

# ESPACE MONDIAL: THINKING IR GLOBALLY

**Main lecture: Frédéric RAMEL**

**Discussion section: Pablo BARNIER-KHAWAM**

**Fall semester 2022-2023**

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar seeks to enhance students' analysis of the main theoretical and empirical perspectives presented during the lecture. It provides students with an interactive space through which they will have the opportunity to gain a critical approach of the topics from the lecture, through discussions surrounding themes on global matters such as social, environmental, economic, and security issues and their interdependence.

The course consists of 12 sessions, which you are expected to prepare ahead to make the most out of them. Your active participation is expected to ensure a smooth running of our discussion sessions. The above tasks and materials are designed to help you be more equipped to participate. Make sure you prepare each session, and do not hesitate to participate in class!

## ASSIGNMENTS, GRADING AND LATE WORK POLICY

As per Sciences Po academic rules, you are expected to respect the following:

- Your **attendance** is required for the course, and any absence must be justified. If you happen to be absent for more than 2 sessions, it will not be possible to validate the course.
- A particular attention will be given to **intellectual honesty**. Any form of plagiarism will be sanctioned by a zero to the related assignment, and the impossibility to validate the course.
- **Deadlines for assignments** are nonnegotiable. If you hand in an assignment after the time indicated below, one point will be withdrawn from your grade for each hour of delay.

The final grade for *Espace Mondial: Thinking IR globally* is based on two grades:

- **Final exam - 1/3 of the final grade**: 3h dissertation. You are expected to write an essay during that time.
- **Continuous assessment - 2/3 of the final grade**: your work carried out in the discussion sections will be based on 4 grades described below:

**Individual presentation (10 minutes – 25% of the continuous assessment grade)**

Each student must present once during the term. Two presentation topics are suggested per week and will be distributed in week 1.

Your presentation (French “exposé”) needs to be based on a research question. It should be concise (10 minutes sharp) and follow a clear structure including an introduction and a conclusion. Make sure that your presentation is argumentative – i.e. not too descriptive, defending clear arguments – and well-illustrated – i.e. based on precise examples.

Please upload your presentation research question, outline and bibliography on Moodle the day preceding your presentation. All students are expected to download the documents pertaining to the presentations before the discussion session, as the presentation will be followed by Q&A with the class.

**Map 1 / Individual map related to your presentation (25% of the continuous assessment grade)**

You will make your very own map based on your presentation topic. The map, which you are strongly recommended to draw manually on paper, should include a structured legend.

Make sure you scan and upload your map on Moodle the day prior to your presentation, so that your classmates can download it and you can show it for your actual presentation.

You are also expected to prepare a 5-minute presentation of your map, through which you will explain how you chose to configure the map, and the issues you have faced while working on it. For example, you can choose to answer the following:

- Which information did you choose to include or to omit? Why so?
- Why did you choose this background map?
- Why did you choose to represent the selected information this way instead of another one?
- ...

**Map 2 / Pair map (25% of the continuous assessment grade)**

As a pair, you will be asked to make a second map during the semester. The map can be drawn manually on paper or computer-based (you can choose to use a software such as Khartis) and must include a structured legend.

The map will be based on a transversal topic, either one from the mid-term or one of your choices. The aim of this exercise is to take a step back from the course, and to consider how some IR phenomena and dynamics articulate.

The map will be due for session 11. Make sure you scan and upload your map on Moodle before the course starts.

**Midterm exam (25% of the continuous assessment grade)**

You will have to write an essay and will be asked to choose a topic from a choice of two. Your essay should be problematized and structured. You will be evaluated on the quality of your argumentation and your mobilization of precise vocabulary, examples, and concepts.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Part I. Properties of global IR**

#### **Session 1. Ways of understanding the world.**

Methodology: presentation and cartography.

Reading: Enloe, Cynthia. « Flick of the Skirt: A Feminist Challenge to IR's Coherent Narrative ». *International Political Sociology* 10, no 4 (2016): 320-31.

#### **Session 2. Imbalanced and unequal IR.**

Presentation 1: Climate change and inequalities.

Presentation 2: Accessing HIV treatments: an international issue.

Reading: Ayoob, Mohammed. 'Inequality and Theorizing in International Relations: The Case for Subaltern Realism'. *International Studies Review* 4, no. 3 (2002): 27–48.

#### **Session 3. Globalisation: between turbulence and governance.**

Presentation 1: The evolution of the concept of development in the UN.

Presentation 2: WHO and COVID-19.

Reading: Weiss, Thomas G., and Rorden Wilkinson. 'Rethinking Global Governance? Complexity, Authority, Power, Change'. *International Studies Quarterly* 58, no. 1 (2014): 207–15.

