

A large, light gray, stylized profile of Nebrija, the founder of the University of Salamanca, wearing a cap and a fur collar, facing right.

Análisis y resolución de  
conflictos internacionales

**Grado en Relaciones  
Internacionales  
2018-19**



UNIVERSIDAD  
**NEBRIJA**

## Syllabus

**Course:** International Conflict Analysis and Resolution

**Degree:** Grado en Relaciones Internacionales

**Academic year:** 2018-19

**Formation:** Compulsory

**Language:** English

**Attendance:** On-site

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Year:** 4º

**Semester:** 1º

**Professor:** Dr. Carlos González Villa

### 1. COMPETENCIES AND LEARNING OUTCOME

#### 1.1. Competencies

##### **General competencies:**

GC 1 To develop autonomous learning skills in International Relations.

GC 2 To search, organise, synthesise, analyse, and interpret information of interest from various sources systematically through different means, including written, oral, audiovisual, and digital.

GC 3 To apply theoretical knowledge to the analysis and resolution of practical situations related to the international scenario.

GC 4 To present arguments in public in an orderly and comprehensible manner, from different perspectives and being able to adapt them to the composition of the audience.

GC 5 To correctly communicate in oral and written means in the language of instruction.

GC 6 To correctly communicate in oral and in written means in foreign languages, giving priority to English (students should acquire level B2, according to the CEFL).

GC 7 To be able to adapt to changes resulting from an increasingly complex global context.

GC 8 To efficiently apply information and communication technologies (ICTs).

GC 9 To commit to ethical values, principles, and rights recognised by international society.

GC 10 To develop organisational and teamwork skills, especially in international teams.

GC 11 To understand and know the elements that influence decision-making in the areas of education, science, and culture in national and international contexts.

##### **Specific competencies:**

SC 1 To become familiar with pivotal elements that define International Relations, assuming its multidisciplinary character.

SC 2 To identify and classify the actors in international politics and their evolution.

SC 3 To be able to select, organise, and use information and data of interest for analysing international conjuncture through the use of various sources.

SC 4 To understand the process of establishment of international organisations and their functioning and limitations, paying particular attention to the case of the European Union.

SC 5 To identify and analyse elements and dynamics in the international society and the insertion of different actors.

SC 6 To understand and analyse the international economic structure, taking into account its historical trends.

SC 7 To know and understand the main elements that should be taken into account for defining states' foreign policy, especially the case of Spain, through analytical criteria.

SC 9 To be able to assess and analyse the fragmentation of the international system in different geopolitical areas, identifying elements that make them up, as well as dynamics of cooperation and conflict.

SC 10 To know and analyse international cooperation in its different dimensions.

SC 11 To understand the conceptual framework for studying dynamics of international conflicts and to properly apply typologies of crisis and international conflicts.

SC 12 To identify the elements that make up the international information system and to understand the role of mass media in creating public opinion at the international level.

SC 13 To know and value human rights and existing instruments for their protection, and to understand their contribution to coexistence, both at the national and international levels.

## 1.2. Learning outcomes

After the completing the course, the students will be able to:

- Acquire knowledge and understanding about main theoretical concepts on International Relations, its main theoretical schools and their evolution.
- Be able to contextualise main international conflicts of the 20th and 21st Centuries.
- Be able to contextualise regional conflicts and place them in its geographic dynamics and politics.

## 2. CONTENTS

### 2.1. Prerequisites

None.

### 2.2. Course outline

Study of international crisis and conflicts: definition, concepts and types. Economic crisis, territorial crisis, security crisis, national crisis with international effects. Conflict Theories. Study of ethnic, religious and cultural conflicts. Study of armed conflicts and its varieties: international armed conflicts and domestic armed conflicts with international impact. Analysis of the main hotspots and conflict zones in the current international society. Study of the roots, causes and evolution of current armed conflicts.

### 2.3. Syllabus

#### 1. Basic notions on international conflicts.

Conflict studies in social sciences: History and evolution.

Introduction to international conflict.

Conflicts' dynamics: Actors, interests, and objectives.

The conflict's triangle.

#### 2. International conflict typologies and issue areas.

Political conflict.

Traditional international conflict: Historical precedents and Interstate wars.

Mobilisation in contemporary conflicts. Religion, ethnicity and nationalism.

Internationalisation of local and regional conflicts.

Political violence. Levels and classification of violence.

