



CIEE Moscow, Russia

Course title:	U.S. - Russia Relations
Course code:	INRE 3001 MBIR
Programs offering course:	Business and International Relations
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2020

Course Description

This course examines Russian and American policies after the end of the bipolar period of international development; the role of the Russian Federation and the United States in world politics, internal and external factors that influenced political decision making and behavior at the global and regional levels; course, agenda, formats, and problems of Russian-American relations, their evolution in the new international context and perspectives; the influence of relations between Russia and the U.S. on the situation in Eurasia. We shall study what is Russia in contemporary international relations: its identity, foreign policy doctrines, debates on the role of Russia after 1991 and on its international strategy, the outcome of efforts to restore great power status and consolidate its economic and political potential. We shall analyze different stages of Russia's development, factors that determined changes in Russian policy abroad and at home. We shall discuss what Russia has done as a global and regional player, and perspectives for growth or decline of its influence in world politics. We shall study changes that took place in foreign policy thinking in the United States, views that dominated during formulation of the American global strategy for the new century without bipolar regulation. We will analyze the most important American actions that had dramatic effect on international system, international norms and organizations, on policies of other countries, distribution of power in the world and Eurasia. The course will present a panorama of Russian-American interaction: ideas, agenda, periods, outcomes, perspectives. We shall analyze the most important events, publications by well-known Russian and American experts on dilemmas of Russian-American relations, try to find out the sources of misunderstanding and misperception between Russia and the United States. The course will give the understanding of what place Russia and the United States occupy in contemporary world politics, how they view each other, what are their incentives for the future, what impact their relations and their policies will have on the world.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Characterize Russian international policy in 1992-2018
- Characterize American global strategy in 1992-2018, and estimate the outcome of U.S. policy for world politics
- Describe stages, peculiarities, agenda, crises and perspectives of American-Russian relations
- Present Russian and American discourse on Russian-American relations and compare different views and approaches
- Describe Russian-American interaction in a new great power competition context

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction



Lectures, seminars, site visits

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Mid Term Exam	15%
2. Written Account of Security Case	10%
3. Presentation of Security Case	10%
4. Final Policy or Research Paper	20%
5. Presentation of Final Paper	20%
6. Class Participation	25%
TOTAL	100%

Course Requirements

Mid Term Exam

At the mid-point in the semester, students will take an **in-class written exam**. The exam will consist of essay questions on the topics of the course covered in the first 7 weeks. Students may use their notes, but no published or online resources.

Written Account of Security Case

Students will write a **500-800 word analysis of a security case**. Students choose one topic (nuclear security, NATO, or cyber security) and present the topic from the perspective of either the US or Russia, examining interests, goals, motivations, concerns, and strategies.

Presentation of Security Case

A 10-minute oral presentation of the case the student security case selected for the written analysis.

Final Policy or Research Paper

Policy paper

Length: 2000-2500 words.

Policy papers are not about facts, but about perspectives and recommendations. They should serve as a reality check and try to give assessments alternative to the political mainstream.

Structure:

- Security problem
- Why current solutions do not work
- Alternative solutions and recommendations (or, alternatively, different scenarios)

On the first page of your policy paper write the addressee of your recommendations (US Department of State, Russia MFA, NATO Headquarters, etc.). Choose a national government structure or an international organization's secretariat.



This policy paper should include references and a bibliography. Usually policy papers do not have them, but this time they are needed to check the sources of your ideas. Rely on primary sources (official documents, declarations, statements, interviews), as well as secondary sources (academic articles, opinions of experts).

Research Paper

Length of paper: 2000- 2500 words

The reasoning in your papers should be well-structured and have original (your own) title and 2-4 subtitles preferably in a form of a question (Is Eurasia a coherent region?). In the introduction you should explain why the subject you chose deserves discussion, why it is relevant to the current theoretical debates or why it is important in practical terms. The introduction should end with the main question you will answer (or problematique, or hypothesis). There should be 3-4 more or less equal parts in your reasoning. Each part should have its own title and “problematique” (problem question). There should be conclusions with answers to the question suggested in the introduction.

Papers should include references and bibliography.

Presentation of Final Paper

The final paper will be accompanied by an **oral presentation (20 minutes)** in which the student will present the project of research, for which the use of audio-visual material is required (Microsoft PowerPoint). After the presentation, he or she will answer a series of questions to defend the presented material.

Class Participation

Students are required to participate actively in the seminar. The **class participation** grade will be determined by attendance, engagement (active listening and participation), and evidence of completion of assigned readings.

Attendance

Attendance for this CIEE course strictly follows the CIEE Moscow attendance policy. In case of absence, students must inform both the Resident Director and course instructor in advance of the absence. The student should speak with the instructor to develop a plan to make up missed material.

Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, and local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class 1.1 Introduction to the Course

- Aims and special tasks of the course
- Review of the syllabus

- Russian school of studying IR and diplomacy

Class 1.2 Lecture: International Relations as a Global Phenomenon

- Theories of IR
- Theoretical approaches to the world order

Week 2

Class 2.1 .

Lecture: Russian Scholars on the World Order, International Relations, and Foreign Policy

- Russia's foreign policy strategy: historic tradition and continuity
- Debates in Russia on its national identity, foreign policy priorities
- General foreign policy documents of the Russian Federation
- Global and Regional Aspects of Russia's international strategy

Class 2.2 .

Lecture: Russian Scholars on the World Order, International Relations, and Foreign Policy

- Liberal period of 1992-1995
- Liberal conservative period of 1996-2008
- Consensus between liberals and liberal conservative after 2008
- Great power status of Russia: comparative characteristics with other leading powers

Week 3

Class 3.1 Lecture: Russian Foreign Policy

Class 3.2 Lecture: Russian Foreign Policy

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS:

- Handout, excerpts from official documents

Week 4

Class 4.1 Seminar: US and Russian History and Self-Representation

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Sherlock 2012), (Miller 2014)

Class 4.2 Site visit: Museum of the Cold War Bunker – 42 (required)

Week 5



Class 5.1 Seminar: Russia and the US at the End of the Cold War

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Haas 2007, 145-179), (Thies 2013, 269-288), (Adamishin 2008), (Simes, 36-52), (Brzezinski 1994, 67-82)

Week 6

Class 6.1 .

Seminar: Russian domestic development in the 1990s and US approaches to it; political and economic development (2 of 2)

Class 6.2 Post Truth Politics

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Sharikov 2015), (Koshkin 2017), (“The Post-Truth World: Yes, I’d Lie to You,” 2016)

Week 7

Class 7.1 Site visit: RT (Russia Today) (required)

Class 7.2 Mid-Term Exam

Week 8

Class 8.1 .

Seminar: The US and Russia in the current world order: Before and After 2014 (2 of 2)

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Arbatov 2006), (Graham 2007), (Zevelev 2012), (Lavrov 2007), (Wohlforth 2015)

Class 8.2 Seminar: The US and Russia in global governance: G20 and BRICS

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Patrick 2015), (Mullerson 2014), (Villafranca and Villa 2014), (Toloraya 2015), (Korostikov 2015), (Stuenkel 2015)

Week 9

Class 9.1 Seminar: Nuclear Security

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Zolotarev 2015), (Barabanov and Weitz 2014), (Chellaney 2014)

DUE:

- **Written Analysis of Security Case**
- **Presentations of Nuclear Security cases**

Class 9.2 Seminar: Security Cooperation: NATO

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (“Relations with Russia,” NATO site), (“NATO enlargement...” NATO site), (Sherr 2011), (Antonenko and Giererich 2009), (“NATO and Russia Today,” NATO REVIEW)

DUE: Presentations of NATO Security cases

Week 10

Class 10.2 Seminar: Kosovo Crisis and Georgia Conflict (2008)

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Maffettone 2015), (Aksenyonok 2007), (Markedonov 2008)

Week 11

Class 11.1 Seminar: Afghanistan and Iraq in US-Russia Relations. Libya, Syria, ISI

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Stegny 2012), (Naumkin 2014), (Polikanov 2015)

Class 11.2 Seminar: US-Russia-China Triangle. Central Asia

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Lavrov 2006), (Larin 2015), (Babones 2015), (Novikov 2015), (Lukin 2015), (Akayev 2003)

Week 12

Class 12.1 Seminar: Post Soviet Space and Ukraine Crisis in US-Russia Relations

READINGS FOR THIS CLASS: (Trenin 2014), (Carden 2014), (Miller 2008), (Shlapentokh 2014)

DUE: Final papers

Class 12.2 Site Visit: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (required)

Week 13

Class 13.1 Final Presentations

DUE: Presentations

Class 13.2 Final Presentations

DUE: Presentations

Week 14

Class 14.1 Final Presentations

DUE: Presentations

Class 14.2 Final Presentations

Course Materials

Readings

Adamishin, Anatoly. "About the Past That Still Continues." *Russia in Global Affairs*, 15 June 2008, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_10939.

Akayev, Askar. "Whither Central Asia?" *Russia in Global Affairs*, 1 December 2003, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_2144.

Aksenyonok, Alexander. "Self-Determination: Between Law and Politics." *Russia In Global Affairs*, February 2007, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_7979.

Antonenko, Oksana and Bastian Giegerich. "Rebooting NATO-Russia Relations." *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy*, 2009, Vol. 51, No. 2, pp. 13-21.

