



ELTE Faculty of Social Sciences
International Relations bachelor's programme
in english
Information about the final exam

General information

Choosing thesis topic and supervisor: (*Academic Regulations for students Volume II Section 457*)

- In the first semester: between 15th October and 15th November
- In the second semester: between 15th April and 15th May

Modification of thesis topic and/or supervisor:

(*Academic Regulations for students Volume II Section 77*)

- 15th September / 15th February

Registration for final exam: (*Academic Regulations for students Volume II Section 457*)

- 15th March / 15th October

Submitting thesis: (*Academic Regulations for students Volume II Section 457/A*)

- 15th April / 15th November

Evaluation of the thesis: (*Academic Regulations for students Volume II Section 457/B*)

Thesis defense: (*Academic Regulations for students Volume II Section 81*)

- The defense of the thesis takes place at the final exam (in case of all the degree programmes)

Thesis requirements:

https://tatk.elte.hu/dstore/document/2714/ELTE_TATK_thesis%20requirements.pdf

Final exam period:

- Based on the academic calendar

Deadlines for taking the final exam (*Academic Regulations for Students Volume II Section 81*):

- Started their studies in accordance with Act CXXXIX of 2005 on higher education (Hungarian abbreviation: 'Ftv.') will have to meet certain conditions established by the University if they wish to take the final exam more than 7 years after the issuance of their pre-degree certificate;
- Started their studies in accordance with Act CCIV of 2011 on National Higher Education (Hungarian abbreviation: 'Nftv.') may take their final exam during any exam period within 2 years of the expiry of their student status, in line with the valid training requirements. Taking the final exam more than 2 years after the issuance of their pre-degree certificate, however, may be subject to certain conditions established by the University. Students who started their studies in accordance with Nftv. shall not be granted permission to take the final exam more than 5 years after the expiry of their student status.

The students will be informed about the actual deadlines via Neptun by the Study Office.

Academic Regulations for Students, Section 457/D.

In the International Studies Bachelor Degree programme

- a) the final examination consists of two parts:
 - aa) the student defends the thesis against the opponent's report and answers the questions. The defending of the degree thesis is graded on a five-grade scale by the committee;

 - ab) after the student picks a question from the previously announced list, the exam is graded on a five-scale by the Committee, which equals to the grade of the theoretical question;

- b) the qualification of the diploma is the average of the following three grades rounded to two decimals:
 - ba) the grade of the degree thesis,
 - bb) the grade of the defending of the degree thesis,
 - bc) the grade of the theoretical question;

- c) the rating of the degree certificate is the same as the grade of the final examination.

QUESTIONS FOR THE FINAL EXAM

1. Modern Democracies: their Characteristics and Challenges

1. Introduce the characteristics of modern democratic political system and describe the specificities of democratic forms of governments!
2. Define the terms: political culture, political socialization, ideology and discuss these interactions with the political system!
3. Discuss the different theories of power and illustrate what impact these different theories can have in democratic or non-democratic political systems!
4. What dilemmas and challenges have shaped the field of transitology and what issues are dominating the field today?

Literature:

Dahl, Robert Alan, 1971: *Polyarchy. Participation and Opposition*. Yale University Press, New Haven.

Huntington, Samuel, 1991: *Democracy's Third Wave*. *Journal of Democracy*, 2(2), pp. 12-34.

Linz, Juan J., Stepan, Alfred, 1996: *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation*. Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore – London.

Michael G. Roskin, Robert L. Cord, James A. Medeiros and Walter S. Jones (2014) *Political Science: An Introduction*, Global Edition, Pearson (corresponding chapters)

Sartori, Giovanni. 2019. *Comparative Constitutional Engineering: An Inquiry into Structures, Incentives, and Outcomes*. New York University Press.

Schmitter, Philippe C. – Karl, Terry Lynn (1991): *What democracy is... and is not*. *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 2, No. 2, Summer 1991, pp. 75-88.

Zakaria, Fareed, 1997: *The Rise of Illiberal Democracy*. *Foreign Affairs*, 76(6), pp. 22-43.

2. The Westphalian Order: Concept and History

1. Definitions of the Westphalian order – basic typological features, comparisons with non-Westphalian systems, underpinned by historical and present-day examples
2. Iterations of European International Society from the 17th century until the end of World War I: how did “Westphalian” practices of diplomacy and warfare evolve?
3. Challenges to Westphalia: Normative criticism and political erosion of sovereignty-based International Society

Literature:

Falk, Richard, 2004. (Re)Imagining the Governance of Globalization. in Bellamy Alex J., (ed): International Society and its Critics. Oxford University Press.

Glanville, Luke, 2013, The Myth of “Traditional” Sovereignty. *International Studies Quarterly*, 57(1), pp. 79–90.

Osiander, Andreas, 2001. Sovereignty, International Relations and the Westphalian Myth. *International Organization*, 55(2), pp. 251-287.

