Identification	**Subject**	PSIR 301 Modern Diplomacy 3KU / 6 ECTS
	Department	Political Science and Philosophy
	Program	Undergraduate (Group B)
	Term	Fall, 2026
	Instructor	Rahil Dadashli
	E-mail:	rahil.dadashli@khazar.org
	Phone:	
	Classroom/hours	11 Mehseti str. (Neftchilar campus),
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	Consent of instructor	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Required	
Required textbooks and course materials	***Core textbook:*** **Core Textbook:**]: Barston R. P. *"Modern Diplomacy,"* London and New York: New York, 2014], ISBN 978-1-4479-2141-7 (It is available in the Academic Library of Khazar University). ***Supplementary* sources*:*** • Protocol for the Modern Diplomat. Prepared by the Transition Center. Foreign Service Institute. U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC, 2005. **http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/state/protocol_for_diplomats.pdf** • Holsti K.J.*, "International Politics. A Framework for Analysis*," [New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India, 1992]. • Hans J. Morgenthau. *Politics Among Nations.* Published by Alfred A. Khopf, Inc. 1960 • Kissinger, Henry, "*Diplomacy*", [New York, London ets: Simon & Schuster,1994] • Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961 • Department Organization (Structure of US Department of State) **http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/dos/436.htm** • Handbook of International Relations edited by Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse and Beth A. Simmons –Available at **https://www.uploady.com/#!/download/8U1yz61jPvk/aQIfgc~lOCNVGVqB**	
Course outline	This course is designed for the undergraduate students. Course addresses such questions as nature of diplomacy; foreign policy organization, structure and assessments; diplomatic correspondence; diplomatic styles and methods; dynamics of negotiations; interrelations of diplomacy with trade and security; analysis of international treaties and agreements.	
Course objectives	**Objectives** • This course is aimed to give the students the general knowledge about tasks, principles, theoretical and practical aspects of modern diplomacy. We will begin with a general overview and then go into more details. **Generic Objective of the Course** • To meet curriculum requirements of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. **Specific Objectives of the Course** • To support the students academically, to improve their chance of realizing their potential • To encourage students participation and interaction and fostering, and atmosphere of tolerance and respect	

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To support the students to improve their ability to discuss and to defend their position
To build background for the students' further development in Law and International Relations

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<tr><td>Learning outcomes</td><td colspan="3">By the end of the course the students should be able:

To build up and work with a team for decision making.
To consider external and internal factors while making a decision
To develop and interpret political statements
To evaluate alternative projects and suggest one with maximum utility
To prepare an essay

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<tr><td>Teaching methods</td><td colspan="2">Lecture</td><td>x</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Group discussion</td><td>x</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Simulation</td><td>x</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Case analysis</td><td>x</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Course paper</td><td>x</td></tr>
<tr><td>Evaluation</td><td>Methods</td><td>Date/deadlines</td><td>Percentage (%)</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Midterm Exam</td><td>8th week</td><td>30</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Book reading</td><td>During a semester</td><td>10</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Presentation</td><td>During the semester</td><td>10</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Active participation</td><td>During the semester</td><td>10</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Attendance</td><td>During the semester</td><td>5</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Final exam</td><td>At the end of semester</td><td>35</td></tr>
<tr><td>Policy</td><td colspan="3">

Preparation for class

The structure of this course makes your individual study and preparation outside the class extremely important. The lecture material will focus on the major points introduced in the text. Reading the assigned chapters and having some familiarity with them before class will greatly assist your understanding of the lecture. After the lecture, you should study your notes and work relevant problems from the end of the chapter and sample exam questions. After each lesson for the next class all students are required to be well-prepared and answer the questions. The core reading materials are emphasized in bold italic scripts in respective places in the tentative schedule. The rest of the given materials are supplementary and are highly advised to read. If a student shows unresponsible manner and do not get prepared for the class for more than 2 successive lessons appropriate marks will be deduced.

Withdrawal (pass/fail)

This course strictly follows grading policy of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Thus, a student is normally expected to achieve a mark of at least 60% to pass. In case of failure, he/she will be required to repeat the course the following term or year.

