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Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution for Higher Education
«RUDN University named after Patrice Lumumba»
RUDN University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

(name of the main educational unit (MEU) that developed the educational program of higher education)

COURSE SYLLABUS

ANALYSIS OF SITUATIONAL MODELS IN WORLD POLICY

(course title)

Recommended by the ISSS for the following areas of study/specialty:

41.04.05 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(code and name of the field of study/specialty)

The course is implemented within the professional education program of higher education:

**WORLD POLITICS: CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATIONS
AND INTERCULTURAL INTERACTION**

(name (profile/specialization) of the higher education program)

2026 г.

1. COURSE GOALS

The course "Analysis of Situational Models in World Policy" is part of the Master's program "World Politics: Conceptual Foundations and Intercultural Interaction" in the 41.04.05 "International Relations" program and is studied in the second semester of the first year. The course is offered by the Department of Theory and History of International Relations. The course consists of three sections and eight topics and is aimed at: The goal of this course is to provide students with systemic knowledge in the analysis of international situations, with an emphasis on situational analysis of crises, as well as to develop and consolidate practical skills in conducting analytical research using the laws of logic and methods of scientific creativity.

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2. REQUIREMENTS TO LEARNING OUTCOMES

Mastering the "Analysis of Situational Models in World Policy" course is aimed at the formation of the following competencies (parts of competencies) in students:

Table 2.1. Requirements to Learning Outcomes

Code	Competence	Competence Development Indicators
GC-1	Able to conduct research, critically analyze problematic situations based on a systems approach, and develop an action strategy.	GC-1.1 Systematically analyzes professional situations and demonstrates critical thinking skills; GC-1.2 Comprehensively analyzes information sources in terms of the temporal and spatial conditions of their origin, objectivity, and reliability; GC-1.3 Systematically analyzes previously established scientific approaches and explanations, identifying their strengths and weaknesses, explaining their capabilities and limitations; GC-1.4 Based on a systems approach, develops their own research strategy and the logic of scientific argumentation
GC-2	Able to manage a project at all stages of its life cycle.	GC-2.1 Defines the project's goal and objectives, as well as its implementation strategy, taking into account time and resource constraints; GC-2.2 Identifies alternative solutions to the assigned tasks, taking into account potential management risks; GC-2.3 Identifies the expected results of solving the assigned tasks; GC-2.4 Generates reporting documentation based on the results of the project development and implementation
GC-3	Able to organize and lead a team, developing a team strategy to achieve goals.	GC-3.1 Demonstrates the ability to constructively collaborate with teams, performing leadership roles with junior and mid-level employees; GC-3.2 Able to responsibly develop a self-development strategy in the interests of the team, organization, or department
GC-5	Able to analyze and consider cultural diversity in intercultural interactions.	GC-5.1 Understands the developmental characteristics and sociocultural differences of different countries and peoples, taking into account their historical past, and is able to take these characteristics into account in intercultural interactions; GC-5.2 Constructively interacts with representatives of different countries and peoples to solve professional problems; GC-5.3 Demonstrates a deep understanding of the specific traditions, history, and role of Russia in the global historical process and is able to professionally and convincingly explain these characteristics in intercultural communication.

GC-6	Able to identify and implement personal priorities and ways to improve them based on self-assessment.	GC-6.1 Possesses effective time management skills to implement personal educational and professional projects; GC-6.2 Adequately assesses personal physical capabilities and possesses basic health-preserving skills; GC-6.3 Demonstrates mastery of self-development techniques and methods
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SPC-2	Able to search for and apply promising information and communication technologies and software tools to comprehensively formulate and solve professional problems.	SPC-2.1 Apply modern technologies for searching, processing, and analyzing information to interpret and forecast the development of international political processes; SPC-2.2 Use specialized databases and software to quickly search for information necessary for solving professional problems; SPC-2.3 Adequately evaluate received information to identify existing information gaps and detect attempts at informational propaganda and manipulative influence, taking into account information security requirements; SPC-2.4 Quantify qualitative information and meaningfully interpret quantitative data
SPC-3	Able to evaluate, model, and forecast global, macroregional, national-state, regional, and local political-cultural, socioeconomic, and sociopolitical processes using theoretical and empirical research methods and applied analysis.	SPC-3.1 Use theoretical empirical methods to evaluate international political processes at various levels. Master positivist and hermeneutic methodologies for understanding political reality; SPC-3.2 Forecast developments (including scenario-based ones) in addressing key international issues primarily affecting the interests of the Russian Federation.
SPC-7	Able to independently develop strategies for presenting the results of one's professional activities, including in a public format, based on the selection of appropriate information and communication technologies and channels. Dissemination of information.	SPC-7.1 Develop strategies for presenting professional results, taking into account their specific characteristics and the characteristics of the target audience; SPC-7.2 Develop compelling arguments to achieve the objectives of presenting professional results; SPC-7.3 Select optimal information and communication technologies and information dissemination channels. Develop a feedback system with target audiences to improve communication effectiveness.
PC-1	Able to independently plan and conduct research in the humanities and social sciences.	PC-1.1 Identify current scientific issues in international relations and develop methodological tools; PC-1.2 Develop a step-by-step plan and program for implementing scientific research; PC-1.3 Conduct research within the framework of individual and collective research projects; PC-1.5 Understand the political and legal specifics of the position of regions of the Russian Federation and foreign countries in relations between states and understand the potentials and limitations of cross-border and other international relations between regions.

