

Course title	Nuclear Weapons in Foreign and Defence Policy in the 21 st Century (I)
Course code	PolZ1013
Branch of science	Political Science
Sub-branch of science	Political Science
Credit points	2
ECTS credit points	3
Total number of contact hours	32
Number of hours for lectures	32
Number of hours for seminars and practical tasks	
Number of hours for laboratory assignments	
Number of hours allocated to term paper	

Course developers:

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Preliminary knowledge (course title, part of programme, in which the course is to be acquired)

None

Course abstract:

The principal role of nuclear weapons is to deter potential adversaries from an attack. The United States and Russia maintain very large strategic and tactical nuclear forces. China is actively modernizing its nuclear arsenal. India and Pakistan have dramatically demonstrated the ability of midlevel technology states to develop or acquire nuclear weapons. There are grave concerns about the future proliferation of nuclear weapons among such countries as North Korea, Iraq, and Iran.

Learning outcomes:

The students develop their academic competence:

- know and appropriately use political and military terminology;
- demonstrate their knowledge of regularities of socio-political processes;
- understand and are able to explain the mutual interaction of political processes in functioning of social and defence processes.

Students develop their skills to apply their academic competence in practical activity:

- demonstrate skills in finding and selecting information, its analysis and comparison, as well as its use in the analysis of a definite situation, argumentative discussion;
- demonstrate skills to select study materials and are aware of the basic principles of their use.

Students develop their skills to use their academic competence in value-oriented action:

- demonstrate critical understanding of the transformations in the treatment of the history of the Baltic States under the influence of political regimes and are able to discuss controversial issues in the relations and the history of NATO, Russia and the Baltic States.

During the implementation of the study course the students:

- prove their knowledge on the world and regional defence policy;
- are able to independently find information necessary for the analysis of a definite situation, paying particular attention to possibilities and restrictions of its analysis and use;
- become aware of the topical issues in political science and the global real policy;
- are able to analytically and critically discuss processes of international and regional policies by considering the topicalities of contemporary defence policy;
- are aware of external and internal influencing factors of foreign policy and internal politics;
- are able to express and defend their own findings by using academic and other sources;
- are able to discuss the alternatives of state development, personality pole in politics and the place of an individual in political process.

Course content:

The history of the development of nuclear weapons. Classification of nuclear weapons. Weapons of mass destruction, their classification. Cold War and national nuclear programs. Nuclear and nuclear regulation agreements during the Cold War. The process of disarmament. Nuclear non-proliferation policy: challenges and solutions. Budapest memorandum. Nuclear potential and parity in the 21st century. The US nuclear weapons policy. Russia's nuclear weapons policy. French and British nuclear weapons policy. Nuclear weapons policies in India and Pakistan. Israeli nuclear weapons policy. Nuclear weapons policy in Iran. North Korean nuclear program. The role and role of international organizations in the process of reducing nuclear weapons. Is it possible to completely dispose of nuclear weapons? Is it necessary?

Course plan:

Lectures – 32 acad. hours.

Lecture topics:

1. The history of the development of nuclear weapons.
2. Classification of nuclear weapons.
3. Weapons of mass destruction, their classification.
4. Cold War and national nuclear programs.
5. Nuclear and nuclear regulation agreements during the Cold War. The process of disarmament.
6. Nuclear non-proliferation policy: challenges and solutions. Budapest memorandum.
7. Nuclear potential and parity in the 21st century.
8. The US nuclear weapons policy.
9. Russia's nuclear weapons policy.
10. French and British nuclear weapons policy.
11. Nuclear weapons policies in India and Pakistan.
12. Israeli nuclear weapons policy.
13. Nuclear weapons policy in Iran.
14. North Korean nuclear program.
15. The role and role of international organizations in the process of reducing nuclear weapons.
16. Is it possible to completely dispose of nuclear weapons? Is it necessary?
17. Krievijas politika kodolieroču jomā.

Requirements for awarding credit points:

Participation in lectures – 30 %, graded test at the end of the semester – 70%

Compulsory reading:

1. Brad, R. The Case for U.S. Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century. Stanford University Press, 2016.
2. The 21st Century Nuclear Arsenal Rethinking and Reshaping the American Nuclear Deterrent and its Forces for the 21st Century / <https://www.americansecurityproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Ref-0159The-21st-Century-Nuclear-Arsenal.pdf>
3. National Security and Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century / <https://www.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/nuclearweaponspolicy.pdf>
4. Nuclear Weapons in 21st Century U.S. National Security Report by a Joint Working Group of AAAS, the American Physical Society, and the Center for Strategic and International Studies. https://mciprodaaas.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/Nuclear-WeaponsReport_FN.pdf
5. Stearns-Boles, Sherry L. „The Future Role And Need For Nuclear Weapons In The 21st Century“ <http://dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?AD=ADA541415>
6. Russia's Nuclear Policy in the 21st Century Environment / http://www.iaea.org/inis/collection/NCLCollectionStore/_Public/37/066/37066510.pdf
7. oolf, Amy F., Conventional Prompt Global Strikes and Long-Range Ballistic Missiles: Background and issues, Congressional Research Service, April 26, 2013, <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/R41464.pdf> A

Further reading:

1. Munich Security Report 2017: "Post-Truth, Post-West, Post-Order?" / <https://www.securityconference.de/en/discussion/munich-security-report/>
2. Krause, J. Nuclear Weapons into the 21st Century: Current Trends and Future Prospects. Peter Lang, 2001. <https://santai.ichotels.com.tr/lib/download/asin=0:00386148&type=stream>
3. Grossman, Elaine M., Russian Experts Question Role of Conventional “Prompt Global Strike” Weapons, Global Security Newswire, April 7, 2009, <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/russian-experts-question-role-of-conventional-promptglobal-strikeweapons/>
4. Kristensen, Hans M. and Matthew McKinzie, “De-Alerting Nuclear Forces,” Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, June 19, 2013, <http://thebulletin.org/de-alerting-nuclear-forces>
5. Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reduction: The Moscow Treaty, Hearings Before the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Congress, 107th Congress 2nd Session, July 9, 17, 23 and September 12, 2002, <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CHRG-107shrg81339/pdf/CHRG-107shrg81339.pdf>
6. Bunn, Matthew; Wier, Anthony and John P. Holdren, Controlling Nuclear Warheads and Materials A Report Card and Action Plan, Nuclear Threat Initiative, March 2003 http://www.nti.org/media/pdfs/controlling-nuclear-warheads-andmaterials2003.pdf?_id=1322768605
7. Kaszynski, Mary, The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program Securing and Safeguarding Weapons of Mass Destruction, American Security Project, <http://americansecurityproject.org/featured-items/2012/fact-sheet-the-nunnlugarcooperative-threat-reduction-program-securing-and-safeguarding-weapons-ofmass-destruction/>

8. Hoffman, David E. and Eben Harrell, Saving the World at Plutonium Mountain, The Washington Post, August 16, 2013,
http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/savingthe-world-at-plutonium-mountain/2013/08/16/1d43dd3a-0381-11e3-88d6d5795fab4637_story.html

Periodicals and other sources:

<https://www.rand.org> <http://foreignpolicy.com/> <https://www.baltictimes.com>
<http://www.nato.int> <http://www.natolibguides.info> (NATO Multimedia
Library: Library Publications)

Remarks:

To which study programmes and their parts (A, B, C, D) this course belongs:

Part C.