Book reading

During the semester, students are required to read several books that provide in-depth insights into political philosophy, theories and basic understandings. The recommended books will be shared in the class.

Presentations

Students will be given relevant topics related to the course and tasked with conducting mini research to create a presentation. Additionally, if a student proposes an exceptional topic, they may be assigned their preferred subject.
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Presentations are required to be in Power Point (.ppt or similar formats). Each student will have their own deadline, and failure to meet this deadline will result in a score of "0" for this section. The evaluation criteria are outlined below:

Criteria	Share of points
Content	0-2
Organization and Structure	0-2
Clarity and Visuals	0-2
Overall Impact and Creativity	0-2
Use of Visual Aids (if applicable)	0-2
Total	0-10

Guideline for the presentation preparation:

1. Title Slide
2. Introduction (Briefly introduce yourself and your topic. State the purpose or main goal of the presentation. Provide an overview of what the audience can expect.
3. Agenda or Outline (Outline the main sections or topics you will cover in the presentation)
4. Main Content (Should be organized in logical way, divide your presentation into several sections or topics)
5. Conclusion (Summarize the main points of your presentation)
6. References and Sources (Include a slide with citations or sources if you've used external material)

- Paper (If required)

Students must write a research paper on assigned topic. Requirements are as below:

- ***Utilize a 13 Times New Roman font.***
- ***Maintain a line spacing of 1.5.***
- ***The total page count should encompass the bibliography, but it should exclude the cover page and table of contents.***
- ***This paper constitutes 10% of the overall grade.***
- ***A grace period of 3 days is allowed, during which the paper's score will be reduced by 1, 2, and 3 points on each successive day.***

The instructor will evaluate the student's paper based on seven distinct segments:

1. Paper format and organization
2. Clarity of the research question, argument, and methodology within the text
3. Quality and depth of the discussion
4. Strength and relevance of the conclusion
5. Use of clear and precise academic English
6. Consistency in citation style
7. Adequacy and appropriateness of the bibliography

- Cheating/plagiarism

Cheating or other plagiarism during the Mid-term and Final Examinations and in Paper and Presentations will lead to cancellation. In this case, the student will automatically get zero (0), without any consideration.

- Exams

To assess students' preparedness in the course, both mid-term and final exams will be administered, with the specific dates determined by the dean's office.

Typically, mid-term exams will commence around the midpoint of the course, while the final exam will be scheduled at the conclusion of the course. The point allocation is as below:

Question	***Mid-term***	***Final***
1st Question	6 points	7 points
2nd Question	6 points	7 points
3rd Question	6 points	7 points
4th Question	6 points	7 points
5th Question	6 points	7 points

On the exam paper, students will encounter 5 questions. Each chosen question in the mid-term exam holds a weight of 6 points, and in the final exam, it carries a value of 7 points. The questions are open-ended, and the evaluation will consider the development of English language skills, comprehension of the question, and the organization of the answers, aiming to enhance these aspects during the assessment process.

AI Policy

This policy governs the responsible use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) in coursework and research. It applies to undergraduate students and academic researchers, ensuring transparency, integrity, and accountability.

GAI may support learning and research by helping organize ideas, checking grammar, or assisting with planning. However, it must never replace original analysis, creativity, or independent thinking. All uses of GAI must be disclosed clearly in assignments, projects, theses, and publications. Example: "ChatGPT (OpenAI, 2025) was used for language editing. All ideas and conclusions are my own."

Students may use GAI only as a supportive tool, with a maximum of twenty-five percent of text-based assignments. Its use is strictly prohibited in exams, quizzes, and graded in-class assessments. Researchers may use GAI for structuring, editing, and idea generation, but not for writing entire papers, fabricating references, or producing false data. Accuracy must always be verified.

Violations include hidden or unauthorized use, failure to disclose, plagiarism, or data falsification. Penalties may involve warnings, resubmission, grade reduction, or disciplinary action. Instructors and supervisors must specify permitted levels of GAI use in syllabi or research guidelines.

GAI is allowed only as a supportive tool. Students remain fully responsible for the originality, accuracy, and integrity of their work.

