Human Security, Globalization and Sustainable Development Course Descriptor

Course Title	Human Security, Globalization and Sustainable Development	Faculty	Politics & IR
Course code	NCHPIR778	Course Leader	Dr Pablo Calderon-Martinez
Credit points	15	Teaching Period	Either
FHEQ level	7	Date approved	January 2021
Compulsory/ Optional	Compulsory		
Pre-requisites	None		
Co-requisites	None		

COURSE SUMMARY

This course will further the study of security and stability as concepts within International Relations. The course will focus on security as a human condition, rather than taking a reductionist state-centric approach. The course will focus on how the changing nature of International Relations – which relates to the impact of globalization on key political issues such as authority, sovereignty, governance and democracy – shapes our understandings of human security. The course looks beyond military and armed conflicts (i.e. how countries use war to achieve security) and engages with topics linked to human security such as minority rights, terrorism, migration, poverty, disease, organised and cyber- crime and other international problems. Particular attention will be given to environmental threats and how these are intrinsically related to processes of economic development and growth, thus reflecting the focal engagement of the programme with sustainable development. In short, security will not be understood solely as a concern pertaining to states, but also as a core value and an individual right. Given the scope of the topics covered, the course will act as bridge between International Relations, Comparative Politics and Political Thought.

COURSE AIMS

- To explore in significant depth how the concept of human security is used within political science.

- To compare and contrast its conceptualizations within the strands of IR, Comparative Politics and Political Thought.

- To encourage critical evaluation of the ways in which different International Relations theories explain how human security is attained and maintained, and how security is used as a unit of analysis.

- To give students the knowledge and understanding of, and skills to analyse and evaluate, information from various levels of engagement in international politics.

- To critically discuss and investigate how current debates surrounding the issue of human security link to debates on sustainable development as a way to solve the paradox between economic considerations (development) and the environmental concerns (sustainability).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

K1d   Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key theoretical and policy debates in each topic area covered, and their relationship and relevance to the core programme theme of sustainable development and security.

K2d   Demonstrate a critical awareness of the frameworks for evaluating the tradition of Security Studies and the contributions of different schools of thought to our understanding.

K3d   Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the key concepts utilized to theorize and understand the critical relationships between human security, globalization and sustainable development.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC SKILLS

S1d   Critically appraise different types of sources in the academic literature in Security Studies and International Relations.

S2d   Be able to critically analyse the evolution of different views in the fields of Human Security, Globalization and Sustainable Development.

S3d   Apply their knowledge to current and emerging issues in international security, displaying both sophistication in their use of argument, as well as an awareness of real-world constraints.

TRANSFERABLE AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

T1d   Synthesize and analyse large amounts of information from different disciplinary and methodological perspectives related to the fields of Security Studies and Sustainable Development.

T2d   Have confidence in reading and understanding new and unfamiliar source material.

T3d   Lead and contribute constructively and actively to group discussions.

T4d   Consistently apply an excellent level of technical proficiency in written English, using an advanced application of scholarly terminology, that demonstrates the ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and with sophistication.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teaching and learning strategies for this course will include:

- Full-cohort lectures
- Group tutorials or seminars
- Office hours
- Two-hour revision session

Course information and supplementary materials are available on the College's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Students will attend Collections (formal meetings) in which they receive comprehensive and collated feedback about their performance over the term.

Students are required to attend and participate in all the formal and timetabled sessions for this course. Students are also expected to manage their directed learning and independent study in support of the course.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

- Communication Skills
- Presentation skills
- Work independently, creatively, and to deadlines
- Conduct independent research and explore relevant existing knowledge
- Analyse, contextualise, and interpret complex policy issues and multiple sources of evidence
- Synthesise and evaluate information against a backdrop of uncertainty
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills

ASSESSMENT

FORMATIVE

Students will be formatively assessed during the course by means of set assignments. These do not count towards the end of year results, but will provide students with developmental feedback, for example group or individual presentations, projects and short policy pieces.

SUMMATIVE

AE:	Assessment Activity	Weighting (%)	Online submission	Duration	Length
1	Essay	30%	yes		2000 words
2	Exam	70%	no	2 hours	

The examination will consist of a number of questions from which the student will have the choice of answering a specified number. Both the examination and the written assignment will be assessed in accordance with the assessment aims set out in the Programme Specification.

FEEDBACK

Students will receive formal feedback in a variety of ways: written (including via email correspondence); oral (e.g. on an *ad hoc* basis) and indirectly through discussion during group tutorials/seminars. Students will also attend the formal meeting, Collections, in which they will receive constructive and developmental feedback on their performance.

Feedback on examinations is provided through generic internal examiners' reports and are made available to the student on the VLE. For all other summative assessment methods, feedback is made available to the student either via email, the VLE or another appropriate method.

INDICATIVE READING

Note: Comprehensive and current reading lists for courses are produced annually in the Course Syllabus or other documentation provided to students; the indicative reading list provided below is used as part of the approval/modification process only.

BOOKS

Battersby, P., and Siracusa, J. M. (2009). *Globalization and Human Security* (Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield).

Baylis John, et al., (eds) (2013), *Strategy in the Contemporary World*, 4th ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press)

Browning, Christopher S. (2013), *International Security: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Chomsky, N. (1999) *The New Military Humanism: Lessons from Kosovo* (London and New York: Pluto Press).

Collins, Alan, (ed.) (2016) *Contemporary Security Studies*, 4th ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Klein, N. (2015). *This Changes Everything* (London: Penguin Random House).

Kolodziej, E.A. (2005), *Security and International Relations* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Trejo, G and Ley, S. (2020), Drugs and Violence: The Political Logic of Criminal Wars in Mexico (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

JOURNALS

Journal of Human Security

International Organization

Development and Change

International Security

Latin American Perspectives

Third World Quarterly

Review of International Studies

International Journal of Peace Studies

International Studies Perspectives

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

UNDP Library

Available from: https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage.html

World Bank eLibrary:

Available from: https://elibrary.worldbank.org/

IMF eLibrary:

Available from: https://www.elibrary.imf.org/

INDICATIVE TOPICS

Students will study the following topics:

- What is security and how it relates to current debates?
- The nation and the state as security arrangements
- Globalization and changes in IR: the demise of multilateralism?
- Theories of the state and human security: from Liberalism to Marxism
- Democracy, legitimacy and security
- Evolving notion of Human Security: From war to terrorism to cyber-crime
- Environmental and economic security: towards sustainable development
- Responsibility to Protect and Human Security

Title: NCHPIR778 Human Security, Globalization and Sustainable Development

Approved by: Academic Board

Location: Academic Handbook/Programme specifications and Handbooks/ Postgraduate Programme Specifications/MSc Digital Politics and Sustainable Development Specification/Course Descriptors

Version number	Date approved	Date published	Owner	Proposed next review date	Modification (As per AQF4) & category number
2.0	February 2022	May 2022	Dr Diana Bozhilova	January 2026	Category 3: Changes to Learning Outcomes
1.0	January 2021	May 2021	Dr Diana Bozhilova	January 2026	