

**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Scientific Supervision and Scientific Evaluation Apparatus
Directorate of Quality Assurance and Academic Accreditation
Accreditation Department**



Academic Program and Course Description Guide

PhD in International Politics

Academic Year 2026–2027

First Semester

Introduction:

The educational program is a well-planned set of courses that include procedures and experiences arranged in the form of an academic syllabus. Its main goal is to improve and build graduates' skills so they are ready for the job market. The program is reviewed and evaluated every year through internal or external audit procedures and programs like the External Examiner Program.

The academic program description is a short summary of the main features of the program and its courses. It shows what skills students are working to develop based on the program's goals. This description is very important because it is the main part of getting the program accredited, and it is written by the teaching staff together under the supervision of scientific committees in the scientific departments.

This guide, in its second version, includes a description of the academic program after updating the subjects and paragraphs of the previous guide in light of the updates and developments of the educational system in Iraq, which included the description of the academic program in its traditional form (annual, quarterly), as well as the adoption of the academic program description circulated according to the letter of the Department of Studies T 3/2906 on 3/5/2023 regarding the programs that adopt the Bologna Process as the basis for their work.

In this regard, we can only emphasize the importance of writing an academic programs and course description to ensure the proper functioning of the educational process.

Concepts and terminology:

Academic Program Description: The academic program description provides a brief summary of its vision, mission and objectives, including an accurate description of the targeted learning outcomes according to specific learning strategies.

Course Description: Provides a brief summary of the most important characteristics of the course and the learning outcomes expected of the students to achieve, proving whether they have made the most of the available learning opportunities. It is derived from the program description.

Program Vision: An ambitious picture for the future of the academic program to be sophisticated, inspiring, stimulating, realistic and applicable.

Program Mission: Briefly outlines the objectives and activities necessary to achieve them and defines the program's development paths and directions.

Program Objectives: They are statements that describe what the academic program intends to achieve within a specific period of time and are measurable and observable.

Curriculum Structure: All courses / subjects included in the academic program according to the approved learning system (quarterly, annual, Bologna Process) whether it is a requirement (ministry, university, college and scientific department) with the number of credit hours.

Learning Outcomes: A compatible set of knowledge, skills and values acquired by students after the successful completion of the academic program and must determine the learning outcomes of each course in a way that achieves the objectives of the program.

Teaching and learning strategies: They are the strategies used by the faculty members to develop students' teaching and learning, and they are plans that are followed to reach the learning goals. They describe all classroom and extra-curricular activities to achieve the learning outcomes of the program.

Academic Program Description Form

University Name: University of Nahrain

Faculty/Institute: Political Science

Scientific Department: International Politics

Academic or Professional Program Name: PHD

Final Certificate Name: PHD in political science

Academic System: Courses

Description Preparation Date: 1/9/2026

File Completion Date: 1 /9/2026

Signature:

Head of Department Name:

Prof. Dr. Salman Ali Hussein

Date:

2026/9/22

Signature:

Scientific Associate Name: Prof.

Dr. Haider Zuhair Jassim

Date:

22/9

The file is checked by: Ruqa Majied Tauma

Department of Quality Assurance and University Performance

Director of the Quality Assurance and University Performance Department:

Date: 2026/9/22

Signature:

[Signature]

Approval of the Dean

2026/9/22

1. Program Vision

The Department of International Politics represents one of the branches of political science, as it includes academic subjects and scientific methodologies that address an important aspect in the preparation of specialists in foreign affairs for Iraq and the rest of the world. It contributes to the production of scientific research, studies, and theses that enrich political science libraries with the reliable scientific resources needed, and help raise community awareness of regional and international issues and events by focusing on specific geographical areas to understand how different countries and regions deal with issues of conflict, cooperation, and competition.

2. Program Mission

The message of the Department of International Politics is reflected in its focus on providing students and researchers with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and study the most important theories, methodological issues, and fundamental scientific schools in the fields of international politics, through specialized courses in diplomacy, international relations, international security, and international organizations.

3. Program Objectives

1. Gaining an understanding of the overall curricula and academic subjects related to the study of international politics.
2. Studying methods and approaches of scientific research in the field of international politics.
3. Developing study plans that are compatible with the Iraqi environment and labor market needs, interacting with related courses that contribute to shaping and maintaining the student's identity, and serving the local community.
4. Providing the community with specialized frameworks in the field of international

relations, particularly in the areas of diplomatic and consular work, working with international organizations, media institutions, research centers, and companies.

5. Developing the curricula and academic subjects of international politics to align with the knowledge advancements occurring worldwide.

6. Strengthening academic cooperation with local, Arab, and international colleges and departments of international relations and diplomacy through agreements that include student and faculty exchange programs.

4. Program Accreditation

None

5. Other external influences

Is there a sponsoring entity for the program?

The university and the ministry.

6. Program Structure

Program Structure	Number of Courses	Credit hours	Percentage	Reviews*
Institution Requirements	15	28	100%	
College Requirements				
Department Requirements	15	28	100%	
Summer Training	-			
Other	-			

* This can include notes whether the course is basic or optional.