3. COURSE IN HIGHER ACADEMIC PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The course "Analysis of Situational Models in World Policy" is a mandatory component of Block 1, "Disciplines (Modules)," of the higher education curriculum. As part of the higher education curriculum, students also master other disciplines and/or practices that contribute to the achievement of the planned learning outcomes of the «Analysis of Situational Models in World Policy» course.

Table 3.1. List of components of the higher education curriculum that contribute to the achievement of the planned learning outcomes of the course.

Code	Competence Title	Previous Disciplines	Subsequent Disciplines
GC-3	Able to organize and manage teamwork, developing a team strategy to achieve goals.	Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Typology and structure of actors in international relations; Risks in international relations**; Research work in a semester.	Research work; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research work in a semester.
GC-2	Capable of managing a project at all stages of its life cycle.	Semester-long research project; Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Typology and structure of international relations actors; Risks in international relations**.	Research project; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Semester-long research project
GC-5	Able to analyze and consider cultural diversity in intercultural interactions.	Research project during the semester; Megatrends and global issues; Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Foreign policy process and the formation of Russian foreign policy; Modeling and forecasting of international relations; Conceptual foundations of EU foreign policy**.	Research project; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research project during the semester; Russia's current foreign policy strategy and international conflicts; Global security; Human Rights and International Security**; The religious factor in world politics**; International migration and security**; Foreign Aid and Foreign Policy**
GC-1	Able to conduct research, critically analyze problematic situations based on a systems approach, and develop an action strategy.	Research work during the semester; Theory of diplomacy and the modern diplomatic system; Modeling and forecasting of international relations; Typology and structure of international actors; Conceptual foundations of EU foreign policy**; Risks in international relations**; Ethnoconfessional factor in world politics**; Megatrends and global problems; Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Foreign policy process and the formation of Russian foreign policy.	Methods of teaching international relations and world politics in higher education; Linguistic dimension of international relations**; Historiography of international relations**; Human Rights and International Security**; Foreign Aid and Foreign Policy**; Research work; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research work during the semester; Religious factor in world politics**; Russia's modern foreign policy strategy and international conflicts
GC-6	Able to identify and implement personal priorities and ways to improve them based on self-assessment.	Semester-long research; Megatrends and global issues; Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Diplomacy theory and the modern diplomatic system; Modeling and forecasting of international relations; Risks in international relations**.	Research; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Semester-long research; Russia's modern foreign policy strategy and international conflicts; Global security

SPC-2	Able to search for and apply advanced information and communication technologies and software to comprehensively formulate and solve professional problems.	Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Modeling and forecasting of international relations; Research work during the semester.	Research work; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research work during the semester.
SPC-3	Able to assess, model, and forecast global, macroregional, national-state, regional, and local political-cultural, socioeconomic, and sociopolitical processes based on the application of theoretical and empirical research methods and applied analysis.	Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Research work per semester	Research work; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research work per semester
SPC-7	Able to independently develop strategies for presenting the results of their professional activities, including in a public format, based on the selection of appropriate information and communication technologies and information dissemination channels.	Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Megatrends and global problems; Foreign language in professional activities**; Foreign policy process and the formation of Russian foreign policy; Diplomacy theory and the modern diplomatic system; Russian language in professional activities**; Modeling and forecasting of international relations; Typology and structure of international relations actors; Research work in a semester	Russia's modern foreign policy strategy and international conflicts; Foreign language in professional activity**; Russian language in professional activities**; Global security; Modern theories of international relations and world politics; Research work; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research work in a semester
PC-1	Able to independently plan and conduct research in the humanities and social sciences.	Research work during the semester; Modeling and forecasting of international relations; Applied quantitative analysis and modeling of international relations; Megatrends and global problems; Foreign language in professional activity**; Theory of diplomacy and the modern diplomatic system; Russian language in professional activity**; Risks in international relations**; Typology and structure of actors in international relations; The ethno-confessional factor in world politics** Foreign policy process and the formation of Russian foreign policy; Conceptual foundations of EU foreign policy**.	Research work; Professional internship; Pre-graduation internship; Research work during the semester; Foreign language in professional activity**; Russian language in professional activity**; The religious factor in world politics**; International Migration and Security**; Russia's Current Foreign Policy Strategy and International Conflicts; Global Security; Human Rights and International Security** Foreign Aid and Foreign Policy**; Modern Theories of International Relations and World Politics; Methods of Teaching International Relations and World Politics in Higher Education; The Linguistic Dimension of International Relations**; Historiography of International Relations**

