This class intends to offer the students an overview of international politics since the early twentieth century, focusing on the origins, course, and impact of the two World Wars and the Cold War. The extra-European worlds will also be given a special focus, from the collapse of the Western colonial empires to the apparition of new international or regional centres of power, notably in Asia and Africa. Finally, the course will end by a reflexion on how to make the history of international relations, emphasising the “new diplomatic history”.

Objectifs pédagogiques du cours / Course objectives

- Understanding the major developments in international relations since the First World War
- Understanding the multiple facets (political, economic, social, cultural, etc.) of international relations and their influence in the evolution of societies in the 20th century, in particular outside the European continent
- Developing your critical thinking about the past, and about the value of history for thinking about the key political and governmental challenges
Compétences acquises / Learning outcomes

- Analyze a historical fact or phenomenon in its context
- Know how to problematize
- Take into account time and space scales in the understanding of a fact or phenomenon

Plan de cours par séance / Course content for each session

- Lesson 1. Introduction: The decay of the European Concert and the twilight of the “Long 19th Century”
- Lesson 2. Entering the Age of the extremes: Europe on the edge of catastrophe (1905-1914)
- Lesson 3. How was World War One a World War?
- Lesson 4. The world in 1919: toward a multilateral regulation of international relations? Lesson 5. The interwar period in Europe: between modernity and conservatism, revolutions and counter-revolutions
- Lesson 7. Imperialisms and anti-imperialisms between the two World Wars
- Lesson 8. The Great Depression: a global crisis
- Lesson 9. Totalitarianism, totalitarian regimes and their geopolitics (1922-1935)
- Lesson 10. The road to war (1935-1939)
- Lesson 11. WWII in a global perspective (1939-1945)
- Lesson 12. Shaping the post-war world (1944-47)
- Lesson 13. Containment and roll back and strategic stability (47-53)
- Lesson 17. Middle-Eastern politics (1948-1978): national, regional and international perspective
- Lesson 18. The Detente and the Helsinki Process: the beginning of the end?
- Lesson 19. East-West relations at the end of the Cold War and the emergence of new centres of powers
- Lesson 20. History did not end: conflicts and their governance after the Cold War
- Lesson 21. Conclusion: a states’ world? New diplomatic history and the renewal of the historiography of international relations
Références bibliographiques / Bibliography


Mini CV de l’enseignant / Mini CV of the teacher

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