1. Program Description

Year/Level	Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours	
Chapter 1		Environmental Security in International Relations	theoretical	3
Chapter 1		Military Alliances in the Twenty-First Century	Theoretical	3
Chapter 1		Comprehensive capacity variables on foreign policy, study of selected models	Theoretical	3
Chapter 1		Leadership and Great power politics E	Theoretical	3
Chapter 1		Scientific Research Methodology	Theoretical	2
Chapter 1		Future of the World Order	Theoretical	2
Chapter 1		Water conflicts in the Middle East	Theoretical	2

2. Expected learning outcomes of the program

Knowledge

- 1– Enabling students to understand the fundamentals and principles of political science and to know the intellectual, political, and legal principles that govern international relations and organize those relations.
- 2– Developing students' abilities in writing political research by enhancing their scientific and practical capabilities, especially in using sources or other data collection methods, and building analytical skills capable of deriving and predicting future outcomes.
- 3– Cultivating and developing students' abilities toward analytical, creative, and predictive thinking, particularly in the field of international politics and sound international strategic planning.
- 4– Preparing specialized cadres in international politics who are capable of working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, universities, international and regional organizations, all state institutions, civil society organizations, and media bodies.

Skills

- 1– Equipping students with negotiation skills and the ability to manage internal and external crises and conflicts.
- 2– The skill of deduction and analysis.
- 3– The skill of developing solutions and assessing situations.
- 4– The ability to work in a multidisciplinary team, as international political science is closely interconnected with various other sciences.

Ethics

- 1- Developing students' abilities to share ideas.
- 2– Preparing specialized cadres in international politics capable of managing state affairs at both local and international levels.
- 3– Linking theoretical study with real international political data and events.
- 4– Leading in conducting research and field studies in the field of international politics and international relations and putting them into practice.

3. Teaching and Learning Strategies

- 1– Brainstorming Strategy
- 2– Mixed Learning Strategy (Group Work)
- 3– Discussion Strategy
- 4– Reciprocal Teaching Strategy
- 5– Research and Report Strategy
- 6– Problem Solving Strategy
- 7– Discovery Learning Strategy
- 8– Charts and Maps Strategy
- 9– E–Learning Strategy
- 10– Peer Assessment Strategy
- 11– Lecture Strategy
- 12– Interactive Homeroom Strategy
- 13– Self–Learning Strategy

4. Evaluation methods

Implementing it in all stages of the program in general: written tests, classroom observations, class achievement records, field training, conducting research and reports, oral exams, and final exams.

5. Faculty

Faculty Members

Academic Rank	Specialization		Special Requirements/Skills (if applicable)		Number of the teaching staff	
	General	Special			Staff	Lecturer
Professor		10			\	
Assistant Professor		6			\	
Lecturer						
Assistant Lecturer						

Professional Development

Mentoring new faculty members

Teaching methods course, workshops, training courses, scientific lectures, educational process evaluation program.

Professional development of faculty members

Educational process evaluation program, workshops, training courses, scientific lectures

6. Acceptance Criterion

Admission to the college for postgraduate studies is done through direct application on the ministry's system and by taking the competitive exam for applicants conducted by the college, according to the college's admission plan, which is distributed across general admission channels, special admission, privilege channels, and memorandums of understanding.

7. The most important sources of information about the program

College of Political Science Guide – Al-Nahrain University for the Academic Year 2023–2024

8. Program Development Plan

The college follows a strategic plan to develop the academic program through policies, including:

- Developmental policies: The College of Political Science seeks to develop and update curricula in a way that aligns with the requirements of studying political affairs at both the local and international levels and keeping up with global changes in the field of specialization.
- Sub-policies include focusing on introducing modern scientific courses and updating books and curricula in order to keep pace with developments in the field of scientific specialization.

Program Skills Outline															
				Required program Learning outcomes											
Year/Level	Course Code	Course Name	Basic or optional	Knowledge				Skills				Ethics			
				A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4
Chapter 1		Environmental Security in International Relations	Essential	*			*	*	*	*		*	*		*
Chapter 1		Military Alliances in the Twenty-First Century	Essential	*	*		*	*	*	*		*	*	*	
Chapter 1		Comprehensive capacity variables on foreign policy, study of selected models	Essential	*	*		*	*		*	*		*	*	*
Chapter 1		Leadership and Great power politics E	Essential		*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*	*
Chapter 1		Scientific Research Methodology	Essential		*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	
Chapter 1		Future of the World Order	optional		*	*	*		*		*	*	*	*	

Chapter 1		Water conflicts in the Middle East	optional		*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*	*

- Please tick the boxes corresponding to the individual program learning outcomes under evaluat

Course Description Form

1. Course Name	
Environmental Security in International Relations	
2. Course Code:	
3. Semester / Year	
First semester / Academic year 2026-2027	
4. Description Preparation Date:	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total)	
Total hours (45) / Number of units (2)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: Alaa Taleb Kalaf Email: dr: alaa@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	This topic introduces the concept of environmental security and its relationship to international security, traces the evolution of environmental concerns within international relations, and examines the role of the environment in explaining international conflicts and cooperation. It also identifies key environmental threats and their repercussions for the security of states, societies, and individuals, while exploring regional and international cooperation mechanisms to address them.

