

Subject card

Subject name and code	Geopolitics, PG_00147603						
Field of study	Political Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Division of Contemporary History and Political Thought -> Institute of Political Science -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Jakub Potulski				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		0.0		45.0	75
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to introduce students to the problems of geopolitical thought. The course will analyse the specifics of geopolitical thought in its historical and cultural context. Students are expected to understand the specificity of the term "geopolitics" and have the ability to analyse various geopolitical concepts.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome		Method of verification
	[POLMU2_W15] Has advanced knowledge of the relations between organizations and political institutions at national and international level.	.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[POLMU2_W14] Has advanced knowledge of theoretical and methodological trends in political science research.	.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[POLMU2_U02] Has the ability to analyze the mechanisms of political power.	.		[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[POLMU2_K04] Is prepared to perform the function of an organizer of civic life in various environments and at various levels of the society structure in accordance with the idea of thinking and acting in an entrepreneurial manner.	.		[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[POLMU2_W02] has ordered and in-depth detailed knowledge of a selected module (specialization) in the field of political sciences.	.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[POLMU2_U04] Can identify real and hypothetical threats in the political space.	.		[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[POLMU2_K03] Is prepared to function in an information society, can collect, use, and process information in the public sphere.	.		[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	1. The social construction of space - humans and space in humanistic geography; 2. The map as a geographical-political imagination;3. What is geopolitics? The concept of critical geopolitics by G. O Tuathaila;4. The basic methodological assumptions of critical geopolitics;5. The emergence of political geography and geopolitics. Its links with German socio-political thought (F. Ratzel, R. Kjellen);6. The rivalry of European powers as a context for the emergence of classical geopolitical thought;7. The concept of the United States as a maritime power in the strategic thought of A. Mahan;8. The problem of the dominance of the British Empire in the political thought of H. Mackinder;9. K. Haushofer's concept of Geopolitik and the policy of the Third Reich;10. The critique of geopolitics in the works of I. Bowman; 11. American political and strategic thought of the Cold War period - G. Kennan, N. Spykman;12. Radical geography - Y. Lacoste - geography as strategic knowledge and its critique;13. The concept of geo-politics in the Herodotus project of Y. Lacoste. M. Foucault and his influence on political geography;14. From radical geography to critical geopolitics. Geopolitical imaginaries as the object of study of geopolitics;15. The contemporary evolution of geopolitical thought.			
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Completed course in political geography			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold		Percentage of the final grade
	Preparation of an oral analysis of a selected issue	60.0%		100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Potulski J., (2010) <i>Wprowadzenie do geopolityki</i>, Gdańsk: Wydawnictwo UG. Flint, C., (2008) <i>Wstęp do geopolityki</i>, Warszawa: PWN. Blacksell M., (2008) <i>Geografia polityczna</i>, Warszawa 2008. Potulski J., (2021) <i>Wstęp (w:) Kształtowanie się wyobrażeń przestrzennych w rosyjskiej myśli i praktyce politycznej</i>, Poznań: Wydawnictwo FENCE O Tuathail, G., (1996) <i>Critical geopolitics. The Politics of Writing Global Space</i>, Routledge.
	Supplementary literature	Kazanecki, W., (2012) <i>Współczesna francuska myśl geopolityczna: główne tendencje i ich reprezentanci</i>, Toruń: Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek. O Tuathail, G., Dalby, S., Routledge, P., (2006) <i>The Geopolitics Reader</i>, Routledge. Dalby S., O Tuathail G., eds (1998) <i>Rethinking Geopolitics</i>, Routledge.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	A comparative analysis of A. Mahan's work "The Problem of Asia" and Z. Brzezinski's work "The Great Chessboard". "Disputed Spaces" a comparative analysis of the concept of Mitteleurope by J. Parsch and the "Inter-Mediterranean" by E. Rommer.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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