Traditional and new actors. Economic conflict. Emerging typologies.

**3. International conflict resolution: theory and practice.**

Conflict stages: Clash, hostilities, and violence.

Actors in conflict resolution. States, International organisations, non-state actors.

**4. Conflict areas.**

Conflicts in European recent history.

The Caucasus and Central Asia.

Middle East and North Africa.

Central Africa: The Sahel, the Gulf of Guinea, and the Horn of Africa. Southern Africa.

Asia and the Pacific.

Central and South America Galtung and the TRASCEND approach: Peace by peaceful conflict transformation.

Mediation, resolution and peace agreements.

Post-conflict: Human, material, and political consequences. The importance of transitional justice.

International law of armed conflicts.

**2.4. Guided academic activities**

During the course, some of the following activities, practices, reports or projects may be developed:

Guided Activity 1 (AD1): *The role of international organisations in conflict resolution*. Role game. Students will participate in a simulation of the activity of a specialised body of an international organisation participating in an international conflict or devoted to conflict resolution. The activity will include preparing individual reports on the position of the simulated actor.

Guided Activity (AD2): *Group presentation*. Groups of 3-4 students will carry out a presentation on a specific international conflict, which should be analysed using the methods and concepts explained in class.

All class work will be assigned with sufficient of time in advance. Individual work must be turned in by the student on due date; group projects must be turned in on due date by members of the group and then presented by the group in the class room. Late individual or group projects will not be considered

**3. EVALUATION SYSTEM**

**3.1. Grading system**

The final grading system will be set numerically, in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of R.D. 1125/2003, of 5 September 2003 (Boletín Oficial del Estado, September 18), which establishes the European Credit System and the grading system for official university degrees and their validity throughout the national territory.

The final grading system will be set numerically as follows:

0 – 4.9 Fail (Suspenso; SS)

5.0 – 6.9 Pass (Aprobado; AP)

7.0 – 8.9 Notable (Notable; NT)

9.0 – 10 Outstanding (Sobresaliente; SB)

The "matrícula de honor" distinction could be awarded to students who have obtained at least a 9.0.

### 3.2. Evaluation criteria

#### Regular evaluation

Evaluation system	Proportion
Attitude and classroom participation	10%
Guided academic activities	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	50%

#### Secondary evaluation

Evaluation system	Proportion
Final examination	80%
Guided academic activities	20%

### 3.3. Requirements

#### Minimum grading

In order to successfully pass this course, students need to get a 5 point average in the course activities (including examinations, attitude and classroom participation, and guided academic activities) and at least 5 points in the final examination. Any grade below will be considered a fail.

#### Attendance

In order to successfully pass this course through the method of regular evaluation, students need to attend at least to 75% of lectures.

#### Writing rules

Special attention will be paid to grammar, spelling and style in written activities, exams and presentations. Failure to comply with the minimum acceptable levels in these aspects may be reflected in grading.

### 3.4. Plagiarism warning

The Antonio de Nebrija University will not tolerate plagiarism under no circumstances. The stealing of ideas and reproduction of paragraphs from texts other than the student's will be considered plagiarism if the original source from which they came is not cited or if citations are made indiscriminately. Plagiarism is a criminal offense. In case plagiarism is detected, it will be considered as a serious misconduct and the sanction provided for in the Student Regulations may be applied.

## 4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

#### Basic bibliography

Collins, A. (2007). *Contemporary Conflict Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Fisas, V. (1998). *Cultura de Paz y Gestión de Conflictos*. Barcelona: Icaria.

Galtung, J. (1998). *Tras la violencia, 3R: reconstrucción, reconciliación, resolución*. Bilbao: Guernika Gogoratuz.

Rambsotham, O., Woodhouse, T. and Miall, H. (2011). *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

- Nye, J. (2009). *Understanding International Conflicts: An introduction to theory and history*. New York: Pearson.
- Wallensteen, P. (2007). *Understanding Conflict Resolution*. London: Sage Publications.
- Walzer, M. (2001). *Guerras Justas e Injustas*. Barcelona: Paidós.