	Clarifying the evolution of the security concept from a focus on military threats to a concern for non-traditional threats, including environmental ones. – Examining the relationship between the environment and international conflicts, particularly competition over natural resources, water, and energy. – Studying key international environmental agreements and mechanisms for international cooperation to address environmental changes.
9.Teaching and Learning Strategies	
Strategy	– Lecture strategy – Discussion strategy – Brainstorming strategy – Problem-solving strategy – Discovery learning strategy – E-learning strategy – Self-learning strategy

10. Course Structure					
Week	Hours	Unit or subject name	Required Learning Outcomes	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	3	Definition and evolution of environmental security.	The student understands the concepts of security and environmental security, and explains their evolution from military dimensions to non-traditional ones.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
2	3	International relations theories and their application to environmental issues: Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism.	The student learns about the contributions of various theories and the Copenhagen School, and applies the concept of securitization to environmental issues.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
3	3	Environmental conferences: From Stockholm (1972) to the Earth Summit and multilateral agreements.	The student learns about the most important international conferences held since the 1970s.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
4	3	Actors in environmental security: States, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).	The student learns about the actors in the field of environmental security and their role in international relations.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
5	3	Climate change and global warming: * Anthropogenic and natural causes; * Epidemics, desertification, and natural disasters.	The student identifies the most significant environmental threats and analyzes their impact on the security of states and societies.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
6	3	Environmental disputes and resource conflicts * Water, energy, Agricultural land	The student explains the relationship between resource scarcity and conflicts, and how they affect political stability.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
7	3	Environmental Migration and Climate Refugees * Definition of climate	The student explains and analyzes the impact of environmental degradation on migration and	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		migration. * International legal frameworks. * Impact of migration on regional security.	displacement.		
8	3	Food and Energy Security Amidst Climate Change * Climate change as a threat to crops and agriculture. * Renewable energy and the global energy transition.	The student explains food security, climate change, and their impact on the environment	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
9	3	International Policies to Combat Climate Change * The 2015 Paris Agreement and implementation mechanisms. * Climate finance; The Green Climate Fund.	The student analyzes key environmental agreements and mechanisms for international cooperation in addressing environmental threats.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
10	3	Major powers and climate change: the United States, the European Union, China, and Russia.	The student analyzes key environmental agreements and mechanisms for international cooperation in addressing environmental threats.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
11	3	Environmental Security in the Middle East and North Africa * Region-specific challenges: drought, water scarcity, and extreme heat.	The student identifies the key environmental challenges in the Middle East and Africa and analyzes issues related to water, drought, and desertification, as well as their implications for regional security and stability.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
12	3	Strategies of the Gulf states, Iraq, Egypt, and Jordan.	Identifying key national strategies and plans, and understanding how to address and confront environmental challenges.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
13	3	Environmental Diplomacy and	Understanding environmental diplomacy	Giving lectures	ask questions oral test

		International Cooperation	mechanisms and international cooperation to mitigate environmental risks.	Discussio	
14	3	Measures and Solutions for Achieving Environmental Security in International Relations	Understanding the key measures and solutions that countries seek to implement in the realm of environmental security.	Giving lectures Discussio	ask questions oral test
15	3	Examination and Research Discussion	End-of-semester exam	Exam	Exam

11. Course Evaluation

- Annual coursework grade (30 marks): Worksheets, reports, discussions, oral test, and written exam.
- Semester final exam grade (70 marks).

12. Learning and Teaching Resources

Required textbooks (curricular books, if any)	-
Main references (sources)	Abdul Qadir Al-Sheikhli, *Environmental Protection in Light of Sharia, Law, Administration, Education, and Media*, Al-Huquqiyya Publications, Lebanon, 2009.
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)	Mohamed Adel Askar, *International Environmental Law and Climate Change: Challenges and Responses*, New University Publishing House, Alexandria, 2013.
Electronic References, Websites	Environmental Security and International Conflicts: An Analytical Study of the Dialectical Relationship https://asjp.cerist.dz/en/article/178610

Course Description Form

1. Course Name	
Military Alliances in the Twenty-First Century	
2. Course Code	
3. Semester / Year	
First semester / Academic year 2026 – 2027	
4. Description Preparation Date	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total)	
Total hours (45) / Number of units (2)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: khudher A. Atwan Email: dr.khudir@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	1. Employing international relations theories (such as defensive and structural realism, constructivism, the Copenhagen School of security studies, and liberal institutionalism) to explain emergence, continuity, or demise of alliances. 2. Analyzing existing alliances in terms of their structure and impact. 3. Analyzing the impact of global transformations on the structure of contemporary alliances within the international system.
4. Teaching and Learning Strategies	
Strategy	1. Giving lectures 3. Discussion

