappled with these issues since the rise of European supremacy in the late 19th century. Students will examine their responses and the social dynamics within Muslim societies that led to the emergence of Islamism, or political Islam, in its diverse forms throughout the 20th century. By integrating political history and the history of political thought, this course offers a comprehensive analysis of these developments.

011HINAM3 Issues of Renaissance in Arab Thought إشكاليات النهضة في الفكر العربي 3 Cr.

This course examines the multiple and complex ambiguities of the Renaissance in Arab thought. It explores the period's intellectual revival and the various challenges and dilemmas it faced. This course delves into the Arab Renaissance's focus on returning to classical sources of thought and ancient Arabic texts, while also seeking a balance between tradition and modernity, and cultural heritage and new ideas. Students will understand how these tensions significantly shaped and redefined Arab thought over time.

011HIS3M3 Methodology Seminar - Master in HRI 4 Cr.

This seminar introduces students to the methodology for writing a master's thesis, guiding them through the various stages of research: selecting a topic and defining the study's focus, conceptual approach, compiling the bibliography, corpus and fieldwork, defining a research question, and constructing an outline.

011HINAM1 New Actors in International Relations 2 Cr.

This course explores the significance of transnationality in international relations and its impact on practitioners. It examines what it means to be a transnational actor, how such actors transform international politics, and their relationship with the state. Students will analyze key types of transnational actors and processes influencing the global stage.

011HICFM2 Seminar by Professor Henry Laurens - Collège de France 2 Cr.

This seminar provides students with an overview of the relations between Europe and the Muslim world, from Napoleon Bonaparte's expedition to Egypt (1798-1801) to the end of the 20th century.

011HLRAM1 The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربيّة 2 Cr.

This course examines the term "Arab Spring", which refers to a series of popular uprisings, protests, and demonstrations that began in several Arab countries at the end of 2010. These movements were characterized by demands for democracy, human rights, social justice, and the overthrow of authoritarian regimes. The Arab Spring began in Tunisia in December 2010 with the self-immolation of Mohamed Bouazizi, a street vendor protesting against corruption and harsh economic conditions. The subsequent protests led to the ousting of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in January 2011. Following Tunisia, similar movements spread to other Arab countries.

011HIGZM2 The Palestinian Issue after Gaza 2 Cr.

This course examines the Palestinian question, focusing on territorial claims and national rights of the Palestinian people. It addresses the importance of peaceful solutions and compromises for a just and lasting resolution to this historical conflict. This course also explores how the current Gaza conflict has refocused global attention on the Palestinian issue, highlighting the ongoing challenge it poses for international peace and security, as well as for regional and global actors involved.

011HIQPM1 The Palestinian Issue from the Nakba to the Present القضية الفلسطينية منذ النكبة حتى اليوم 2 Cr.

This course delves into the deep-rooted history of the Palestinian issue in the Middle East, beginning with the Nakba, or "catastrophe," which refers to the expulsion and dispersal of Palestinians during the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. This course addresses the ongoing humanitarian crisis, marked by conflicts, intermittent peace negotiations, territorial tensions, and human rights violations. Key points of friction include border issues, the status of Jerusalem, the plight of Palestinian refugees, and Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

011HIMNM2	The Palestinian National Movement after Oslo (Arabic)	2 Cr.
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This course covers the evolution of the Palestinian national movement after the 1993 Oslo Accords between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). It addresses the framework for a peaceful resolution and the subsequent challenges, including increased political complexity, internal divisions, and ongoing difficulties faced by the Palestinian movement.

011HIL3M2	The Wars of Lebanon from 1975 to 1990	6 Cr.
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This course examines the divergent interpretations of the Lebanese conflict from 1975-1990, exploring whether it was a civil war, a regional conflict, or a Cold War confrontation. It reviews the current state of knowledge about this pivotal period to understand Lebanon today and reflect on the broader phenomenon of war in international relations. This course also analyzes, from a primarily political perspective:

- The key actors involved in the armed conflict and their objectives.
- The forms and functions of violence.
- The changing military and political configurations, as well as the resulting peace agreements.

011HIJTM2	Transitional Justice and Conflict Transformation in Post-Conflict Societies	4 Cr.
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This seminar offers a transformative approach to conflict resolution, promoting long-term peacebuilding. It covers the concept of transitional justice, which seeks to restore trust and social cohesion in post-conflict societies through international legal frameworks (human rights and humanitarian law) and socio-political initiatives (education, memorialization, institutional reform, etc.).

011HIRGL5	Understanding Russian Geopolitics: Genesis, Structure and Dynamics of Moscow's Foreign Policy	2 Cr.
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This course aims to identify and analyze the fundamental factors shaping contemporary Russian foreign policy through a structured approach. The first part, "Genesis," covers elements such as geography, history, economy, culture, social structure, and psychological dimensions. The second part, "Structure," reviews the roles of institutional, individual, and collective actors involved in formulating and implementing Russia's foreign strategy. The third part, "Dynamics," provides a comprehensive overview of Russia's priorities in selected regions, including the Post-Soviet space, the South Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Middle East.

011HIFAM2	Women in the Arab World in the 20th Century	2 Cr.
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This course examines the significant transformations experienced by women in the Arab world throughout the 20th century, focusing on both progress and ongoing challenges related to cultural, political, and social norms. It covers how colonial rule at the beginning of the 20th century influenced various aspects of life, including the status of women. This course also explores the involvement of women in nationalist movements and independence struggles, highlighting their advocacy for their place in society and demands for equal rights.