Tentative Schedule

Week	**Date/Day (tentative)**	**Topics**	**Textbook/Assignments**
1	15.09.2026	***Introduction to the Course:*** **Modern World and International Politics** • Syllabus and its Requirements.	1) **Holsti K.J., Chapter 1** **2) Course Syllabus**

2	22.09.2026	***Nature of Diplomacy*** • Tasks of Diplomacy • Development of Diplomacy • Diplomatic Setting • Diplomatic process	***1) Barston. Chapter 1*** ***2) Hans J. Morgenthau. Chapter 31***
3	29.09.2026	. **Foreign Policy Organization** • Central Organs of Foreign Policy • Ministry of Foreign Policy • International Economic policy: trade and finance • Representation	***1) Barston. Chapter 2*** ***2)* Department organization (http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/dos/436.htm)**
4	06.10.2026	***Embassies and other Representatives*** • Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations • Mission of Embassies, Personnel • Consul Services • Other Representatives	***Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961***
5	13.10.2026	***Diplomatic Style and Methods*** • Diplomatic Methods • Diplomatic Space • The Use of Bilateral and Multilateral Relations • Visits • Initiatives	***1)Barston. Chapter 3 and 5*** ***2)Kissinger. Chapter1***
6	20.10.2026	. **Negotiation**	***1)Barston. Chapter 4***
		• Classification • Influences shaping Negotiations • The Process of Negotiations • Complex Multilateral Diplomacy • The Dynamic of Negotiations • Multilateral Conference Negotiations	**2)Protocol for the Modern Diplomat.**
7	27.10.2026	**International Financial Relations** • Historical Background • The Bretton Woods System • Institutional Developments • Multilateral Debt Restructuring	***1) Barston. Chapter 8*** **2) Benjamin J. Cohen. International Finance. *In Handbook of International Relations***
8	03.11.2026	**Trade, Foreign Policy and Diplomacy** • The International Trade Setting • Challenges to GATT • The WTO Negotiations Process • Bilateral Agreements • International Trade Disputes • Ethical Issues and International Standards	***1) Barston. Chapter 9*** ***2) Helen V. Milner. International Trade. In Handbook of International Relations***
		Midterm Exam	

9	17.11.2026	**Environmental Diplomacy** • Multilateral Conference Typology • Players in Environmental Diplomacy • Stakeholders and Delegations The Dynamic of Environmental Negotiations	***1) Barston. Chapter 10 and 11*** ***2) Ronald B. Mitchell. International Environment. In Handbook of International Relations***
10	24.11.2026	**Diplomacy and Security** • Security and the International System • Preventive Diplomacy • Rules and International Security • Redefining Security	***1) Barston. Chapter 13*** ***2) Harald Muller. Security Cooperation***
11	01.12.2026	**Diplomacy and Mediation** • Definition of Mediation • The Mediators • Mediation Strategies • Constraints on Mediation	***1) Barston. Chapter 14*** ***2) Lilach Gilady and Bruce Russett. Peace-making and Conflict Resolution. In Handbook of International Relations***
12	08.12.2026	**The Diplomacy of Normalisation** • Definition of Normalisation • Sudden Tension and Retaliatory Action • Communicating the State of Relations • Breaks in Diplomatic Relations The Normalisation Process	***1) Barston. Chapter 15*** ***2) Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961)***
13	15.12.2026	**Diplomatic Correspondence** • Notes • Protest Notes • Letters • Memoranda • Aide-memoires	***1) Barston. Chapter 16*** ***2) Andrew Hurrell. Norms and Ethics in International Relations. In Handbook of International Relations***
14	22.12.2026	***International Treaties*** • Treaties • Conventions • Agreements • Exchange of Notes • Declarations • Other Forms of Treaties • Formalities of Treaties	***1) Barston. Chapter 17 and 18*** ***2) Kal Raustiala and Anne-Marie Slaughter. International Law, International Relations and Compliance. In Handbook of International Relations***

15	TBA	**Final Exam**	

This syllabus is a guide for the course and any modifications to it will be announced in advance.