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Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Education
Peoples' Friendship University of Russia named after Patrice Lumumba
RUDN University

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

educational division (faculty/institute/academy) as higher education programme developer

COURSE SYLLABUS

THE HUMANITARIAN FACTOR IN MODERN POLITICS: EDUCATION AND CULTURE

course title

Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field of:

41.04.04 Political Science

field of studies / speciality code and title

The course instruction is implemented within the professional education programme of higher education:

MA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE, POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND VALUES

higher education programme profile/specialisation title

2026

1. COURSE GOAL(s)

The goal of the course «The Humanitarian Factor in Modern Politics: Education and Culture» is to develop in students a comprehensive understanding of the role of humanitarian aspects (including education and culture) in contemporary political processes, as well as to develop skills in analyzing the influence of cultural and educational strategies on the domestic and foreign policy of states.

The course provides an introduction to theoretical approaches to studying the relationship between politics, education, and culture, with a focus on analyzing specific cases of using humanitarian instruments (soft power, cultural diplomacy, educational programs) in modern world politics and developing skills for critical reflection on the role of education and culture as resources of political influence and soft power tools.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Mastering the course «The Humanitarian Factor in Modern Politics: Education and Culture» is aimed at the development of the following competences:

Table 2.1. List of competences that students acquire through the course study

Competence code	**Competence descriptor**	**Competence formation indicators** (within this course)
GC-3.	Able to organize and manage the work of a team, developing a team strategy to achieve the set goal.	УК-3.1 Formulates and takes into account in his/her activities the behavioral characteristics of groups of people identified depending on the goal set.
GC-4	Capable of using modern communication technologies in the state language of the Russian Federation and foreign language(s) for academic and professional interaction.	GC-4.2. Uses dialogue for cooperation in academic communication, taking into account the personality of the interlocutors, their communicative speech strategy and tactics, and the degree of formality of the situation;
GC-5	Able to analyze and take into account the diversity of cultures in the process of intercultural interaction.	GC-5.1. Finds and uses information about the cultural characteristics and traditions of various social groups in social and professional communication;

3. COURSE IN HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The course «The Humanitarian Factor in Modern Politics: Education and Culture» refers to the elective component of (B1) block of the higher educational programme curriculum.

Within the higher education programme students also master other (modules) and / or internships that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as results of the course study.

Table 3.1. The list of the higher education programme components/disciplines that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as the course study results

Competence code	**Competence descriptor**	**Previous courses/modules***	**Subsequent courses/modules***
GC-3.	Able to organize and manage the work of a team,	Ethics of Public Policy and Governance**;**	

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Previous courses/modules*	Subsequent courses/modules*
	developing a team strategy to achieve the set goal.	Culture and Identity in Russia; Semester Research Work;	
GC-4	Capable of using modern communication technologies in the state language of the Russian Federation and foreign language(s) for academic and professional interaction.	Foreign Language in Professional Activities (elective); Russian Language in Professional Activities (elective); International Migration: Political Values and Cultural Aspects; Foreign Language in Professional Activities**; Russian Language in Professional Activities**;	
GC-5	Able to analyze and take into account the diversity of cultures in the process of intercultural interaction.	Semester Research Work; Culture and Identity in Russia; History of Religions in Russia; Ethics of Public Policy and Governance; Diversity and Management: Civil Society, Religion and Ethnicity**; Empire and Nationalism in Russia, the Soviet Union, Europe and Asia**;	

* To be filled in according to the competence matrix of the higher education programme.

4. COURSE WORKLOAD AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The total workload of the course is 3 credits 108 academic hours.

Table 4.1. Types of academic activities during the periods of higher education programme mastering

Type of academic activities		Total academic hours	Semesters/training modules			
			1	2	3	4
Contact academic hours		*34*			*34*	
Lectures (LC)		17			17	
Seminars (workshops/tutorials) (S)		17			17	
Self-studies		*47*			*47*	
Evaluation and assessment (exam/ passing/failing grade)		*27*			*27*	
Course workload	academic hours	**108**			**108**	
	credits	**3**			**3**	

* To be filled in regarding the higher education programme correspondence training mode.

