# International Relations

## Prof. Vittorio Emanuele Parsi

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide an in-depth analysis of the international political system. In particular:

a) the first part some key concepts for the understanding of the international political system and its evolution will be discussed;

b) the second part will explore the Liberal International Order;

*Intended learning outcomes*

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will:

- know the main theories in international relations;

- understand how the international political system works and interacts with the economic and institutional system;

- evaluate the foreign policy choices of state actors;

- define the role of non-state actors;

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- recognise and navigate the discipline's core issues;

- evaluate and decide on the level of analysis that offers the best investigative prospects for a given issue and how to shift between levels of analysis on a case by case basis;

- apply historical knowledge in the most profitable way to theories on international relations

- make connections between theory and practice, past and present, and expectations and reality;

- develop a critical sense of how best to alternate between the various theoretical approaches.

***COURSE CONTENT***

– The evolution of the State system and the international society.

– The main schools of thought: Realism, Liberalism, the English school, Marxism, Constructivism, and Feminism.

– The levels of analysis.

– The balance of power and stability.

– Hegemony and order.

– The analysis of foreign policy.

– The causes of war and the influence of international institutions, market, and democracy to promote peace.

– The concept of security and its evolution.

– Origins, crisis, and perspectives of the concept of Liberal International Order.

– International politics after the pandemic.

***READING LIST***

Please note that for the 2022-2023 academic year, the exam programme includes the following volumes **for all students** (remotely attending students and non-attending students):

G.J. Grieco-G.J. Ikenberry – M.. Mastanduno, ,*Introduzione alle Relazioni Internazionali,* Milan, UTET, 2017.

V.E. Parsi, *Titanic: Naufragio o cambio di rotta per l’ordine liberale*, Il Mulino, Bologna 2022.

G.J. Ikenberry, *Un mondo sicuro per la democrazia. L’internazionalismo liberale e le crisi dell’ordine globale,* Vita e Pensiero, Milan, 2021.

V.E. Parsi, *Il posto della guerra. E il costo della libertà,* Bompiani, Milano, 2022.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be based on frontal lectures, held in class. The course may be organised into modules and include topic seminars and visits from guest experts.

The contents of the seminars, which take place during the year, will be part of the examination programme.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

There will be no interim tests for the 2022-2023 academic year. All exams will be written and will cover the entire course programme. The test will include multiple choice questions, close and broader open-ended questions. Further information will be made available during the course.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

General knowledge of history will prove a great advantage in understanding the content covered.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching and assessment will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.