

Faculty of International Economics and Administration
Department of International Economics and Politics
Professional Area: 3.3 Political Science
Major: International relations
Educational-and-qualification degree: Bachelor

COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. Course unit title: Near East and Central Asia
2. Course unit code: POL 1001
3. Type of course: compulsory
4. Level of course unit: Bachelor
5. Year of study: third
6. Semester when the course unit is delivered: sixth
7. Number of ECTS credits allocated: 3
8. Name of lecturer(s): Prof. Vladimir Chukov, DSc.
9. Learning outcomes of the course unit: Students should form a notion of the political, economic and social situation in these two regions. They must be able to analyze the main challenges faced in security in the explosive regions of the Middle East and Central Asia. Emphasis is on the recent events such as the "Arab Spring" and the turbulences in Central Asia due to the neighborhood of Afghanistan and authoritarian political systems.
10. Mode of delivery: face-to-face.
11. Prerequisites and co-requisites:
12. Course contents (annotation): The course covers the topics of the leading countries in the Arab Near East and the five post-communist countries of Central Asia. It analyzes separately the geographical characteristics, natural resources, population, political regimes, economic and military capabilities of countries like Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Kazakhstan and others. Moreover, it analyzes certain authoritative international organizations such as the League of Arab States, the Organisation of Islamic Solidarity and the Cooperation Council of the countries from the Persian Gulf.
13. Recommended or required reading:
Recommended:
Майер, М., политическа география на Близкия Изток, НБУ, 2010.
Майер, М. Петролът в Близкия Изток, НБУ, 2011.
Кетъруд, К., Кратка история на Близкия Изток. От Аврам до Арафат, Унискорп, 2008.
Корм, Ж. История на Близкия Изток. От древността до наши дни, Рива, 2009.
Пенков, М., На изток от запада, Сиела, 2010.
Луис, Б., Асасините, Изток-Запад, 2009.
Танаскович, Д., Неоосманизмът, Изток-Запад, 2011
Чукова, Р., Централна Азия: Трансформации на идентичността, Изток-Запад, 2008.
Шювен, П., Летол, Р., Пейруз, С., История на съвременна Централна Азия, Рива, 2008.
Чайлдрес, Д., Х., Изгубените градове на Китай, Централна Азия и Индия, Бард, 2009.
Friedman, T., From Beirut to Jerusalem, Hursh, 2011
Fielding, M., Red Zone Baghdad: My war in Iraq, Hursh, 2011.
Montefiore, M., Jerusalem: Biography, Hursh, 2011
14. Planned learning activities and teaching methods:
15. Assessment methods and criteria: Tests, writing assignments and oral exam. Assessment is a general indicator of the three examination methods. Students are informed of the mistakes on the tests, the overall impression of the performance indicators for writing a coursework and an indication of drawbacks in giving oral answers.

16. Language of instruction: Bulgarian.

17. Work placement(s): none.