### **Part II. Espace Mondial: structuring lines**

#### **Session 4. States: a role of composition?**

Presentation 1: Are independence movements challenging the world of states? A case study of Palestine.

Presentation 2: Diplomats and the defense of national interest.

Presentation 3: Climate Change Conferences (COP): what role for the states in the fight for environment protection?

Reading: Alles, Delphine, and Bertrand Badie. 'Sovereignism in the International System: From Change to Split'. *ERIS – European Review of International Studies* 3, no. 2 (2016): 5–19.

#### **Session 5. The transnationalisation of the world.**

Presentation 1: GAFAM and state sovereignty.

Presentation 2: Becoming an international actor: a case study of indigenous people.

Presentation 3: Are migrant smugglers actors of international relations?

Reading: Grosescu, Raluca. 'Transnational Advocacy Networks and Corporate Accountability for Gross Human Rights Violations in Argentina and Colombia'. *Global Society* 33, no. 3 (3 July 2019): 400–418.

**Session 6. The regionalisation of the world.**

Presentation 1: Regional organization and international security.

Presentation 2: Interregionalism in the Global South.

Reading: Wunderlich, Jens-Uwe. 'The EU an Actor Sui Generis? A Comparison of EU and ASEAN Actorness'. *Journal of Common Market Studies* 50, no. 4 (July 2012): 653–69.

## Part III. Regulations in global IR

**Session 7. The transformation of the international system: towards a regulated world society.**

Presentation 1: Reforming the UN Security Council.

Presentation 2: Is there a global public opinion?

Reading: Armstrong David, « Law, Justice, and the Idea of a World Society », *International Affairs*, n° 75(3), 1999, p. 547-561.

**Session 8. A Return of power politics?**

Presentation 1: China's representation of world order.

Presentation 2: Can small States be powerful? A study of the Alliance of Small Island States.

Presentation 3: The power to harm in world politics.

Reading: Pouliot, Vincent. 'Diplomats as Permanent Representatives: The Practical Logics of the Multilateral Pecking Order'. *International Journal* 66, no. 3 (1 September 2011): 543–61.

**Session 9. War and peace.**

Presentation 1: Building peace and peace-building interventions.

Presentation 2: The role of private military and security companies in armed conflicts.

Reading: Kaldor, Mary. 'In Defence of New Wars'. *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development* 2, no. 1 (7 March 2013): 1–16.

## Part IV. Between conflict and recognition

### Session 10. Identities.

Presentation 1: Diasporas and nationalism.

Presentation 2: To what extent has the movement Black Lives Matter gone global?

Reading: Abrahamsen, Rita, Jean-François Drolet, Alexandra Gheciu, Karin Narita, Srdjan Vucetic, and Michael Williams. 'Confronting the International Political Sociology of the New Right'. *International Political Sociology* 14, no. 1 (1 March 2020): 94–107.

### Session 11. The return of the sacred.

Presentation 1: Can religion be multilateralised? A case study of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

Presentation 2: Religious actors in conflict mediation.

Reading: Shakman Hurd, Elizabeth. 'Narratives of De-Secularization in International Relations'. *Intellectual History Review* 27, no. 1 (January 2017): 97–113.

### Session 12. Re-thinking international security in the Anthropocene.

Presentation 1: Can terrorism be fought through military means?

Presentation 2: The construction of health as an international security issue.

Reading: Maertens, Lucile. 'Depoliticisation as a Securitising Move: The Case of the United Nations Environment Programme'. *European Journal of International Security* 3, no. 3 (2018): 344–63.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY AND ONLINE RESOURCES

For a complete bibliography, please refer to the references provided during the main lecture.

### IR. Dictionaries and general resources

Allès, Delphine, Frédéric Ramel, and Pierre Grosser. *Relations internationales*. Armand Colin, 2018.

Badie, Bertrand, Dirk Berg-Schlosser, and Leonardo Morlino, eds. *International Encyclopedia of Political Science*. 8 vols. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE, 2011. <https://sk-sagepub-com.acces-distant.sciencespo.fr/reference/intlpoliticalscience?fromsearch=true> [available online].

Balzacq, Thierry, and Frédéric Ramel, eds. *Traité de relations internationales*. Paris: Presses de Sciences Po, 2013. <https://www-cairn-info.acces-distant.sciencespo.fr/traite-de-relations-internationales--9782724613308.htm> [available online].

Basaran, Tugba, Didier Bigo, Emmanuel-Pierre Guittet, and Rob B. J. Walker, eds. *International Political Sociology: Transversal Lines*. Oxon: Routledge, 2017. <https://acces-distant.sciences-po.fr/fork?http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/sciences-po/detail.action?docID=4605420> [available online].

