Semester Program in English

Security studies: national and international dimension

Department of Security and International Affairs
University of Lower Silesia

Security studies is an interdisciplinary program offering knowledge and expertise from areas of: political science, international relations, law, military science, philosophy and media science. The program is dedicated to students willing to acquire skills concerning phenomena and processes related to security comprehended on various levels (individual, social, institutional, state or international) and in broad range of aspects (military, political, economic, social and cultural). Special attention will be paid to the combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills. This approach includes among others: case studies of phenomena, processes and threats, policy briefs creation, forming of instances and information campaigns in crisis situations. Lectures and practical classes serve to accomplish the described approach. Their content is presented below:

Courses offered:

- **Multidimensional security: theory and reality**, Prof. Elżbieta Stadtmüller, 30 h. lecture and practical classes (15+15), 5 ECTS

  The aim of the course is to present and explain the concept of multidimensional security in theory on the background of the main contemporary trends concerning security (military, economic, environmental, cultural, social aspects). The lectures will focus on the main theoretical approaches towards security (realism, liberalism, globalism, social constructivism and post-positivism concepts). Hence, multidimensional security as well as global and regional security projects and strategies of states will be considered. The seminars concern the same aspects as the lectures and lead to the analysis of the various theoretical approaches towards multidimensional security. However, the aim of the seminars is to address knowledge from the lectures to the processes, phenomena, and situations appearing in international relations. As a result, a student should be able to connect theoretical approaches with case studies. Components of evaluation: attendance, active participation in the discussions, final written exam.

- **Contemporary threats and challenges for international security**, Prof. Krzysztof Kubiak, 15h. lecture and practical classes, 3 ECTS
The aim of the course is to show contemporary threats and challenges for the system of international security and safety. The following main problems are taken into consideration: military threats (the proliferation of the weapon of mass destruction, the military aspiration and possibilities of the raising powers, the military possibilities of non-state actors, the evolution and transformation of the contemporary wars and armed conflicts), terrorist threats (terrorism as the weapon of contemporary conflicts), criminal threats (organized crime, narco-bussines, human trafficking, weapon smuggling), social threats (demographic demands, migrations, gap of welfare), new threats (climate challenges, technological challenges). Performance requirements: attendance; the final paper.

- **Open society and its enemies: past and present**, Prof. Dariusz Aleksandrowicz, 30 h. lecture, 5 ECTS
  
  The lecture deals with the problems of the „open society” due to the challenges this society is/was confronted with in the present world as well as in the past. It starts with the classical work of Karl Popper „The Open Society and Its Enemies” which was written in the 1940’s, when the „open society” was threatened by totalitarian systems (national socialism and soviet communism) and concerns the ideological roots of this confrontation. The second part of the lecture aims at exposing how the respective problems appear in the new situation, that emerged from the decline of the bipolar world system. Performance requirements: written essay of about 10 pages (or alternatively examination, or short essay + short examination).

- **The individual in public international law**, Jarosław Kotas, PhD, 30h. lecture and practical classes (15+15), 4 ECTS
  
  The notion of the status of individual seems to be very important for students aiming to study the issues of international security. Security as such must be guaranteed by the States but it serves their citizens. The main issues discussed during the classes are as follows: historical perspective of the emancipation of the individual in international society, right to petition, the relation between an individual and the State, within the light of litigation possibilities against it, based on the norms of public international law, international judiciary proceedings on the ground of international human rights norms, pursuit for the individuals suspected with the commission of the so called international crimes, genocide – common responsibility of the States, International Criminal Court, extradition and some issues concerning citizenship. Despite all, the students will also obtain the knowledge about their own rights, the source of which is based on international law.
  
  In order to fulfil the demands of the Course, one must: be present and it is basic; for those who wish to obtain the best grades, you must be active during the meetings and write the final paper.