4. Research papers

5. Course Structure

Week	Hours	Unit or subject name	Required Learning Outcomes	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	3	Cognitive Learning Outcomes (Understanding) Defining and Conceptualizing Key Concepts Tracing Historical Evolution	Introduction to the Theory of Military Alliances and the Conceptual Origins of the Security Phenomenon	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
2	3	Cognitive Learning Outcomes (Understanding) Defining and Conceptualizing Key Concepts Tracing Historical Evolution	Introduction to the Theory of Military Alliances and the Conceptual Origins of the Security Phenomenon	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
3	3	Cognitive Learning Outcomes (Understanding) Defining and Conceptualizing Key Concepts Tracing Historical Evolution	Introduction to the Theory of Military Alliances and the Conceptual Origins of the Security Phenomenon	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
4	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The Balance of Threat, Collective Action, and the Problem of Burden-Sharing within Alliances	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
5	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives	The Balance of Threat, Collective Action, and the Problem of Burden-Sharing within Alliances	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test

		for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies			
6	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The Rise of "Networked Alliances" and Minilateral Military Arrangements	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
7	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The Rise of "Networked Alliances" and Minilateral Military Arrangements	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
8	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	NATO in the 21st Century	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
9	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	NATO in the 21st Century	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test

10	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The AUKUS alliance	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
11	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD)	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
12	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The "No-Limits" Russian-Chinese Partnership and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
13	3	Analytical Learning Outcomes (Analysis and Critique) Analyzing the motives for establishment Evaluating the effectiveness of alliances Comparing alliance strategies	The "No-Limits" Russian-Chinese Partnership and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test
14	3	Applied Learning Outcomes Analyzing geopolitical maps of alliances	Discussing a central question: Is the 21st century the century of "permanent alliances" or the century of "partnerships based on	Giving lecture Discussion	ask questions oral test

			temporary interests and networks"?		
15	3	Applied learning outcomes	exam	Exam	Exam
6. Course Evaluation					
The coursework is worth 30 marks (monthly exam 10 marks + daily worksheets, discussions, and quizzes 15 marks + attendance 5 marks) The final exam is worth 70 marks					
7. Learning and Teaching Resources					
Required textbooks (curricular books, if any)		-			
Main references (sources)		-			
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)		Snyder, G. H. (1984). 'The Security Dilemma • ,in Alliance Politics'. World Politics, 36(4)			
Electronic References, Websites		Lindsay, J. R. (2024). 'Cyber Attacks and the Architecture of Alliances: Redefining ,Article 5'. International Security, 48(4)			

Course Description Form

1. Course Name	
Comprehensive capacity variables on foreign policy, study of selected models	
2. Course Code	
3. Semester / Year	
First semester / Academic year 2026 – 2027	
4. Description Preparation Date	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total) / Number of Units (Total)	
Total hours (45) / Number of units (3)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: prof dr.shaimaa adil fadil Email: shaimaa.adil@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	This course introduces students to the concept of comprehensive power and its relationship to related concepts such as force. It reviews the most prominent approaches to measuring it, its criteria, the challenges it faces, and ways to address them. It also examines its impact on several countries, including Iraq, at the regional and international levels. Finally, it provides a general assessment of comprehensive power and the privatization of foreign policy in the contemporary international system.
9. Teaching and Learning Strategies	
Strategy	- Lectures - Oral exams - Written tests - Assignments to write reports and research's - Brainstorming

10. Course Structure					
Week	Hours	Required Learning Outcomes	Unit or subject name	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The overall Comprehensive capacity variables to define it, related concepts, approaches to measuring state power, and criteria for measuring state power.	a lecture	Direct questions
2	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The student understands the subject matter by identifying how foreign policy is made in developed countries.	Brain storming	Direct questions
3	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The student understands the subject matter by identifying how foreign policy is made in developing countries.	a lecture	Direct questions
4	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The student understands the subject matter by identifying the variables influencing foreign policy making in developed countries within the contemporary international system.	Brain storming	Direct questions
5	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The student understands the subject matter by identifying the variables influencing foreign policy making in developing countries within the contemporary international system.	a report	Direct questions
6	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The International System and the Effectiveness of Foreign Policy	a lecture	Direct questions

7	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	Balance of Power and International Security.	Brain storming	Direct questions
8	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The student understands the subject matter by recognizing comprehensive power and the privatization of foreign policy in the contemporary international system	a report	Direct questions
9	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	The student understands the subject matter by recognizing comprehensive power and the privatization of foreign policy: selected case studies: Iraq	a lecture	Direct questions
10	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	South Africa's Comprehensive Capabilities and Foreign Policy towards International Issues	Oral test	Direct questions
11	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	Australia's Comprehensive Capabilities and Foreign Policy towards International Issues.	a lecture	Direct questions
12	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	China's Comprehensive Capabilities and Foreign Policy towards International Issues	Oral test	Direct questions
13	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	Russia's Comprehensive Capabilities and Foreign Policy towards International Issues	a lecture	Direct questions
14	3	Student Evaluation Weekly /	Test	Brain storming	Direct questions

		Theoretical Discussions			
15	3	Student Evaluation Weekly / Theoretical Discussions	Discussion of research	a report	Direct questions