Recommended bibliography

- Anderson, B. (1983). *Imagined Communities*. London: Verso Books.
- Archambault, P. (2006). "Thinking about strategic threats", *Journal of Military and Strategic Studies*, Vol. 9, n. 2.
- Azar, E. and Burton, J.W. (eds.) (1986). *International Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice*. Sussex, Boulder, Wheatsheaf: Lynne Rienner.
- Banks, M.(1996). *Ethnicity: Anthropological Constructions*. London: Routledge.
- Clausewitz, C. von. (1967). *On War*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Grasa, R. (2006) "Los vínculos entre seguridad, paz y desarrollo: la evolución de la Seguridad Humana de la teoría al programa político y a la operacionalización práctica", Seminario sobre Seguridad Humana. CIDOB, Barcelona, 3 de mayo.
- Horowitz, D. (1995) *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Ignatieff, M. *El honor del guerrero: Guerra étnica y conciencia moderna*. Madrid: Taurus.
- Kaldor, M. (1999) *New Wars and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
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- Keohane, R. and Nye, J. (1997). "Interdependence in World Politics", in Crane, G., *The theoretical evolution of international political economy: a reader*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Maalouf, A.(1998). *Identidades Asesinas*. Madrid: Alianza.
- Martínez Guzmán, V. (1995). *Teoría de la paz*. Barcelona: NauLlibres.
- Morgan, P. (2007) "Security in International Politics: Traditional Approaches" in Collins, A., *Contemporary Conflict Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Morgenthau, H. (1967). *Politics Among Nations*. New York: Knopf.
- Nye, J. (1990). *Bound to Lead: The Changing Nature of American Power*. New York: Basic Books.
- Nye, J. (2004). *Soft Power: the Means of Success in World Politics*. New York: Public Affairs.
- Romeva, R. (2003). *Guerra, Posguerra y paz. Pautas para el análisis y la intervención en contextos posbélicos o postacuerdo*. Barcelona: Icaria.
- Smith, A. (1986). *The Ethnic Origins of Nations*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Otros recursos

- Molina, Pedro. "Aquellas palabras azules" [on line]. Fecha de creación, fecha de actualización, [fecha de la cita]. Disponible en <http://blog.hola.com/elprimermarcapaginas/>
- CIDOB: <http://www.cidob.org/>
- INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP: <http://www.crisisgroup.org/>
- REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO: [www.realinstitutoelcano.org](http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org)
- SIPRI YEARBOOK 2014: <http://www.sipri.org/yearbook/2014>
- THE WORLD FACTBOOK 2014: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

**5. PROFESSOR'S INFORMATION**

Name	Carlos González Villa
Department	International Relations
Academic qualification	PhD in Political Science; Assistant Lecturer Accreditation (Agencia Nacional de Evaluación de la Calidad y Acreditación).
Email	<a href="mailto:cgonzalezv@nebrija.es">cgonzalezv@nebrija.es</a>
Location	Princesa Campus. Professors' room

Office hours	Appointments are scheduled via email
Teaching and research experience	<p>Carlos González Villa (PhD, Complutense University of Madrid) is a non-resident fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies-South Eastern Europe at the University of Rijeka and member of the Research Group in Present History of the Autonomous University of Barcelona, which is currently working on the Research and Development project of the Secretary of State for Research (Spain): "European Extreme Right Profiles in the Post-Cold War: Transideological Tendencies and Social Transversality."</p> <p>His main research interests focus on the study of the recent history of the Western Balkans and the US foreign policy. He has held visiting fellowships at the Center for Political and Constitutional Studies (Madrid), the Franklin Institute of the University of Alcalá, the University of Ljubljana, and the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University (Washington, DC).</p> <p>Among his latest publications are: "From Pessimism to Instrumentality: Revisiting the US Policy Towards Dying Yugoslavia" (<i>Annales, Series Historia et Sociologia</i> 27, n. 4, 2017, 699-712), "Passive Revolution in Contemporary Slovenia: From the 2012 Protests to the Migrant Crisis" (<i>Tiempo Devorado</i> 4, n. 2, 2017, 339-362) and "Slovenian 1989: Elite Construction of a National Democracy" (<i>West Croatian History Journal</i> 9, 2015, 27-79).</p> <p>He received the Outstanding PhD Award for his thesis, entitled "A New State for a New World Order: Revisiting the Slovene Sovereignist Process." From 2010 through 2014, he was a predoctoral fellow at the Department of International Studies of the Complutense of Madrid under the Training Programme for Academic Staff of the Spanish Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Outside academia, on an occasional basis, he conducts research and provides consultancy services within his area of expertise.</p>