Watson, Adam, 1992: The evolution of international society: a comparative historical analysis. Routledge. pp. 120-288.

3. International Society

1. Define and explain the meaning of the concept of International Society. When is it justified to speak of one and how does the term differ from “international system” and “world society”?
2. Interpret the impact of globalization on international/cosmopolitan order and justice.
3. Discuss the relationship between anarchy and IS, and the views of Realists, Rationalists and Revolutionists on this relationship, focusing on the late modern period.

Literature:

Bellamy, Alex J., 2004. Conclusion: Whither International Society? in *Idem: International Society and Its Critics*. Oxford University Press.

Bull, Hedley, 1966. Society and Anarchy in International Relations. in Herbert Butterfield and Martin Wight (eds.): *Diplomatic Investigations: Essays in the Theory of International Politics*. Harvard University Press, 35-51.

Dunne, Tim and Richard Little, 2014. The International System – International Society Distinction; John Williams: The International Society – World Society Distinction; Andrew Hurrell: Order and Justice. in Cornelia Navari and Daniel M. Green (eds.): *Guide to the English School in International Studies*. Wiley Blackwell.

4. Law and the Legal System

1. What are the sources and major branches of law?
2. What is the judicial function? What are the basic principles that govern court systems and legal procedures?
3. Discuss the origins and the historical development of human rights, and the ways in which human rights can be classified!
4. Discuss the main ideas and concepts of modern constitutionalism (e.g. the rule of law, separation of powers, democracy, judicial review)!

Literature:

The relevant chapters of the following books:

Hage, Jaap and Antonia Waltermann, Bram Akkermans (eds), 2014. Introduction to Law. Springer Verlag.

Wacks, Raymond H., 2008, Law: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford University Press.

5. The History of Political Thought

1. Discuss the concept of social contract: focus on the main differences between Hobbes' and Locke's theories.
2. Introduce the term "trias politica" and its significance in historical perspective.
3. Discuss and compare the following ideologies: liberalism, conservatism, socialism and nationalism.

Literature:

Boucher, David and Kelly, Paul (eds.), 2009, *Political Thinkers. From Socrates to the Present.* (second edition) Oxford University Press.

Heywood, Andrew 2012, *Political Ideologies. An Introduction.* (fifth edition), Palgrave-Macmillan.

Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan.* C.B Macpherson (Editor). London: Penguin Books

Locke, John. *Two Treatises of Government and A Letter Concerning Toleration.* Yale University Press.

Michael G. Roskin, Robert L. Cord, James A. Medeiros and Walter S. Jones, 2014, *Political Science: An Introduction, Global Edition,* Pearson. (corresponding chapters)

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Basic Political Writings.* (Trans. Donald A. Cress, 1987) Hackett Publishing Company.

Sartori, Giovanni. 2019. *Comparative Constitutional Engineering: An Inquiry into Structures, Incentives, and Outcomes.* New York University Press.

6. International Law

1. Features of international law: principles, sources, actors.
2. Compare the institutional structure of international organizations, e.g. United Nations, the Council of Europe.
3. Present the institutions and sources of the international protection of human rights.
4. Present the main elements of the international law of armed conflicts.

Literature:

The relevant sections of Jan Klabbers: *International Law.* Cambridge University Press, 3rd or 4th edition, or Basak Cali: *International Law for International Relations.* Oxford University Press, 2010.

7. Theories of International Relations

What does anarchy mean for IR theory? Introduce the concept of anarchy through Realism, Liberalism and Constructivism.

1. Compare different versions of realism in terms of their understanding of the system, the state, anarchy, competition and security.
2. Explain how different variants of Liberalism challenge the tenets of Realism. Briefly introduce Wilsonian Liberalism, democratic peace theory and complex interdependence.
3. Define the core elements of the Constructivist turn (the Constructivist critique of mainstream IR). Introduce the role of norms and state identity in the logic of Constructivism.
4. Explain what makes an IR theory *critical*, using the example of Feminism and/or Poststructuralism.

Literature:

Baylis, John, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, (eds.), 2017, *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. Oxford University Press.

Jackson, Robert, and Georg Sørensen, 2016, *Introduction to international relations: theories and approaches*. Oxford University Press.

Recommended literature:

Relevant entries from www.e-ir.info

*Brown, Chris and Kirsten Ainley, 2009, *Understanding International Relations 4th edition*, London: Palgrave Macmillan.*

*Burchill, Scott et al. (ed.), 2009, *Theories of International Relations 4th edition*, London: Palgrave.*

*Carlsnaes, Walter, Thomas Risse and Beth Simmons (eds.), 2012, *Handbook of International Relations, 2nd edition*, London: Sage.*

*Dunne, Tim, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith, 2007, *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity*, Oxford.*

8. The History of International Relations in the 20th Century

1. What kind of differences and similarities characterize the establishment, functioning and crises of the League of Nations and the United Nations Organization?
2. How did the principle of self-determination appear and influence the emergence of new states?
3. How and why has the number of actors in international relations changed since 1945 (international NGOs, transnational companies, etc.)