- **European Union and its challenges – extremism, populism and euroscepticism**, Aleksandra Moroska-Bonkiewicz, PhD, 30h. practical classes, 4 ECTS
  
  Nowadays extremism, populism and euroscepticism constitute an element of social and political environment in Europe. They refer to political concepts and doctrines as well as practical activities of different groups and organizations. Some of them became to be a major challenge for liberal democracies. The aim of this seminar is to analyse
the threats, which those phenomena pose to the security of individual countries of the UE as well as in the context of the further process of European integration in many different dimensions (political, social, cultural etc.). We will look for causes, effects and political consequences of those three challenges. Emphasis will be placed on the comparison analyses of Western and Eastern Europe. The seminar will equip the participants with theoretical instruments, which will be used to analyse the chosen cases and then to synthesize the findings and compare them with existing theories. Components of evaluation: attendance, active participation in the discussions, individual presentation or term paper.

- **Grand Strategy for information age national and international security**, Jerzy Dereń, PhD, 30h. lecture and practical classes (15+15), 4 ECTS

Grand Strategy deals with the big, important things in history: war, diplomacy, revolution, constitutions, great books, great men. This focus allows the Grand Strategist to operate in various areas relevant to the international security in contemporary world. Some of them pertain to the Revolution in Military Affair (RMA), System of Systems, Modelling and Simulation, Effects Based Approaches for Operations, Strategic Planning and its Centres of Gravity and Critical Vulnerabilities. The ultimate goal of "Studies in Grand Strategy" is to teach Future World Leader, "how to connect desired ends with available means" to attain whatever results an individual, corporation or nation might be seeking. This one semester course aims to examine the theory and practice of grand strategy in both historical and contemporary contexts, from a variety of analytical perspectives. Components of evaluation: team-prepared policy briefs, as well as an end-of-semester individual term paper.

- **Polish Foreign and Security Policy**, Helena Wyligała, PhD, 15h. practical classes, 2 ECTS

The aim of this course is to present main issues within the Polish Foreign and Security Policy after 1989. During the seminar student will acknowledge determinants and contemporary problems of the politics and their coordination methods. The course will touch the organizational dimension of Foreign and Security Policy and division of competences, too. The goal of the course is to actually understand the interests and trends in Polish foreign activity and diplomacy. Discussed themes: Polish European Policy: main problems of Polish integration with the EU and resume of the Polish Presidency 2011 in the EU; Polish Transatlantic and Security Policy: Polish membership in the NATO and structure and role of the Polish Armed Forces; bilateral Poland’s relations with partners: USA, Germany, Russia and Ukraine. Additionally, it will be proposed to focus on Poland’s role in the international organizations and on the aspect of economization of Polish Foreign Policy or on energy supply as the security challenge. Student will be able to present a critical analysis of various texts and other sources, to interpret them and explain the problem. Components of evaluation: active participation in the discussions and individual presentation in the class.

- **Media relations during crisis**, Marek Zimnak, PhD, 15h. practical classes, 2 ECTS

General goal of the subject is to equip students with a list of necessary rules that manage an organization during crisis with wide understanding meaning of its proper public Picture. In general they will also learn about potential threats and opportunities
for such picture when in crisis. Operational goal of the subject is to train all possible moves and techniques for contacting with media and rules and procedures that keep the whole process in order. The main topics of the subject are: agents that influence effective communication in organization; organizational susceptibility for crisis situations; communication in crisis situations; rules of communication; language and its traps in process of communication; necessary conditions for success of your information campaign; communication’s channels; dos & don’ts in media relations; rules of preparing news releases; rules of preparing press conference.

After fulfilling this program a student should understand conditions of organization in crisis, should know rules of anti-crisis prophylactic Works, He/she will know how to organize professional information campaign, will know how to use different techniques against media, will know how to write proper press release and to prepare press conference. To receive acceptable note a student should present no absence and to prepare group of 3-4 person presentation.

- **Foreign Language** – English, Jakub Mydłowski, MA, 30 h., 2 ECTS
- **Foreign Language** – Polish, Jagoda Dobrowolska, MA, 30 h., 2 ECTS

The program is taught in English and welcomes both international and Polish students. It is primarily offered for Erasmus Students, undergraduates and graduates, but students from non EU/EFTA countries are also eligible to apply and warmly welcomed.

If you are interested please get in touch with Ms. Jadwiga Dobrowolska-Dyracz, Head of the International Programs’ Office and EU Programs’ Coordinator (dobrowolska@dswe.pl) or Aleksandra Moroska-Bonkiewicz, Department coordinator of the program (moroska@dswe.pl). Please also see [International Students site](#) for details about enrolling, accommodation, etc.