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European Security

Modular value: 40 credits
Duration: All Year
Teaching: 2 hours per week

Lecturer: Oscar Pardo Sierra

The aim of this course is to provide students with a Masters level understanding of the major concepts and issues that define contemporary debates about European Security.

The course will examine several different approaches to thinking about security and explore how helpful they are in understanding contemporary events and processes in post-Cold War European security. As well as providing students with an appreciation of the different theoretical approaches to studying European security, the course then applies these insights in order to better understand:

- the roles played by the major institutions of the post-Cold War European security order (NATO, EU and OSCE);
- a range of specific contemporary issues (the wars in the Balkans, environmental degradation, energy security and immigration as security issues).
- the perspectives of the major state actors (France, Germany, the UK, Russia and the US – including an analysis of the developing transatlantic relationship after 911 and the issue of National Ballistic Missile Defence); and
- European Security concerns as they relate to three sub-regions of the continent (the EU's and Russia's common 'near abroad' in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine; Northern Europe; and the Mediterranean/Middle East.

Assessment

- Term one 1 x 5000 word essay 50%
- Term two 1 x 5000 word essay 50%

You may be interested in these degrees:

- **International Relations (with specialist pathways) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/taught/govsoc/international-relations.aspx)**
- **International Relations (Security) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/govsoc/international-relations-security.aspx)**

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