

Course Overview

World Politics

Professor: H el ene Thiollet

Session: June

Language of instruction: English

Number of hours of class: 36

Objective of the Course

This course relies on both theoretical and empirical (case studies) approaches to help students craft their own analysis of world politics. The course proposes an interdisciplinary analysis of international issues, using the methods and frameworks of a variety of social sciences fields, including sociology, history, political science, comparative politics, international relations, and political economy.

Summary

This course offers an interdisciplinary approach to World Politics, combining conceptual tools, historical insight, and empirical evidence to investigate recurrent patterns and issues. It will introduce students to core concepts, such as power, security, cooperation, sovereignty, etc. from various disciplinary perspectives including global history, political science, comparative politics, political theory, international relations, international political economy, sociology and international public law. In order to account for the profound transformation of world politics wrought by globalization, the course explores a vast array of topics ranging from foreign policy, social movements and economic crises to wars, empires and international organizations, and, to do so, uses different levels of analysis – from the local to the global. Through major themes in international politics (war, peace, imperialism, human rights, terrorism, economic development, economic crises, international organizations, migration, etc.), students will develop analytical skills grounded in both theoretical and empirical knowledge.

The course is designed for students with a background in at least one of the human and social sciences (sociology, history, political science, economics, anthropology, geography).

Organisation of the Course

The first set of sessions introduces and examines the main concepts at stake through historical examples:

- Empire
- International order, international systems, international society
- Globalisation
- Power
- State, Sovereignty
- Multilateralism and Governance

The second set of sessions delves into various topics and issues in contemporary World Politics.

- War
- Peace
- Security
- Violence

- Political economy
- Crisis
- Inequality
- Development
- Migration
- Revolutions

Main Professor Biography



Hélène Thiollet is a CNRS tenured researcher at Sciences Po and teaches international relations, comparative politics and migration studies at Sciences Po. Her research focuses on the politics of migration and asylum in the Global South, and she focuses her empirical research on the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa. Her recent publications are available [here](#). In the Fall 2016, she was a Visiting Scholar at GRTIM University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona. Hélène coordinated the ANR research project "MobGlob – Global Mobility and Migration Governance" (ANR 2012-2015) with Catherine Wihtol de Wenden.