Literature:

Kissinger, Henry, 1994, *Diplomacy*. Simon and Schuster, New York. Hobsbawm,

Eric J., 1994, *The Age of Extremes*. Penguin Books, London.

9. Security Challenges of the Post-bipolar World

1. Introduce the traditional understanding of security,
2. What approaches within Security Studies could be used to make sense of the European Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy?
3. Introduce the issue of terrorism through its historical evolution and contemporary aspects. Using examples explain what kind of typologies can be used to group terrorist organizations.
4. What are the basic types of international migration? In what way are these traditionally securitized? To what extent is securitization theory challenging the traditional understanding of security?
5. Introduce the most significant international treaties on environmental protection, as well as the debate surrounding environmental security. Should environmental problems be approached through Security Studies?

Literature:

- Baylis, John et al, 2013, *The Globalization of World Politics*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Baylis, John, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, (eds.), 2017, *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Dunn Cavelty, Myriam and Mauer, Victor (ed.), 2010, *The Routledge Handbook of Security Studies*. Routledge, London.
- Hughes, Christopher W. & Meng, Lai Yew (ed.), 2011, *Security Studies: A Reader*. Routledge, London.

Recommended literature

- Buzan, Barry, 1997, *Rethinking Security after the Cold War, Cooperation and Conflict*, 32(1), pp. 5-28.
- Crenshaw, Martha, 2007, *The Debate Over 'New' vs. 'Old' Terrorism, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, paper*.
- Eroukmanoff, Clara, 2017, *Securitisation*, in Stephen McGlinchey, Rosie Walters and Christian Scheinpflug (eds.) *International Relations Theory, E-International Relations Publishing*, pp. 104-109.
- Gieseler, Steven Geoffrey, *Debate on the Democratic Peace: A review" UNC Comments and Analyses*. Available at: https://gieselerlaw.com/resources/DOC_16.pdf
- Waltz, Kenneth N., 1988, *The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory, Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 18(4), pp. 615-628.

10. Milestones in the History of the European Union

1. The early construction of the European integration project after the second World War.
2. The foundations of economic integration and the Treaties of Rome.
3. The development of the EEC and its significant reforms between 1960 and 1990.
4. The significance of the Maastricht Treaty and the reforms of the Amsterdam Treaty.
5. The Constitution for Europe, Eastern enlargement and the most important changes after the Lisbon Treaty.

Literature:

- Dinan, Desmond, 2014, *Europe Recast: A History of European Union*, 2nd edition. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner.

11. EU Institutions and Decision-making

1. EU institutions
2. Basic principles of EU law-making
3. The evolution of EU legislative procedures and the ordinary legislative procedure
4. Accession and withdrawal
5. Rule of law mechanisms
6. Decision-making in EU external policies
7. Interest representation in EU decision-making

Literature:

Costa, Oliver and Brack, Nathalie, 2019, *How the EU Really Works*. 2nd ed. Routledge, London, New York.

Greenwood, Justin, 2017, *Interest representation in the European Union*. 4th ed, Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Hill, Christopher and Michael Smith, Sophie Vanhoonacker, 2017, *International Relations and the European Union*. 3rd ed., Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Kenealy, Daniel, John Peterson, Richard Corbett, 2018, *The European Union. How Does it Work?* 5th ed., Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Mańko, Rafał, 2019, *Protecting the rule of law in the EU. Existing mechanisms and possible improvements*. Briefing. Brussels: European Parliamentary Research Service, (Internet)

Nugent, Neill, 2017, *The Government and Politics of the European Union*. 8th ed. Palgrave Macmillan, London.

12. The Main Features of EU Law

1. The sources of EU law: primary and secondary law
2. Primacy of EU law and related case law
3. Direct effect, direct applicability, indirect effect
4. Other general principles of EU law

Literature:

Barnard, Catherine, and Steve Peers, 2017, European Union Law. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Craig, Paul, and Gráinne de Búrca, 2011, EU Law: Text, Cases, and Materials. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Fairhurst, John, 2016, Law of the European Union. Pearson, Harlow.

13. Policies of the European Union

1. The concept of policy cycle
2. The Single Market
3. The Area of Freedom, Security and Justice
4. Competition Policy
5. External Policies

Literature

Buananno, Laurie and Neill Nugent, 2013, Policies and Policy Processes of the European Union. Palgrave Macmillan, Houndmills.

Craig, Paul, and Gráinne de Búrca, 2011, EU Law: Text, Cases, and Materials. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Wallace, Helen, Mark A. Pollack and Alasdair R. Young, 2014, Policy-Making in the European Union. Seventh Edition, Oxford University Press, Oxford.