* - filled in accordance with the competency matrix

** - elective courses

4. COURSE WORKLOAD AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Possible wording

1) The total workload of the course «Analysis of Situational Models in World Policy» 3 credits (108 academic hours).

*Table 4.1. Types of academic activities during implementation of the higher education program (full-time training)**

Type of academic activities	Total academic hours		Semesters/training modules
			2
<i>In-class academic hours including:</i>	34		34
<i>Lectures (LC)</i>	17		17
<i>Lab work (LW)</i>	0		0
<i>Seminars (workshops/tutorials) (S)</i>	17		17
<i>Self-studies</i>	56		56
<i>Exam</i>	18		18
Course workload	Ac/h	108	108
	credit	3	3

5. COURSE CONTENTS

Table 5.1. Course's content and the types of academic activities

Section	Topic titles	Topic contents	Academic activities types *
1	Introduction. Basic methods for analyzing international situations. Definition, methodology, and stages of situational analysis. Systems of international relations (SIRs) and subjects of international relations	Topic 1.1. Description of the main approaches, methods, techniques and methodologies of scientific research in the field of social sciences; the basics of the systems approach and the method of systems analysis, typical errors in performing systems analysis; matrix analysis in the field of international relations and typical errors in its implementation; the concept of international relations (IR); the main theories of IR; classification of IORs and subjects of international relations; the concepts of regional hegemon and regional power; regional centers of power (using the macroregion of the Middle East and North Africa as an example)	L, S
		Topic 1.2. Fundamentals of SWOT analysis, its features, and common pitfalls; GROW goal-setting methodology in international relations; K. Levin's force field method; the concept of international conflict and the identification of its participants, defining their hierarchy. Psychology of leaders of opposing sides	L, S
		Topic 1.3. Key stages of preparing a situational analysis (the "ladder"); the concept of a situational scenario; the typical structure of a report on an international situation using situational analysis; classification of sources, the specifics of their selection and processing, the concept of a primary source and a documentary source; content analysis and comparative analysis of sources; the specifics of preparing public and non-public analytical reports; analysis of common pitfalls in preparing analytical documents	L, S

2	Analysis of internal and external factors of international conflicts	Topic 2.1. Political Economy of International Conflict: Differences from Econometrics; Scale of the Economics of International Conflicts; Definition and Classification of Restrictive Measures (Sanctions); Examples of Counter-Sanction Measures; Definition of a State, Unrecognized and Partially Recognized States; Concept of a "Failed" State; Deeply Divided Societies and Their Main Features; Extractive and Inclusive Economic Institutions; Concept of a Parallel Economy; Economics of Internal Armed Conflict; Russia's "Security Matrix" in Syria and Applicability to Other Conflicts	L, S
		Topic 2.2. Preconditions and Causes of the Iranian Conflict; "Resilience" of Power in Iran: Domestic and International Components, Factors of Preservation; Features of Iran's Geographical Location, Territory, and Topography (Geographical Factor), Traits of the National Character of Iranians (Demographic Factor); "Axis of Resistance" (Regional Factor); Iran's Military Potential (Military-Political Factor); External Actors in the Iranian Conflict (International Factor)	L, S
		Topic 2.3. Historical and geographical background of the Syrian conflict; dichotomy of Baathism (Arab nationalism) and Syrian nationalism; problem of Syrian irredentism; territorial issues with Turkey and Israel; Kurdish question in Syria; ethno-confessional contradictions; Islamic radicalism; problems of socio-economic development and modernization: failures of liberal reforms of the 2000s; "Arab Spring" in Syria; intervention of external forces, reasons for the high internationalization of the conflict; Russian military presence; prospects for the development of Russian-Syrian relations in the "post-Bashar al-Assad" era	L, S
3	Analysis of Russia's bilateral relations with leading world powers	Topic 3.1. Russian-American Relations: History, Current State, Problems, and Prospects; Issues of Strategic Stability; the Role of Heads of State's Personal Diplomacy (the "Spirit of Anchorage"); Moscow-Washington Interaction on Global and Regional International Agendas; the United States and Anti-Russian Sanctions	L, S
		Topic 3.2. Russian-Chinese Relations: Challenges and Prospects; Moscow and Beijing's Approaches to the Emerging Multipolar World (Russia as a Civilization-State, the Concept of Eurasianism; the Chinese Paradigm of South-South Relations and its Doctrinaire Formulation), the "Non-Western" Platforms of BRICS and the SCO; Moscow-Beijing Interaction on Current Issues of International Politics at the Global and Regional Levels	L, 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. Введение в прикладной анализ международных отношений [Учебник] / под ред. Т.А. Шаклеиной. М.: Издательство Аспект Пресс, 2025. – 394 с. ISBN 978-5-7567-1375-6.
2. История международных отношений: учебник для вузов / под ред. Н.А. Власова. 2-е изд., перераб. и доп. М.: Издательство Юрайт, 2026. – 361 с. ISBN 978-5-534-18708-3.
3. Международные конфликты в XXI веке: учебник и практикум для вузов / А.А. Сафонов, М.А. Сафонова. 5-е изд., перераб. и доп. М.: Издательство Юрайт, 2026. – 451 с. ISBN 978-5-534-20295-3.

