

Course syllabus for ERASMUS+ incoming students

Course Title	
Contemporary Security Issues	
Academic Teacher	Magdalena Kasperska PhD
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ECTS credits	5
Number of hours	120
Course code	INT-IGBN-CSI-26
Course description	
This interdisciplinary course examines current and emerging security challenges at the national, European, and global levels. The course is based on the analysis of contemporary events and real-world case studies related to internal and external security. Students explore political, military, social, and technological dimensions of security, with particular emphasis on the activities of law enforcement agencies, the armed forces, emergency management institutions, and civil protection systems. The course combines theoretical foundations with practical analysis of current crises, enabling students to understand the complexity of modern security environments and the decision-making processes of public authorities. As the security environment is constantly evolving, selected topics may be updated during the semester to reflect current international developments and emerging threats.	
Learning outcomes - course content	
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to: -explain the nature and evolution of contemporary security challenges, -analyze current national and international security events using case study methods, -identify political, military, economic, social, and technological factors influencing security, -examine the roles and responsibilities of the police, armed forces, emergency services, and crisis management authorities, -assess responses to natural disasters, technological accidents, public emergencies, and hybrid threats, -discuss terrorism, organized crime, cyber threats, disinformation, and critical infrastructure protection,	

- evaluate crisis management systems and emergency response mechanisms,
- analyse the impact of armed conflicts and geopolitical developments on regional and global security,
- interpret contemporary security policies and strategies,
- develop critical thinking and evidence-based assessments of current security issues.

Student workload (self-study description)

Student independent work includes:

- monitoring and analysing current security events reported by reliable national and international sources,
- reading academic literature, policy reports, and strategic documents,
- preparing an individual or group presentation based on a contemporary security issue,
- conducting a case study analysis of a selected crisis or security incident,
- participation in selected classes with a Polish-speaking group (if applicable),
- independent preparation for classes and examinations,
- preparing short analytical reports and participating in classroom discussions.

Literature

Recommended Literature and Online Resources

-NATO Review

<https://www.nato.int/docu/review/>

-European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) – Publications

<https://www.iss.europa.eu/publications>

-RAND Corporation – National Security Research

<https://www.rand.org/topics/national-security.html>

-Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) – Analysis

– <https://www.csis.org/analysis>

-FBI – Reports & Publications

<https://www.fbi.gov/history/history-publications-reports>

-Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) – Resources

<https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources>

-Europol – Publications

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-events>

-Reuters – World News

<https://www.reuters.com/world/>

-Politico Europe

<https://www.politico.eu/>

-Defense News

<https://www.defensenews.com/>

-BBC News – World

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world>

Additional course materials

Due to the dynamic nature of contemporary security issues, additional readings, official reports, policy papers, and case studies will be assigned throughout the semester based on current international developments and emerging security challenges.