Comparative Foreign Policy
Sample Syllabus

Contact hours: 2x90 minutes - week
Instructor: Eszter Simon
Office hours: TBA

Aim of the course:
To answer foreign policy outcomes of different states, this course first takes a look at various approaches to the analysis of foreign policy. Frameworks are discussed in four levels of analysis: the international system, state, within-state, and individual. The last part of the course will be devoted to discuss particular foreign policy problems of 6 states (France, Russia, Israel, Australia, China, and Japan) and the European Union.

Requirements:
- **In-class quiz**
  Each class will start with a short 5-minute quiz in order to ensure that students have done the readings. Late-coming students will not have the chance to fill in the quiz later during the class. If the student misses the class, s/he will automatically score zero on the quiz. The two worst quiz results will be dropped when assigning the final grade.
- **Active Participation**
  As learning is a student-driven process, it is essential that students actively participate in in-class discussions. Students may miss only two classes. In case of adequate proof (doctor’s note etc.) students may miss more classes, but must submit a summary of the weekly reading, which will be a substitute for the weekly quiz.
- **Final Paper:**
  Each student will be required to write a final paper on the foreign policy of any one state but the United States. Students must incorporate their analysis into one of the theoretical approaches discussed in class.

Grading:
- In-class quiz – 30%
- Participation – 20%
- Final paper – 50%

Student readings:

INTRODUCTION:

**Week 1:**
Class 1: Course requirements

**Class 2: The comparative method**

**Week 2:**
Class 3: Comparative Foreign Policy and the Levels of Analysis Problem

**SYSTEM LEVEL ANALYSIS**

**Class 4: Realism**

**Week 3:**

**Class 5: Reaction to Great powers**

**STATE LEVEL**

**Class 6: Culture**

**Week 4**

**Class 7: Opening up the state: Two level-games**

**Class 8: Regime Types and Peace and Peace**

**Week 5:**

**Class 9: Coalition Politics and Foreign Policy-making**

**Class 10: Public Opinion**

**Week 6**

**Class 11: Bureaucratic Politics**

**INDIVIDUAL LEVEL**

**Class 12: The Importance of leadership**

**Week 7**

**Class 13: Rational Decision-makers**
Class 14:
Cognitive limits on Decision-makers: Operational Code

Week 8:
Class 15: Individuals and Learning

Class 16: Use of Public Opinion by Decision-makers

COUNTRY STUDIES

Week 9
Class 17: EU Foreign Policy

Class 18: French Foreign Policy

Week 10
Class 19: Russian Foreign Policy

Class 20: Israeli Foreign Policy

Week 11
Class 21: Australian Foreign Policy


Class 22: Chinese Foreign Policy

Week 12
Class 23: Japanese Foreign Policy

Class 24: Wrapping Up the Course