Arbatov, Alexey. "Russia: A Special Imperial Way?" *Russia in Global Affairs*, 8 February 2006, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_6199.

Babones, Salvatore. "Russia's Eastern Gambit." *Russia in Global Affairs*, 22 September 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Russias-Eastern-Gambit-17704

Barabanov, Oleg and Richard Weitz. "Valdai Paper #2: Nuclear Fears After Ukrainian Crisis." *Valdai Discussion Club*, October 2014, www.vid-1.rian.ru/ig/valdai/Paper_02_eng.pdf.

Brzezinski, Zbigniew. "The Premature Partnership." *Foreign Affairs*, Vol 73, No. 2, March-April 1994, pp. 67-82.

Carden, James. "Who's really playing a zero-sum game in Ukraine?" *Russia in Global Affairs*, June 2014, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/book/Whos-really-playing-a-zero-sum-game-in-Ukraine-16762.

Chellaney, Brahma. "Valdai Paper #4: The Persistence of Nukes: Why Nuclear Weapons Remain Central to International Power." *Valdai Discussion Club*, November 2014, www.vid-1.rian.ru/ig/valdai/Paper04_eng.pdf.

Coughlan, Sean. "What does post-truth mean for a philosopher?" *BBC News*, 12 January 2017, www.bbc.com/news/education-38557838.

Demidov, Oleg and Yelena Chernenko. "The Game of Rules." *Russia in Global Affairs*, 22 September 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/The-Game-of-Rules-17709.

Farrell, Henry. "Promoting Norms for Cyberspace." *Council on Foreign Relations*, April 2015, www.cfr.org/cybersecurity/promoting-norms-cyberspace/p36358.

Graham, Thomas. "The Dialectics of Strength and Weakness." *Russia in Global Affairs*, 8 August 2007, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_9138.

Haas, Mark L. "The United States and the End of the Cold War: Reactions to Shifts in Soviet Power, Policies, or Domestic Politics?" *International Organization*, vol. 61, no. 1, Winter, 2007, pp. 145-179.

Koshkin, Pavel. "Make facts great again: Is it possible to withstand fake news?" Russian International Affairs Council, 27 September 2017, www.russiancouncil.ru/en/analytics-and-comments/analytics/make-facts-great-again-is-it-possible-to-with:

Korostikov, Mikhail. "Renewing Russia and the World," Russia in Global Affairs, 19 June 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Renewing-Russia-and-the-World-17534.

Larin, Victor. "Staying On Track." Russia in Global Affairs, 22 September 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Staying-On-Track-17703.

Lavrov, Sergey. "The Present and the Future of Global Politics." "Russia in Global Affairs," 13 May 2007, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_8554.

Lavrov, Sergey. "The Rise of Asia, and the Eastern Vector of Russia's Foreign Policy." Russia in Global Affairs, 12 July 2006, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_6865.

Lukin, Alexander. "Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Looking for a New Role." Russia in Global Affairs, July 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/valday/Shanghai-Cooperation-Organization-Looking-for-a-New-Role-17576.

Maffettone, Sebastiano. "Valdai Paper #19: Just War and Humanitarian Intervention," Valdai Discussion Club, June 2015, www.ru.scribd.com/doc/268249458/Just-War-and-Humanitarian-Intervention.

Markedonov, Sergey. "Regional Conflicts Reloaded." Russia in Global Affairs, November 2008, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_11893.

Melville, Andrei. "Russia in the 1990s: Democratization, Post-communism, or Something Else?" Demokratizatsiya, vol. 7, no. 2, 1999, pp. 165-187, www.gwu.edu/~ieresgwu/assets/docs/demokratizatsiya%20archive/07-02_melville.pdf.

Miller, Alexey. "Historical Memory Policy." Russia in Global Affairs, 21 March 2014, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Historical-Memory-Policy-16511.

Miller, Alexey. "A Nation-State or a State-Nation?" Russia in Global Affairs, November 2008, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/n_11895.

Mullerson, Rein. "Two Worlds – Two Kinds of International Law?" Russia in Global Affairs, 7 June 2014, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Two-Worlds--Two-Kinds-of-International-Law-16704.

Naumkin, Vitaly. "Valdai Paper #3: Middle East crisis: Foreign Interference and an Orgy of Extremism." Valdai Discussion Club, November 2014, www.vid-1.rian.ru/ig/valdai/Paper_03_eng.pdf.

"NATO enlargement and Russia: myths and realities." North Atlantic Treaty Organization, www.nato.int/docu/review/2014/russia-ukraine-nato-crisis/nato-enlargement-russia/en/.