Additional readings:

1. Ситуационные анализы. Выпуск 1 / М.А. Хрусталева, Е.Г. Никитенко, Т.А. Шаклеина; под ред. Т.А. Шаклеиной. М.: МГИМО-Университет, 2011. – 238 с. ISBN 978-5-9228-0729-6.
2. Ситуационные анализы: учеб. пособие. Выпуск 2 / отв. ред. Т.А. Шаклеина; МГИМО (У) МИД России, каф. прикладного анализа междунар. проблем. М.: МГИМО-Университет, 2012. – 277 с. ISBN 978-5-9228-0869-9.
3. Ситуационные анализы. Выпуск 3. Формирование режимов в отношении новых глобальных вызовов и угроз. Под ред. Т.А. Шаклеиной. М.: МГИМО-Университет, 2013. – 259 с.
4. Ситуационные анализы. Выпуск 4: Америка в фокусе российских исследователей: история и современность / Т.А. Шаклеина [и др.]; под ред. Т.А. Шаклеиной. М.: МГИМО-Университет, 2014. – 416 с. ISBN 978-5-9228-1092-0.
5. Ситуационные анализы. Выпуск 5: Международные институты в современной мировой политике / Э.Я. Баталов [и др.]. Под ред. Т.А. Шаклеиной. М.: МГИМО-Университет, 2017 – 481 с. ISBN 978-5-9228-1493-51.
6. Международные конфликты: вмешательство, миротворчество, урегулирование: учебник / Никитин А.И. М.: Аспект Пресс, 2017. – 384 с. ISBN 978-5-7567-0874-5
7. История международных отношений и внешней политики России (1648-2017) [Текст/электронный ресурс]: Учебник / А.С. Протопопов [и др.]. 4-е изд., испр. и доп. ; М.: Аспект Пресс, 2018. – 448 с. ISBN 978-5-7567-0944-5.
8. Россия и США в XXI веке. Особенности отношений / Т.А. Шаклеина [и др.]. Под ред. Т.А. Шаклеиной. М.: Издательство Аспект Пресс, 2020. – 352 с.

9. Новый баланс сил: Россия в поисках внешнеполитического равновесия / Тренин Д.В. М.: Альпина Паблишер, 2021. – 452 с.
10. Политэкономия Сирии в конфликте: в 2 т. Т. 2: Трудный путь к восстановлению / И.А. Матвеев, отв. ред. В. А. Кузнецов. М.: Институт востоковедения РАН, 2022. – 392 с.
11. Ирано-израильские отношения в хорошую и плохую погоду: монография / А.М. Хазанов, С.М. Гасратян, А.Ю. Олимпиаев., отв. ред. У.З. Шарипов. М.: Юнити-Дана, Закон и право, 2022. – 232 стр. ISBN: 978-5-238-03534-5.
12. О геополитике / Хаусхофер К. М.: Издательство АСТ, 2024. ISBN: 978-5-17-165659-1.
13. Международные отношения. Российско-китайские отношения в конце XX – начале XXI веков: учебник для вузов / К.Г. Муратшина; под науч. ред. В.И. Михайленко. 2-е изд. перераб. и доп. М.: Издательство Юрайт, 2025. – 125 с. ISBN978-5-534-17660-5.

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/](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 «Development and the Environment»

* 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

Associate Professor

Position

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Surname, name

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Position

Kourylev K.P.

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HEAD OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Professor

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