5. COURSE CONTENTS

Table 5.1. Course contents and academic activities types

Course module title	Course module contents (topics)	Topics contents	Academic activities types
Module 1. Theoretical and Methodological Foundations for Studying the Humanitarian Factor in Politics	Topic 1.1. The Humanitarian Factor in Politics: Concept and Essence	Disclosure of the content of the concept «humanitarian factor» in the context of political science. Analysis of its components: culture, education, language, values. Examination of humanitarian aspects as elements of soft power and instruments of foreign policy influence.	*LC, S*
	Topic 1.2. Concepts of Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy	Study of J. Nye's theory of soft power and its evolution. Analysis of mechanisms of cultural diplomacy. Comparison of approaches of different countries to the use of culture and education in international relations.	*LC, S*
	Topic 1.3. Education as an Instrument of Political Influence	Examination of the role of educational programs (scholarships, exchanges, international universities) in shaping a positive image of the state. Analysis of examples of educational initiatives as an element of soft power.	*LC, S*
Module 2. Humanitarian Strategies in International Politics	Topic 2.1. Cultural Diplomacy in the 21st Century	Analysis of contemporary practices of cultural diplomacy: international festivals, exhibitions, language programs. Assessment of the effectiveness of cultural projects in strengthening international cooperation and shaping the country's image.	*LC, S*
	Topic 2.2. Educational Programs as an Element of Soft Power	Study of global educational initiatives (Rossotrudnichestvo programs, Erasmus+, etc.). Assessment of their impact on the formation of loyal elites and the strengthening of international ties.	*LC, S*
	Topic 2.3. Humanitarian Cooperation within International Organizations	Study of the role of UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the CIS, and other organizations in promoting humanitarian values. Analysis of cultural and educational exchange programs under the auspices of international institutions.	*LC, S*
Module 3. The Humanitarian Factor in Domestic Politics	Topic 3.1. Education and National Identity	The role of the education system in shaping civic identity and patriotism. Analysis of educational standards and curricula as instruments of state policy.	*LC, S*
	Topic 3.2. Culture and Political	Study of the influence of cultural institutions (theaters, museums, media) on public opinion and political activity. Examples of the use of cultural symbols in political	*LC, S*

Course module title	Course module contents (topics)	Topics contents	Academic activities types
	Mobilization	campaigns.	
	Topic 3.3. Language Policy as an Element of Humanitarian Strategy	Analysis of state language policies in the context of preserving cultural heritage and integrating migrants. Examination of language issues as a factor of internal stability and interethnic harmony.	*LC, S*
Module 4. Contemporary Challenges and Prospects of Humanitarian Influence	Topic 4.1. Digital Technologies and Humanitarian Policy	The impact of digitalization on the dissemination of cultural and educational values. The role of social media, online education, and digital platforms in humanitarian diplomacy.	*LC, S*
	Topic 4.2. Sanctions and Countermeasures in the Humanitarian Sphere	Analysis of restrictions in the field of culture and education (cancellation of tours, termination of academic exchanges) and response measures. Assessment of consequences for international cooperation.	*LC, S*
	Topic 4.3. Prospects for the Development of the Humanitarian Factor in Politics	Forecasting trends in the field of cultural and educational diplomacy. Examination of new formats of humanitarian interaction in the context of geopolitical instability.	*LC, S*

* - to be filled in only for **full** -time training: *LC - lectures; LW - lab work; S - seminars.*

6. CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Table 6.1. Classroom equipment and technology support requirements

Type of academic activities	Classroom equipment	Specialised educational / laboratory equipment, software, and materials for course study (if necessary)
Lecture	A lecture hall for lecture-type classes, equipped with a set of specialised furniture; board (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations.	
Seminar	A classroom for conducting seminars, group and individual consultations, current and mid-term assessment; equipped with a set of specialised furniture and technical means for multimedia presentations.	
Self-studies	A classroom for independent work of students (can be used for seminars and consultations), equipped with a set of specialised furniture and computers with access to the electronic information and educational environment.	

* The premises for students' self-studies are subject to **MANDATORY** mention

7. RESOURCES RECOMMENDED FOR COURSE STUDY

Main readings:

1. Kazarinova, Daria & Taisheva, Vasilya. (2019). Perceptions of Russia in the Global World. Does Russian Education Policy Work ?. 10.31278/1810-6374-2019-17-4-20-52. (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/338543019_Perceptions_of_Russia_in_the_Global_World_Does_Russian_Education_Policy_Work)
2. John Holmes, 2013, The Politics of Humanity: The Reality of Relief Aid
3. Antonio De Lauri, 2016, The Politics of Humanitarianism. Power, Ideology and Aid
4. Jonathan Crowe and Kylie Weston-Scheuber, Victorian Bar, 2015, Principles of International Humanitarian Law
5. Peter J. Hoffman, Thomas G. Weiss, Jan Egeland, 2017, Humanitarianism, War, and Politics: Solferino to Syria and Beyond
6. *Bradley M.* Politics, Principles, and Humanitarian Action // [Book Title] / [Editor(s) if any]. – [Place of publication, e.g., Oxford] : [Publisher, e.g., Oxford University Press], 2023. – P. 225–242. https://academic.oup.com/book/46670/chapter/410146774
7. *Bogatyreva O.* Humanitarian Diplomacy: Modern Concepts and Approaches // Herald of the Russian Academy of Sciences. 2022. Vol. 92, Suppl. 14. P. https://elar.urfu.ru/bitstream/10995/131205/1/2-s2.0-85150948090.pdf
8. Elizabeth Frazer, 1999, Introduction: The Idea of Political Education, Oxford
9. Review of Education Vol. 25, No. 1/2, Political Education (Mar. - Jun., 1999), pp. 5-22 (18 pages) Published By: Taylor & Francis, Ltd. https://www.jstor.org/stable/1050697
10. Dana Burde, Amy Kapit, Rachel L. Wahl, Ozen Guven and Margot Igland Skarpeteig, 2017, Education in Emergencies: A Review of Theory and Research, Review of Educational Research Vol. 87, No. 3 (June 2017), pp. 619-658 (40 pages) Published By: American Educational Research Association https://www.jstor.org/stable/44667668
11. Niall Connors, 2019, Education and the Humanitarian Space: Is there a Dissonance between Military Education and Military Practice?, Irish Studies in International Affairs Vol. 30 (2019), pp. 171-193 (23 pages) Published By: Royal Irish Academy https://doi.org/10.3318/isia.2019.30.7

Additional readings:

12. *Warner D.* The Politics of the Political/Humanitarian Divide // International Review of the Red Cross. 1999. Vol. 81, No. 833. P. 109–118. https://international-review.icrc.org/sites/default/files/S1560775500092397a.pdf
13. Raciti I. The Political Dimension of Humanitarian Action // Anuario de Acción Humanitaria y Derechos Humanos = Yearbook on Humanitarian Action and Human Rights. – 2006. – Núm. 3. – P. 37–56. – file:///C:/Users/Admin/Downloads/Dialnet-ThePoliticalDimensionOfHumanitarianAction-2082066.pdf
14. Berezin, M., Sandusky, E., & Davidson, T. (2020). Culture in Politics and Politics in Culture: Institutions, Practices, and Boundaries. In T. Janoski, C. De Leon, J.
15. Misra, & I. William Martin (Eds.), The New Handbook of Political Sociology (pp. 102-131). Cambridge: Cambridge doi:10.1017/9781108147828.005
16. Kulikova, I.. (2018). Humanitarian Culture As A Factor Of Social And Economic Development Of Society. 1510-1518. 10.15405/epsbs.2018.12.02.161. (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/330029231_Humanitarian_Culture_As_A_Factor_Of_Social_And_Economic_Development_Of_Society/citation/download)

17. Voskresenskaya N.O., Skvortsova E.M. Humanitarian Education in Modern Russia: Problems and Ways to Overcome Them. Humanities and Social Sciences. Bulletin of the Financial University. 2021;11(5):57-63. https://doi.org/10.26794/2226-7867-2021-11-5-57-63

Internet sources

1. Electronic libraries (EL) of RUDN University and other institutions, to which university students have access on the basis of concluded agreements:

- RUDN Electronic Library System (RUDN ELS) http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/Web
- EL "University Library Online" http://www.biblioclub.ru
- EL "Yurayt" http://www.biblio-online.ru
- EL "Student Consultant" www.studentlibrary.ru
- EL "Lan" http://e.lanbook.com/
- EL "Trinity Bridge"

2.Databases and search engines:

- electronic foundation of legal and normative-technical documentation http://docs.cntd.ru/
- Yandex search engine https:// www .yandex.ru/
- Google search engine https://www.google.ru/
- Scopus abstract database http://www.elsevierscience.ru/products/scopus/

*Training toolkit for self- studies to master the course *:*

1. The set of lectures on the course «The Humanitarian Factor in Modern Politics: Education and Culture»
2. The laboratory workshop (if any).on the course «The Humanitarian Factor in Modern Politics: Education and Culture»
3. The guidelines for writing a course paper / project (if any) on the course «The Humanitarian Factor in Modern Politics: Education and Culture»

* The training toolkit for self- studies to master the course is placed on the course page in the university telecommunication training and information system under the set procedure.

DEVELOPERS:

Assistant	**Bogin S.V.**
position, department	name and surname

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

Head of the department of comparative politics	**Mchedlova M.M.**
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HEAD OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME:

Pochta Yu. M.

Professor of the department of comparative politics

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