Battistella, Dario, Jérémie Cornut, and Elie Baranets. *Théories des relations internationales*. 6e ed. Références Monde et Sociétés. Paris: Presses de Sciences Po, 2019. <https://www-cairn-info.acces-distant.sciencespo.fr/theories-des-relations-internationales--9782724624656.htm> [available online].

Baylis, John, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, eds. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. 7th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.

Carlsnaes, Walter, Thomas Risse-Kappen, and Beth A. Simmons. *Handbook of International Relations*. London: SAGE, 2013. [http://sk-sagepub-com.acces-distant.sciencespo.fr/reference/hdbk\\_interntrelations?utm\\_source=ss360](http://sk-sagepub-com.acces-distant.sciencespo.fr/reference/hdbk_interntrelations?utm_source=ss360) [available online].

### IR. Academic journals

- Academic journals in English: *Cooperation and Conflict*, *Foreign affairs*, *Foreign policy*, *International Affairs*, *International Negotiation*, *International Organization*, *Millenium*, *World politics*...
- Academic journals in French: *Critique internationale: Culture et conflits* ; *Etudes internationales* ; *Politique étrangère* ; *Revue internationale de sciences sociales* ; *Revue internationale et stratégique*...

### IR. Other online resources

- **Atlas de l'Espace Mondial**: <https://espace-mondial-atlas.sciencespo.fr/fr/> → An online resource that provides short introduction to the main themes of the course. The definitions provided in the lexicon are particularly useful.
- **Ceriscope**: a very good entry point for the themes covered in this online series.
- **E-IR**: <https://www.e-ir.info/> -> an open access website providing recent articles on IR debates as well as many resources for IR students.
- **Sciences Po Library's IR Thematic guide**: [https://sciencespo.libguides.com/science-politique/relations\\_internationales-defense](https://sciencespo.libguides.com/science-politique/relations_internationales-defense) → for resources on cartography, databases, as well as bibliography information [in French, indicated below as well].

### Cartography. Readings and resources

Ashworth Mick. *Pourquoi le Nord est-il en haut ? : petite histoire des conventions cartographiques*. Translated by Weiss Séverine. Collection Atlas pour tous. Paris: Autrement, 2021. [Only the French version is available at Sciences Po library].

#### Where to look for existing maps?

- **Atlas on diverse topics**, such as

Grataloup, Christian. *Atlas Historique Mondial*. Paris: Éd. des Arènes, Coll. L'Histoire, 2019.  
Grataloup, Christian, and Gilles Fumey, eds. *L'Atlas global*. Paris: Éd. des Arènes, 2014.  
Ionesco, Dina et al. *Atlas des migrations environnementales*. Paris : Presses de Sciences Po, 2016.  
Verdeil, Eric et al. *Atlas des mondes urbains*. Paris: Presses de Sciences Po, 2020.  
Wihtol de Wenden, Catherine. *Atlas des migrations*. 6e ed. Paris: Presses de Sciences Po, 2021.

...

- **Cartography at Sciences Po:** <https://www.sciencespo.fr/cartographie/> → the 'cartothèque' offers of broad range of maps, many of which have been published in the above mentioned publications.
- **Khartis:** <https://www.sciencespo.fr/cartographie/khartis/>
- **Documentation française:** <http://www.ladocumentationfrancaise.fr/cartes>
- **Le Monde Diplomatique** also has a dynamic cartography team: <https://www.monde-diplomatique.fr/cartes/>
- **The World Factbook published by the CIA:** <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/>

#### Where to look for data and statistics?

- Oxford's *Our World in data*: <https://ourworldindata.org/>
- Sciences Po cartography's article on dealing with data: <https://www.sciencespo.fr/cartographie/ressources/recherche-et-usage-des-statistiques-sur-linternationale-et-le-mondial/> → the table down the article records a few online databases, from the World Bank one to those from UN agencies and NGOs.
- Sciences Po library's guides for political science lists a few databases:
  - o The IR and defense thematic guide: [https://sciencespo.libguides.com/science-politique/relations\\_internationales-defense](https://sciencespo.libguides.com/science-politique/relations_internationales-defense)
  - o The political institutions thematic guide: [https://sciencespo.libguides.com/science-politique/donnees\\_officielles-institutions-comportements\\_politique](https://sciencespo.libguides.com/science-politique/donnees_officielles-institutions-comportements_politique)
- Other resources such as the
  - o *Migration data portal* <https://migrationdataportal.org/> ,
  - o *E-diaspora* website <http://www.e-diasporas.fr/>