11. Course Evaluation

The coursework is worth 30 marks (monthly exam 15 marks + daily worksheets, discussions, and quizzes 10 marks + attendance 5 marks)

The final exam is worth 70 marks

12. Learning and Teaching Resources

Required textbooks (curricular books, if any)	
Main references (sources)	Nothing
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)	Shaimaa Adel Fadel et al., Transformations of the Regional Environment and Their Impact on Iraq, Baghdad, 2024. - Nawar Jalil Hashim and Amjad Zain Al-Abidin Ta'ma, Moral Factors and Their Impact on Measuring State Power (A Comparative Study: Iraq with Neighboring Countries), Baghdad, Al-Bayan Center for Studies and Planning, 2021 - Muhammad Sadiq Ismail, The South African Experience, 2nd ed., Cairo Arab Publishing and Distribution, 2014.

	- A group of researchers, Iraq: A Study of Its Natural, Demographic, Economic, and Political Conditions, 1st ed., Eritrea Publishing and Distribution House, 2023. - Ahmed Nouri Al-Nuaimi, Foreign Policy, College of Political Science, University of Baghdad, Iraq, 2023. - Yasser Abdul Hussein, One Hundred Years of Iraqi Foreign Policy 1921-2021, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, Baghdad, 2024 - Salar Saad Mohammed, The Use of Soft Power in Iraqi Foreign Policy After 2005, Master's Thesis, College of Law and Political Science, Iraqi University, 2023 - Nawfal Hamid Al-Zubaidi, Iraq's Strategy After the Occupation, 1st Edition, Baghdad, 2021 - Elaf Rajih Hadi, Iraq's Position in the Global System and Mechanisms for Developing Foreign Policy Tools, Iraq, Adnan Publishing House, 2022
Electronic References, Websites	Electronic References, Websites espeacally by Comprehensive capacity variables on foreign policy, study of selected models

Course Description Form

1. Course Name	
Leadership and Great power politics E	
2. Course Code	
3. Semester / Year	
First semester / Academic year 2026 – 2027	
4. Description Preparation Date	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total)	
Total hours (45) / Number of units (2)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: Hayder Zuhair Jasim Email: haider.zaheer@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	1. Theoretical Frameworks and Political Analysis: Understanding and studying leadership as a primary variable in analyzing 2. international politics and the political behavior of great powers. 3. International Structure and Balance of Power: Examining structural power transitions, rivalry among great powers, and managing shifts within the international system. 4. Decision–Making and Crisis Management: Analyzing the psychological behavior of leaders, reducing the impact of cognitive biases on war and peace decisions,

	and managing political crises. 5. Institutional Diplomacy and Alliances: Studying the role of leadership in establishing international organizations, summit diplomacy, and managing regional and global alliances and blocs. 6. Geopolitics, Geoeconomics, and Technology: Understanding impact of geopolitical competition, economic sanctions, digital sovereignty, and advanced technology on political decision-making. 7. Nuclear Deterrence and Contemporary Issues (Applied Models): Studying nuclear deterrence policies and climate politics, while applying concepts to contemporary crises (such as U.S.–China rivalry, the Ukrainian conflict, and the role of BRICS+).
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9. Teaching and Learning Strategies

Strategy	1. Giving lectures 2. Brainstorm through provocative questions 3. Discussion 4. Research papers 5. Exams
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10. Course Structure

