University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Geopolitical Problems of Modern World - lecture, PG_00193927		
Field of study	Geography		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2028/2029
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	3	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	6	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of Political Georgraphy -> Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr hab. Jan Wendt, prof. UG	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20

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	20	1.0	29.0	50

Subject objectives

familiarizing students with basic concepts, concepts, goals and research methods in the field of geopolitics and geostrategy, presentation of historical, economic and social geopolitical conditions, indication of the geographical and geopolitical conditions of political and economic processes, discussion of the geopolitical conditions of Poland's location, place and role in Europe, analysis and assessment of geopolitical processes taking place in the modern world.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[GEOGRL3-U02] can use theoretical knowledge in the field of geography and available sources of information to correctly interpret basic natural, social, economic, and political processes and phenomena	Is able to analyze social, economic and political problems on various geographical scales.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOGRL3-W02] knows and understands key concepts and theories in geography, as well as advanced processes and phenomena related to spatial diversity and the distribution of processes and phenomena on the Earth's surface at various spatial scales, particularly in Poland	Knows the main geopolitical theories and is able to indicate the geographical diversity of political processes.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[GEOGRL3-U01] can dentify and analyze basic natural and socio-economic processes and phenomena, analyze their causes and course, and formulate and discuss basic issues concerning physical-geographical conditions and the social, economic, and political situation and their changes on various spatial scales	Is able to identify and analyze political, social and economic processes in geographical terms.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

- Basic concepts in geopolitics. Relationships of geopolitics with political geography, history and politics.
- Energy transformation and geopolitics. Global warming. Fit for 55.
- Stages of development of geopolitical research in the 20th/21st century. Geopolitical theories - German and Anglo-Saxon schools of geopolitics.
- Great empires of the world and their fall. Development and end of the Roman Empire; British; Russian. Causes and consequences.
- Changes in the geopolitical location of Poland in the 20th century and at the beginning of the 21st century.
- Poland in the concept of the "Intermarium". Poland as a regional leader. Geostrategic location of Poland.
- Geopolitical location and security threat. Information sovereignty in the modern world and security in cyberspace. Space and geopolitics. Cyberspace and space - non-obvious dimensions of security.
- Poland's geopolitical relations with its neighbors. Poland's military potential. Transit location of Poland.
- Problems of Polish eastern policy - Belarus, Ukraine, Russia. Poland-Belarus border conflict.
- Conflict of Russia and Ukraine.
- Poland in the EU or outside the EU. Two-speed EU and the Polish case.
- Geopolitical problems of contemporary Europe. Islamic State ? and terrorism in Europe.
- Increased national moods in EU countries, economic crisis in the EU. Quo vadis Europae?
- Contemporary problems of global geopolitics. Chinese domination in the region and the world, OBOR.
- Geopolitical problems of the United States' policy of D. Trump and J. Biden.
- Geopolitics of the Middle East. Israel and Hamas conflict.
- The clash of civilizations and global terrorism. The Iran issue.
- Geopolitics in the postmodern world. Critical geopolitics
- Geopolitical aspects and demography. Migrants and refugees in Europe.
- Contemporary geopolitical and geostrategic problems and research.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
exam: oral or written	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Bógdał-Brzezińska, A., Wendt, J.A. (2025). Small States in the Shatter Belt: Demographic and Geopolitical Challenges of the Baltic States. Abingdon: Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003711629 Brzeziński Z., 1998, Wielka szachownica, Politeja, Warszawa. Eberhardt P., 2013, Studia nad geopolityką XX w., IGiPZ PAN, Warszawa. Flint C., 2008, Wstęp do geopolityki, PWN, Warszawa. Huntington S.P., 1997, Zderzenie cywilizacji i nowy kształt ładu światowego, Warszawa. Kennedy P., 1994, Mocarstwa świata. Narodziny - rozkwit - upadek. Przemiany gospodarcze i konflikty zbrojne w latach 1500-2000, Warszawa. Kolosov V.A., Mironenko N.S., 2000, Geopolitika i politiczeskaja geografia, Moskwa. Lach Z., Skrzyp J., 2007, Geopolityka i geostrategia, AON, Warszawa. Lach Z., Wendt J., (red.), 2010, Geopolityka. Elementy teorii, wybrane metody i badania, Instytut Geopolityki, Częstochowa. Moczulski L., 1999, Geopolityka. Potęga w czasie i przestrzeni, Wydawnictwo Bellona, Warszawa. Nałkowski W., 1913, Terytorjum Polski historycznej jako indywidualność geograficzna, Warszawa. Parker G., 1998, Geopolitics. Past, Present and Future, London. Potulski, J., Bógdał-Brzezińska, A., Wendt, J.A. (2022). Aktorzy Relacje Przestrzenie. Wyzwania dla geografii politycznej, stosunków międzynarodowych i geopolityki. Kraków: Polskie Towarzystwo Geopolityczne. Potulski J., 2011, Geopolityka w świecie ponowoczesnym, Instytut Geopolityki, Częstochowa. Romer E., 1939, Ziemia i państwo. Kilka zagadnień geopolitycznych, Warszawa-Lwów. Skrzyp, J., 2016, Geopolityka. Przeszłość. Przyszłość. AON, Warszawa. Wendt J., 1999, Geopolityczne aspekty tranzytu w Europie Środkowej, IGiPZ PAN, Warszawa. Wendt J.A., 2019, Geopolityczne uwarunkowania przenikalności granic i dyfuzji idei w Europie Środkowej, Przegląd Geopolityczny, 28, 31-48.

	Supplementary literature	Bógdał-Brzezińska A., 2020, Mocarstwowość kosmiczna i cybernetyczna jako komponent zmian w obszarze bezpieczeństwa międzynarodowego. W: P. Bajor (Ed.), Bezpieczeństwo międzynarodowe. Aspekty metodologiczne i systemowe, Wydawnictwo UJ, Kraków, 122-139. Bógdał-Brzezińska A., Wendt J.A., 2020. Cyberprzestrzeń a geopolityka jako problem badawczy. Wizualizacja potęgi i bezpieczeństwa. W: A. Tyszkiewicz, P. Borowiec, Teorie i podejścia badawcze geopolityki, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, Kraków, 185-196. Bógdał-Brzezińska A., Wendt J.A., 2020. Geopolityczny kontekst suwerenności informacyjnej Rosji w cyberprzestrzeni i jej znaczenie dla bezpieczeństwa międzynarodowego. De Securitate et Defensione. O Bezpieczeństwie i Obronności, 2(6): 97-113. Mrozowska, S.; Wendt, J.A.; Tomaszewski, K., 2021, The Challenges of Polands Energy Transition. *Energies*, *14*, 8165.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Sample issues:Problems of the geopolitical location of Poland (or, for example, Israel).Changes in the geopolitical importance of Russia.Geopolitical importance of oil transmission.Geopolitics of space.Geopolitics of cyberspace.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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