Study level: Peace, Security and Development

Course title: Critical Security Studies

Professor: Prof. Filip Ejdus, PhD; MA Marko Kovačević; MA Tijana Rečević

Compulsory/Elective: Compulsory

Number of ECTS: 6

Condition:

Aim of the course

The Critical Security Studies course aims to introduce students to critical and alternative approaches in this sub-discipline of International Relations. During the course, students will be introduced to the place of critical approaches within the broader discipline of Security Studies, as well as its key theoretical and methodological directions. In the first part, students will be familiarised with key theoretical approaches such as constructivism, securitisation theory and the Copenhagen School, critical theory and the Welsh school, gender and feminism, postcolonialism and ontological security studies. In the second section, students will be familiarised with key methodological approaches such as discourse and content analysis, genealogy, ethnographic methods and will read exemplary works which successfully apply these approaches.

Outcome of the course

The Critical Security Study course is designed to introduce students to key concepts, approaches and debates within the subject sub-discipline. Relying on the literature, students will be able to critically observe the world of security practice, as well as to independently write an academic essay in this field. In addition to the knowledge of the theoretical and methodological approaches and debates, students will develop critical thinking skills as well as writing and presentation skills

Content of the course

Theoretical classes

- 1. Introduction to Critical Security Studies
- 2. Constructivism
- 3. Securitization theory
- 4. Critical theory
- 5. Gender approaches
- 6. Postcolonialism
- 7. Ontological security
- 8. Poststructuralism and International Political Sociology
- 9. Discourse analysis
- 10. Content analysis
- 11. Ethnographic methods
- 12. Genealogy
- 13. Reading week
- 14. Reading week
- 15. Exam

Practical classes

Each lecture is followed by seminars during which students present their research on chosen topics. These presentations also represent the basis of their academic essays.

Literature

Peoples, Columba, and Nick Vaughan Williams. 2015/2021. Critical Security Studies: An Introduction, 2nd and 3rd edition. London: Routledge; Bourbeau, Philippe. 2015. Security: A Dialogue Across Disciplines. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; Gheciu, Alexandra, and William Wohlforth, eds. 2018. The Oxford Handbook of International Security. Oxford: Oxford University Press; Williams, Paul D., ed. 2012. Security Studies: An Introduction. Booth, Ken. 2007. Theory of World Security. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Klotz, Audie, and Deepa Prakash, eds. 2008. Qualitative Methods in International Relations: A Pluralist Guide. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan; London: Routledge; Fierke, K. M. 2015. Critical Approaches to International Security, 2nd edition. Cambridge: Polity Press; Shepherd, Laura J, ed. 2013. Critical Approaches to Security: An Introduction to Theories and Methods, 1st edition. London: Routledge. Salter, Mark B., and Can E. Mutlu, eds. 2013. Research Methods in Critical Security Studies: An Introduction. London: Routledge; Aradau, Claudia, Jeff Huysnamns, Andrew Neal and Nadine Voelkner, eds. 2015. Critical Security Methods: New Frameworks for Analysis. London: Routledge.

Total classes of active teaching: 60	Theoretical	Theoretical classes: 30		Practical classes: 30	
Teaching methods:	'		•		
Lectures, seminars					
Assessment of knowledge (maximum	no. of points 100)				
Pre-examination commitments	points	Final examination		points	
activity		written test 30		30	
practical teaching		oral examination			
colloquium(a)		academic essay 50		50	
seminar(s)	20				