Week	Hours	Unit or subject name	Required Learning Outcomes	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	3	Theoretical Frameworks and Hegemony • Leadership as an Explanatory Variable in International Politics Analysis. • The Role of Political Leadership in Realist School. • International Constructivism and the Impact of Intellectual Leadership. • Foreign Policy Analysis Models and Leadership Behavior.	(Ability to evaluate leadership as a key explanatory variable and apply realist/constructivist frameworks to foreign policy analysis).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
2	3	: International Structure and Balance of Power • Dynamics of Structural Power Transition in International Politics. • Leadership Behavior in Balancing and Containment Policies. • Managing Relative	(Understanding structural power transitions and leadership behavior in balancing, containment, and managing power decline).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		Power Decline in the International System.			
3	3	Decision-Making and Crisis Management • Political Psychology of Great Power Leaders. • Political Crisis Management and Coercive Diplomacy. • Translating Leadership Orientations into Foreign Policy Doctrines. • The Impact of Cognition and Cognitive Biases on War and Peace Decisions.	(Analyzing political psychology and cognitive biases of leaders affecting coercive diplomacy and war/peace decisions).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
4	3	Institutional Leadership and Multilateral Diplomacy • The Role of Hegemonic Leadership in Establishing International Organizations. • Summit Diplomacy and Great Power Leaders' Interactions. • Political Utilization	(Evaluating hegemonic leadership in building international organizations, summit diplomacy, and emerging power blocs).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		of UN Mechanisms and Institutions. Emerging Powers' Initiatives in Building Parallel International Blocs.			
5	3	Geopolitics and Regional Influence - Political Application of Classical Geopolitical Theories. - Managing Spheres of Influence and Buffer States. - International Politics Regarding Global Commons. - Regional Diplomacy and Political Expansion Policies.	(Applying classical geopolitical theories to manage spheres of influence, buffer states, and global commons).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
6	3	Exam	(Assessing students' analytical and theoretical mastery of the topics covered in Weeks 1–6).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
7	3	Goeconomics and Trade Policies Political Employment of Sanctions and Economic	Examining the political use of economic sanctions, protectionism, currency hegemony, and energy supply chains).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		Embargoes. • Protectionist Policies and Managing International Trade Conflicts. • International Politics of Supply Chains and Energy Resources. • Currency Hegemony Policies and Trade-offs Among International Currencies.			
8	3	Proxy Warfare and Hybrid Interactions • Political Management of Regional Proxy Conflicts. • Political Adaptation of Digital Diplomacy and Cyber Space. • Managing Media Competition and Influence Diplomacy in Global Public Opinion. • Political Interaction with Non-State Actors.	(Analyzing the political management of proxy conflicts, cyber/digital diplomacy, media influence, and non-state actors).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
9	3	Technology and Digital		Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		Sovereignty • Political Competition over Tech Innovation Leadership. • International Geopolitics of Semiconductors and Advanced Technology. • Setting Rules and Standards Governing Global Digital Space. The Impact of Automation on International Political Decision-Making.	(Evaluating international tech competition, semiconductor geopolitics, digital space governance, and automation).		
10	3	Ideology and Soft Power • Ideological Conflict Among International Political Models. • International Legitimacy and Leadership Role in Norm-Building. • Political Investment in Cultural and Public Diplomacy. • Crisis of Moral Leadership and Double Standards in International Politics.	(Critiquing ideological conflicts, norm-building, public diplomacy, and the moral leadership crisis).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
11	3	Nuclear Politics and Deterrence • Political	(Understanding mutual nuclear	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		Management of Mutual Nuclear Deterrence Doctrines. • Diplomatic Negotiations for Arms Control Treaties. • Political Dimension of Nuclear Arsenal Modernization. • International Diplomacy for Nuclear Non-Proliferation.	deterrence management, arms control negotiations, and non-proliferation diplomacy).		
12	3	Alliance Management and Blocs • The Leadership Role in Shaping International Alliance Doctrines. • Managing Political Relations Between Great Powers and Allies. • Financial and Diplomatic Policies for Alliance Burden-Sharing. • Containing Allies' Moves Toward Strategic Autonomy.	(Understanding leadership's role in alliance doctrines, burden-sharing, and containing allies' strategic autonomy).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
13	3	Environmental Politics		Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test

		and Climate Geopolitics • International Diplomacy for Resource and Water Security. • Leadership Competition over International Climate Negotiations. • Political and Geographic Scramble for the Arctic Region. • Integrating Environmental Crises into the International Politics Agenda.	(Analyzing water/resource security diplomacy, international climate negotiations, and the scramble for the Arctic).		
14	3	Applied Models and Political Case Studies	(Synthesizing and applying concepts to real-world cases like US-China competition, the Ukraine war, BRI, and BRICS+).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
15	3	Exam	(Comprehensive evaluation of students' ability to critique, synthesize, and apply theories to contemporary great power politics).	Exam	Exam
11. Course Evaluation					

The coursework is worth 30 marks (monthly exam 15 marks + daily worksheets, discussions, and quizzes 10 marks + attendance 5 marks)

The final exam is worth 70 marks

12. Learning and Teaching Resources

Required textbooks (curricular books, if any)	• Approved PhD Course Syllabus (2026–2027): Leadership and Great Power Politics, Prof. Dr. Hayder Zuhair Jasim.
Main references (sources)	• Core specialized treatises on Realist & Constructivist Theories, Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA), Geopolitics, Political Psychology, and Geoeconomics.
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)	• Peer-reviewed journals and policy reports on Great Power Rivalry, Nuclear Deterrence, Cyber Diplomacy, Proxy Warfare, and Climate Geopolitics.
Electronic References, Websites	• Academic research databases (JSTOR, Scopus, Google Scholar) and official reports from international bodies (UN, EU, NATO, BRICS+)

Course Description Form

1. Course Name	
Scientific Research Methodology	
2. Course Code	
3. Semester / Year	
First semester / Academic year 2026 – 2027	
4. Description Preparation Date	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total) / Number of Units (Total)	
Total hours (30) / Number of units (2)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: Dr. Salman Ali Hussein Email: dr.salman.ali@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	1_ Training on applying the research methodology in scientific research. 2_ Teaching the mechanism of using and employing scientific sources 3_ Conducting practical applications on scientific research
9.	
Strategy	• Seminars • worksheets • analysis