"NATO and Russia today: Interview with Dmitri Trenin." NATO Review, 2011, (video, 8 min) www.nato.int/docu/review/2011/NATO_Russia/Trenin-interview/EN/index.htm.

Novikov, Dmitriy. "The Scalene Triangle." Russia in Global Affairs, 18 June 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/The-Scalene-Triangle-17527.

Patrick, Stewart. "Valdai Paper #22: Multilateralism à la Carte: The New World of Global Governance." Valdai Discussion Club, July 2015, www.ru.scribd.com/doc/271530400/Multilateralism-a-La-Carte-The-New-World-of-Global-Governance.

Polikanov, Dmitri. "Why Russia and the West won't be teaming up against ISIS anytime soon." Russia in Global Affairs, November 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/book/Why-Russia-and-the-West-wont-be-teaming-up-against-ISIS-anytime-soor

"The Post-Truth World: Yes, I'd Lie to You." The Economist, 10 September 2016, www.economist.com/briefing/2016/09/10/yes-id-lie-to-you.

"Relations with Russia." North Atlantic Treaty Organization, www.nato.int/cps/ie/natohq/topics_50090.htm.

"RIAC Digest: Cyber Threats and Cyber Trends." Russian International Affairs Council, August 2015, www.russiancouncil.ru/digest/cyber.html.

Sharikov, Pavel. "Enemy Media: The Creation of Enemy Image in Russian – American Relations." Russian International Affairs Council, 13 May 2015, www.russiancouncil.ru/en/analytics-and-comments/analytics/enemy-media-the-creation-of-enemy-image-

Sherlock, Thomas. "Making Sense of Self-Representations." Russia in Global Affairs, 23 June 2012, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Making-Sense-of-Self-Representations-15574.

Sherr, James. "NATO and Russia: Doomed to disappointment." NATO Review, 2011, www.nato.int/docu/review/2011/NATO_Russia/Disappointment/EN/index.htm.

Shlapentokh, Dmitry. "Why the U.S. Should Allow Russia to Take Over Ukraine." Russia in Global Affairs, June 2014, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Why-the-US-Should-Allow-Russia-to-Take-Over-Ukraine-16710.

Shleifer, Andrei and Daniel Treisman. "A Normal Country." NBER Working Paper Series, Working Paper 10057, November 2003, www.nber.org/papers/w10057.

Simes, Dimitri. "Losing Russia." Foreign Affairs, Volume 86, No. 6, pp. 36-52, www.balticforum.org/files_uploads/files/conf2008_experts_simes.pdf.

Stegny, Pyotr. "The Middle East: a'la Versailles or a'la Westphalia?" Russia in Global Affairs, 28 December 2012, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/The-Middle-East--la-Versailles-or--la-Westphalia-15822.

Stuenkel, Oliver. "Valdai Paper # 14: The G7 and the BRICS in the Post-Crimea World Order Ukraine Russia and the West, world order." Valdai Discussion Club, May 2015, www.ru.scribd.com/doc/264366607/Valdai-Paper-14-The-G7-and-the-BRICS-in-the-Post-Crimea-World-C

Thies, Cameron G. "The Roles of Bipolarity: A Role Theoretic Understanding of the Effects of Ideas and Material Factors on the Cold War." International Studies Perspectives, no. 14, 2013, pp. 269–288.

Toloraya, Georgy. "Why Does Russia Need BRICS?" Russia in Global Affairs, 19 March 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/Why-Does-Russia-Need-BRICS-17373.

Treisman, Daniel. "Russia Renewed?" Foreign Affairs, November 2002, www.sscnet.ucla.edu/polisci/faculty/treisman/Papers/russoct06.pdf.

Trenin, Dmitry. "The Ukraine Crisis and the Resumption of Great-Power Rivalry." *Russia in Global Affairs*, June 2014, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/book/The-Ukraine-Crisis-and-the-Resumption-of-Great-Power-Rivalry-16806.

Villafranca, Antonio and Matteo Villa. "Valdai Paper #7: Reforming the Global Economic Governance: "Public Goods" and the Role of Russia," Valdai Discussion Club, December 2014, www.vid-1.rian.ru/ig/valdai/Paper07_eng.pdf.

Wohlforth, William. "Valdai Paper #11: The Return of Realpolitik: Stability vs. Change in the US-Led World Order." Valdai Discussion Club, February 2015, www.valdaiclub.com/files/11386/.

Zevelev Igor. "A New Realism for the 21st Century." *Russia in Global Affairs*, 27 December 2012, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/A-New-Realism-for-the-21st-Century-15817.

Zolotarev, Pavel. "The Missed History Classes." *Russia in Global Affairs*, 22 September 2015, www.eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/The-Missed-History-Classes-17706.