

GLOBAL DIPLOMACY: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Professors: **Thierry BALZACQ, Elise ROUSSEAU, Marie ROBIN**

Session: **July 2023**

Language of instruction: **English**

Number of hours of class: **36h**



Objective of the Course

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand and define the main concepts of diplomacy
- Navigate the central intellectual traditions of diplomatic studies
- Identify and characterize issues amenable to a diplomatic treatment
- Apply diplomatic concepts and methods to a broad range of issues, and assess their relevance
- Develop an independent and critical approach to contemporary diplomatic challenges



Summary

Diplomacy is the ‘supreme civilizing institution of world politics’. Its study is on the rise, but the contours of diplomacy have considerably expanded, which raises questions about its meaning. This course investigates the discourses, theories and practices associated with diplomacy, across different levels and within a wide range of areas. It equips you with the basic vocabulary of diplomacy and provides you with clear applications of its concepts to a broad family of subjects. Questions of central interest to the course are: What is diplomacy and where does it come from? What difference (if any) is there between state and non-state diplomacies? How is state diplomacy produced? What instruments do actors employ to achieve their diplomatic objectives? Why do international organizations recruit “ambassadorial celebrities”? How do new technologies of information and communication influence classical tools of diplomacy? What are the characteristics of diplomacy in different areas (e.g., defense, culture and science, humanitarian, and economics)?



Organization of the course

This course is built upon two interdependent pillars, namely lectures and seminars. Both require an extensive participation of students. To that effect, essential readings must be undertaken ahead of the class session, so that discussions are focused, intense, and productive for the group. By the same token, class attendance is compulsory.

Essential readings will be available two weeks before the course starts. A shared Google Drive will allow enrolled students to download readings.

Class topics

1. Diplomacy across time and space
2. The canon of diplomatic political thought
3. Ministries of foreign affairs and non-state actors
4. The diplomat's logics of action
5. Rituals, Law, and Protocol
6. Bilateral schemes of diplomacy
7. Multilateral diplomacy
8. Public diplomacy
9. The digitalization of diplomacy
10. Mediation and negotiation
11. Simulation game
12. Humanitarian diplomacy
13. Economic diplomacy
14. Defense diplomacy



Main Professor's Biography



Thierry Balzacq is a University Professor at Sciences Po and Professorial Fellow at CERI-Sciences Po. He is the 2022/2023 Susan Strange Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). A former Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University (2017-2018), Balzacq was awarded a Francqui Research Chair (Belgium's highest academic distinction) at the University of Namur, in 2016. He was formerly the Scientific Director of the French Ministry of Defense's research center (2014-2016). Balzacq held an Honorary Professorial Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh (2012-2015), where he was also Fellow for "outstanding research" at the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities. He has published over a hundred scientific works in English and French, on Security, IR Theory, and Diplomatic Studies. He has advised different institutions and organizations on security matters, including the EU Commission, the EU Parliament, and the Australian Department of Home Affairs. He co-edits the "Oxford Studies in Grand Strategy" book series.