10. Course Structure					
Week	Hours	Required Learning Outcomes	Unit or subject name	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	2	• Preparing researchers in international politics capable of analyzing political phenomena scientifically and accurately according to the scientific method	Scientific research, the concept, characteristics, and its relationship to related terms	Giving a Lecture in person	Discussion and tests
2	2	• Understanding the necessary criteria for selecting a research title and identifying the types of research	Characteristics and problems of scientific research in the human sciences	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
3	2	• Students' knowledge of research methodologies	Types and levels of scientific research	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
4	2	• Students' knowledge of research methodologies (repeated as in the original)	inductive scientific research methods	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
5	2	• First-term exam	Deductive scientific research methods	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
6	2	• Identifying how to choose the appropriate methodology when conducting research	Approaches to Scientific-historical - descriptive Research	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
7	2	• Distinguishing between an approach	Approaches to scientific – comparative - behavioral –	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests

		and a method, and studying several research approaches	decision making		
8	2	• Studying the aforementioned research approaches	Methods of collecting data	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
9	2	• Recognizing the approved methods of data collection	The methodological Construction of the presented scientific research - the problem – scientific hypotheses - goals –	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
10	2	• Students’ understanding of citation, its types, and some common mistakes in academic writing	The methodological construction of scientific research – objectives - importance - difficulties - limits - previous studies - abstract	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
11	2	• Enhancing students’ understanding of citation, its types, and common mistakes in academic writing	Mechanism for writing the structure of scientific research and citations	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
12	2	• Encouraging students to innovate new methodologies or develop existing ones	Scientific analysis and reaching results (proposing a new approach to scientific research in political science - possibility and requirements)	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
13	2	• Encouraging students to innovate new	The final output of the scientific research, technical	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests

		methodologies or develop existing ones (repeated as in the original)	and formal procedures		
14	2	• Developing students' abilities to observe formal and technical requirements necessary for completing research	Discussing research and assignments	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
15	2	• Assessing students' practical skills (preparing the assigned research)	Discussing research and assignments	Giving a lecture in person	Discussion and tests
11. Course Evaluation					
The coursework is worth 30 marks (monthly exam 15 marks + daily worksheets, discussions, and quizzes 10 marks + attendance 5 marks) The final exam is worth 70 marks					
12. Learning and Teaching Resources					
Required textbooks (curricular books, if any)			Iraqi and Arabic scientific research books		
Main references (sources)			1_ Saleh Al-Taie, Scientific Research Methods, 2_ Haider Zayer, Basics of Scientific Research		
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)			Books, research and studies		
Electronic References, Websites			Official and governmental websites		

Course Description Form

1. Course Name:	
Future of the World Order	
2. Course Code:	
3. Semester / Year:	
First semester / Academic year 2026 – 2027	
4. Description Preparation Date:	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms:	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total) / Number of Units (Total)	
Total hours (30) / Number of units (2)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: Rawaa taha darweesh Email: rawa.taha@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	- Enable students to analyze structural transformations in the world order and indicators of power redistribution. - Develop the ability to explain how technology, economics, resources, and outer space reshape global power. - Analyze polarity, geopolitical fragmentation, multiple alignments, middle powers, and the Global South. - Develop strategic foresight and scenario-building skills based on drivers and observable indicators. - Strengthen critical thinking and evidence-based academic argumentation on the future of the world order
9. Teaching and Learning Strategies	
Strategy	1. Interactive lectures 2. Academic discussion and debate 3. Brainstorming through problem-oriented questions 4. Case analysis and problem solving 5. Research papers and worksheets

6. Self-directed and online learning 7. Strategic foresight and scenario building					
10. Course Structure					
Week	Hours	Required Learning Outcomes	Unit or subject name	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	2	The Concept of World Order and the Evolution of Its Structure	Distinguish between the international system and world order and analyze the evolution of global structure.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
2	2	Structural Transformation and the Problem of Polarity in the World Order	Analyze indicators of structural transformation and assess patterns and limits of polarity.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
3	2	Geopolitical Fragmentation and the Reshaping of Global Interdependence	Explain how geopolitical fragmentation and supply-chain shifts reshape global interdependence.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, oral assessment worksheet
4	2	Artificial Intelligence and The Redistribution of Global Power	Assess how AI, data, and computing capabilities affect the distribution of global power.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, oral assessment worksheet
5	2	Technological Sovereignty and the Geopolitics of Semiconductors	Analyze semiconductors, technology controls, and strategic chokepoints in international competition.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, oral assessment worksheet
6	2	Digital Sovereignty and the Future of Cyber Power	Explain digital sovereignty and the role of digital infrastructure and cybersecurity in power.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet

7	2	The Geopolitics of Outer Space and the Future of Global Power	Analyze the transformation of outer space into a domain of strategic and economic competition.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
8	2	Critical Minerals and the Changing Geography of Resources and Energy	Assess how critical minerals and energy transition reshape geopolitical significance.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
9	2	Weaponization Of Interdependence and Instruments of Economic Power	Analyze the use of sanctions and financial, trade, and technological networks as instruments of influence.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
10	2	The Future of the Global Monetary and Financial Order	Anticipate changes in the monetary and financial order, currency diversification and payment systems	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
11	2	Middle Powers and Multiple Alignments in the World Order	Explain middle power strategic autonomy, and multiple partnerships in a changing world order.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
12	2	The Global South and the Future of Global Governance	Assess the Global South in reforming global governance and redistributing international influence.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
13	2	Demographic and Climate Transformations and the Future of Power	Connect demographic, climate, migration, and resource pressures with future transformations of power.	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment worksheet
14	2	Foresight of the World Order and Scenario Building	Apply strategic foresight to identify drivers, build alternative	Interactive lecture, discussion, and case analysis	Questions, discussion, Oral assessment

			scenarios, and justify a preferred scenario analytically.		worksheet
15	2	Final Examination	Assess students' capacity for analysis, synthesis, and foresight across the course themes.	Exam	Final Examination
11. Course Evaluation					
The coursework is worth 30 marks (monthly exam 15 marks + daily worksheets, discussions, and quizzes 10 marks + attendance 5 marks) The final exam is worth 70 marks					
12. Learning and Teaching Resources					
Required textbooks (curricular books if any)			No single prescribed textbook; the course uses selected books, peer-reviewed studies, and recent international reports.		
Main references (sources)			Hedley Bull, The Anarchical Society. Kenneth N. Waltz, Theory of International Politics. Barry Buzan & George Lawson, The Global Transformation. Joseph S. Nye Jr., The Future of Power. Amitav Acharya, The End of American World Order		
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)			Journals: Foreign Affairs, World Politics, International Security, International Studies Quarterly. Periodic reports by the United Nations, IMF, World Bank, SIPRI, and UNCTAD.		
Electronic References, Websites			Official websites of the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, and UNCTAD.		

Course Description Form

1. Course Name	
Water conflicts in the Middle East	
2. Course Code	
3. Semester / Year	
First semester / Academic year 2026 – 2027	
4. Description Preparation Date	
1/9/2026	
5. Available Attendance Forms	
In-person and Online (Classroom)	
6. Number of Credit Hours (Total)	
Total hours (30) / Number of units (2)	
7. Course administrator's name (mention all, if more than one name)	
Name: Asst. Prof. Dr. Mohsen Hassani Zaher Email: dr.mohsenhasani@nahrainuniv.edu.iq	
8. Course Objectives	
Course Objectives	Definition, interpretation, analysis, evaluation, comparison, development
9. Teaching and Learning Strategies	
Strategy	1. Giving lectures 2. Brainstorm through provocative questions 3. Discussion 4. Research papers 5.Exams

10. Course Structure

Week	Hours	Unit or subject name	Required Learning Outcomes	Learning method	Evaluation method
1	2	Conceptual introduction to water, security, and geopolitics	Distinguishing the concepts of water conflict, water security, water scarcity, and hydro-geopolitics.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
2	2	Theories and approaches explaining water conflicts	Applying realist theory and the political economy approach.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
3	2	The geopolitics of transboundary water basins.	Analyzing the impact of geographical location.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
4	2	International water law and conventions regulating the use of international watercourses.	Water scarcity and climate change	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
5	2	Water scarcity, climate change, and human security.	Linking environmental and water pressures to food security, migration, health, and socio-political stability.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
6	2	Political economy and water justice	Analyzing how water is distributed	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
7	2	The Tigris and Euphrates basins: Actors, projects, and water policies.	Analyzing water relations among Turkey, Iraq, Syria, and Iran	Giving lectures Discussion	Exam

8	2	Iraqi water security: Challenges and alternatives.	Evaluating the impacts of dams, pollution, mismanagement, climate change, and population growth on Iraqi water security.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
9	2	The Nile River basin and the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam	Analyzing the interests of Ethiopia, Egypt, and Sudan, and the negotiation pathways regarding the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
10	2	The Jordan River basin and water in the Arab-Israeli conflict	Explaining the relationship between control over water resources, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and settlement pathways.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
11	2	Other water basins and regions, including the Orontes, Yarmouk, and groundwater.	Comparing patterns of conflict and cooperation in various regional water contexts.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
12	2	The role of international powers, organizations, and financial institutions in water conflicts	Evaluating the role of international mediation, financing, and water diplomacy in managing water conflicts.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
13	2	Regional cooperation and water diplomacy.	Designing confidence-building mechanisms, joint management of water basins, and	Giving lectures Discussion	Exam

			conflict resolution frameworks.		
14	2	Scenarios for the future of water conflicts in the Middle East.	Building scenarios for trend analysis, continuity, cooperation, and escalation in regional water conflicts.	Giving lectures Discussion	ask questions oral test
15	2	Integrative review, research presentations, and proposed policy briefs.	Synthesizing acquired knowledge and evaluating alternatives and policies for conflict management and achieving water security.	Exam	Exam

11. Course Evaluation

The coursework is worth 30 marks (monthly exam 15 marks + daily worksheets, discussions, and quizzes 10 marks + attendance 5 marks)

The final exam is worth 70 marks

12. Learning and Teaching Resources

Required textbooks (curricular books, if any)	-
Main references (sources)	There is no single prescribed textbook
Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports...)	Reports + United Nations
Electronic References, Websites	The study of water conflicts in the Middle East + speciali studies on the Tigris and Euphrates basins