

COURSE SYLLABUS

Communication and language in international relations and security

Academic year 2026-2027

1. Programme-related data

1.1. Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2. Faculty	History and Philosophy
1.3. Department	Department of International Studies and Contemporary History
1.4. Field	Security Studies
1.5. Level of study	Bachelor
1.6. Degree programme / Qualification	Security Studies in English

2. Course-related data

2.1 Course title	Communication and language in international relations and security
Course code	HLE3211
2.2 Course coordinator	Maria Nistor PhD.
2.3 Seminar/laboratory coordinator	Maria Nistor PhD..
2.4 Year of study	1
2.5 Semester	2
2.6 Type of assessment	E
2.7 Course status	DS

3. Estimated total time (hours per semester)

3.1. Number of hours per week	3	of which: 3.2. course	2	3.3. seminar/ laboratory/ project	1
3.4. Total of hours in the curriculum	42	of which: 3.5. course	28	3.6. seminar/ laboratory	14
Time allocation for individual study (IS) and self-taught activities (ST)					hours
Learning from textbooks, course materials, bibliography, and notes (IS)					30
Additional research in the library, on subject-specific electronic platforms, and on-site					10
Preparing seminars/ laboratories/ projects, assignments, reports, portfolios, and essays					25
Tutoring (professional guidance)					12
Examinations					6
Other activities					-
3.7. Total hours of individual study (IS) and self-taught activities (ST)				83	
3.8. Total hours per semester				125	
3.9. Number of credits				5	

4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1 Curriculum	Not applicable
4.2 Competences	Not applicable

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 For the lecture	Not applicable
5.2 For the seminar/laboratory	Not applicable

6.1 Competencies resulting from the completion of the degree programme (as referred to in the curriculum)¹

Professional competencies

Competency code	Competency
PC1	Applying the foundations of social and political theories in understanding, analysing and evaluating the contemporary socio-political organization
PC3	Appropriate use of basic concepts in the field of security studies in professional communication;
PC4	Application of fundamental concepts from political sciences in the description and explanation of events or processes specific to security in the contemporary period;
PC4	Analysis of given situations, by applying fundamental principles, theories and methods from the field of international relations and security studies.
Transversal competencies	
Competency code	Competency
TC1	•Management of information specific to solving complex tasks in context (receiving, transmitting, processing, storing information in profile documents), including by using an international language;
TC1	•Critical thinking;
TC3	Public speaking and presence skills Digital competences
TC\$	Digital competences

6.2. Learning outcomes relevant to the degree programme (as referred to in the curriculum)²

Learning outcomes targeted by the subject		
Competency code	Knowledge and comprehension	Specific academic skills
PC1	<i>The student describes alliances and logics of deterrence; explains mandates and mechanisms; recognizes security dilemmas.</i>	<i>The student is able to analyze a security arrangement, compare two organizations and argue cooperation options.</i>

7. Subject-specific learning outcomes

Knowledge and comprehension
-
Specific academic skills
-

8. Contents

Topic	Teaching methods	Notes
Introductory course	presentation, debate	
Communication and vocabulary in political discourse	presentation, debate	
Upgrading political discourse on international arena	presentation, debate	
Developing an international agenda	presentation, debate	
Promoting and acquire international communication influence	presentation, debate	
Communication through cultural diplomacy	presentation, debate	
Security sensitivities in communication	presentation, debate	
“Delivering” classified information	presentation, debate	
Group hysteria and crisis management	presentation, debate	
Strategic communication	presentation, debate	
Language in diplomacy and strategic negotiation	presentation, debate	

Multilateral political debate	presentation, debate	
Using social media for political discourse	presentation, debate	
Communication and cultural political identity	presentation, debate	

Bibliography

1. Culloty, E., & Suiter, J. (2021). Disinformation and Manipulation in Digital Media: Information Pathologies. Abingdon: Routledge.

8.2 Seminar / laboratory

Topic	Teaching methods	Notes
Introductory seminar	Debate and case studies	
Communicating international events	Debate and case studies	
Communication during war	Debate and case studies	
Communication in times of natural disasters	Debate and case studies	
Promoting political ideas	Debate and case studies	
Shaping international agenda	Debate and case studies	
International communication using television	Debate and case studies	
International communication using radio	Debate and case studies	
Media and social media in delivering political agenda	Debate and case studies	
How to structure strategic communication	Debate and case studies	
International political discourse	Debate and case studies	
Online political debates	Debate and case studies	
Communication regarding security threats	Debate and case studies	
Recap	Debate and case studies	

9. Evaluation

Type of activity	9.1 Evaluation criteria ⁴	9.2 Evaluation methods ⁵	9.3 Percentage in the final grade
9.4. Course	- degree of assimilation of specialized language; - correct use of specific concepts in - describing and explaining events or processes - from the field of security information;.	Written Exam(quiz)	70%
9.5. Seminar/ laboratory	- writing a report/essay/project; - compliance with the rules of structuring and drafting a scientific work; - public exposure of various opinions - from ideas basic up to the plenary presentation of the reports; - attitudinal aspects: seriousness, interest in - individual study. - Understanding and critical analysis of texts; Capacity for analysis and synthesis	Preparing short essays, participation to debates	20%
9.6 Minimum standard for passing			
understanding of the main theoretical debates - attendance and activity at least 70% of the seminars.			

10. SDG labels (Sustainable Development Goals)⁶

		Sustainable Development Generic Label						
								
								

								No label applies
								

Date of entry:

Signature of course coordinator

Signature of seminar coordinator

01.05.2026

Maria Nistor

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