

**Courses offered in foreign languages at the Faculty of Political Sciences and
International Relations,
Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic in 2014/2015**

Course: International Relations I.

Annotation: As the formative course of the study program it focuses on the particular vocabulary used in international relations. Students will become familiar with concept of state, national state, sovereignty, power, international system and its structure, international organization etc. Moreover it will provide introduction to the international relations theories – realism, liberalism and English school.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: International Relations II.

Annotation: Second part of the course focuses more specifically on the development of theories, main concepts and ideas. Those theories are realism, offensive realism, defensive realism, neoclassical realism and balance of power, utopistic and classical variants of liberalism and neoliberalism and 1st and 2nd generation of English school.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Summer

Course: International Law and Approximation of Law by V4 Countries

Annotation: The course focuses on the international law, the legal norms, conventions, agreements etc. that are formative for international law as such. The integral part of the course is to offer to students the overview of the accession of V4 countries to the most important norms of international law.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: International Finance – Economic Development of V4 Countries

Annotation: The course provides students with the basic issues of how the world economy works, it provides analysis of global financial markets and their development. Moreover it touches the origins and impact of global financial crisis that has started in US in 2008. Concerning the V4 countries the attention is paid to the position of these small economies in world economy, as well as issues connected to the Eurozone.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: Country Studies I. – Visegrad 4 (UK.)

Annotation: Content of the course focuses on the examination of American society, its stereotypes, geography, education system, political system, media, culture and its influence in the world, economy, legal system, housing and environment. Furthermore part of the course will focus on the political relations of V4 and US

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: **Country Studies II. – Visegrad 4 (US)**

Annotation: Content of the course focuses on position of US within the international system, its foreign policy priorities and behavior.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Summer

Course: **Communication in International Relations and Diplomacy I.**

Annotation: As students of international relations, the students taking this course will start to learn the vocabulary of political correct English, that will allow them to be able to communicate and understand the articles and agreements. There are three different courses offering the communication on three different levels.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: **Communication in International Relations and Diplomacy II.**

Annotation: This course provides students with the possibility to discuss different issues of international relations (current development in different countries and regions) using the political correct English. The course offers to the students possibility to learn communicate using special vocabulary a formulate and express their opinions on different topics.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Summer

Course: **Communication in International Relations and Diplomacy III.**

Annotation: This course provides students with the possibility to discuss different issues of international relations (current development in different countries and regions) using the political correct English. The course offers to the students possibility to learn communicate using special vocabulary a formulate and express their opinions on different topics.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: **World economy and its Impact on V4 Countries**

Annotation: This course provides an introduction into a world economy, the processes of cooperation, position of WTO as well as different initiatives to facilitate the business relations between states. Part of the course is dedicated to the Transnational corporations and their position in global economy as well as to the analysis of current global crises. Moreover attention is paid to the impact of crises on V4 countries.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Summer

Course: **International Organizations**

Annotation: Institutionalised cooperation between states is still increasing from its inception and has substantial influence on the development of international relations. The analysis of that phenomenon of the international policy is important from the abovementioned reason as well as from the reason, that international governmental (interstate) organizations represent the most numerous type of subject of international law and international non-governmental organizations represent the most numerous type of subject of international relations.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Summer

Course: European Law/Approximation of Law by V4 Countries

Annotation: This course provides information on the structure of EU Law, its sources, principles, basic applicational mechanisms, and the relations of state law to the EU law. Part of the course deals with the approximation and the main problems it faces in V4 countries during the accession negotiations.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Summer

Course: Diplomacy of the EU

Annotation: The main goal of the course is a complex study of diplomacy and foreign policy of the European Union. We are going to consider and analyze different aspects of diplomatic activities both within the EU and of the EU with other partners. One of the main issues to be considered is the problem of the EU diplomats preparation and the issue of perspectives for the diplomacy of the EU.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: External relations of the EU

Annotation: This course provides information on the EU as a global player. It focuses on the relations the EU has with its closest neighbouring countries as well as with more remote areas and regional groupings around the globe. Special attention is paid to the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) together with the changes in the perception of EU by the countries included in ENP. One of the topics is the position the EU has on global forum vis a vis powers and organizations.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: Foreign Policy of Slovak Republic

Annotation: This course mainly focuses on the foreign policy of Slovakia, not only the recent priorities but also the ideological background of current thinking. One of integral parts of the course is the integration process of Slovakia into EU, NATO and OECD, as well as its position in V4 and all mentioned institutions.

Number of Credits: 5

Semester: Winter

Course: Transformation Processes in the Visegrad Countries

Annotation: The aim of the course is to analyze the impacts of transformation from previous regime that fell in 1989 on the society, economy and political system of V4 countries. Particularly it characterizes and compares the similarities and specifics every single country has to deal with.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Winter

Course: Balkan Studies

Annotation: The course consists of four parts. The first part covers problems of geographical boundaries and Western mapping of the Balkans. It also discusses vital geographic, demographic, religious and ethnic compositions in the Balkans. The second part entitled covers most important historical processes during the last two centuries. It includes problems of peripheral status of Balkan economies and the rise of nationalism in the Balkans. The third deals with recent past and includes the Wars for Yugoslav Succession and problems of

democratic transition in the Balkans. It also covers political and economic features of contemporary Balkans. The fourth part covers European integrations in the Balkans.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Winter

Course: **Security policy**

Annotation: This course provides a basic introduction to the field of security studies, exploring the basic analytical issues from the area of security studies, and providing the students with a brief overview of major security threats and challenges of contemporary security agenda.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Winter

Course: **Security Policy of the V4**

Annotation: This course provides an introduction to the main security issues that are dealt in every V4 country, where the security strategies texts are analyzed and compared as well as the plans and initiatives of security cooperation on the V4 level.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Summer

Course: **Geopolitics of the Central European Region**

Annotation: The aim of the course is focus on the main issues of contemporary geopolitics, the lectures will deal with methodology, basic theoretical concepts, mechanisms of geopolitical activities, development of geopolitical structure in Central Europe, particular geopolitical thoughts and theories as well as models.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Summer

Course: **Energy security of the V4**

Annotation: The course focuses on the specific position the V4 countries have in the overall EU's energy policy and security. As every country is significantly dependent on the Russian raw materials – oil and gas, they do share an aim to diversify the sources of energy. Therefore there is an agreed cooperation in this field, however there are still significant differences in their policy and decisions.

Number of Credits: 3

Semester: Winter

Course: **Peace and Conflict Studies**

Annotation: This course will examine the history and theory of international conflict. It will review the causes of war and explore the concepts, conditions, and political structures and processes that sustain peace. Furthermore the course reflects the essence of Peace Studies in that it is designed to be multidisciplinary and values oriented.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Winter

Course: **Introduction into European integration**

Annotation: Course content is as follows: What is the European Union, The Idea of Europe, The Evolution of the EU, The Institutions of the EU, The EU and Member States, The EU and Its Citizens, Economic Integration and the EU and the World.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 3

Semester: Winter

Course: **Political system of Slovak Republic**

Annotation: The course primarily deals with the characterization of political system of Slovak republic, the electoral system – the presidential and parliamentary election, creation of parliament and government, position of president in the system, analyzes of judicial branch etc. Moreover the vertical power division is also discussed, the level of decentralization and local administration.

Number of Credits: 3

Semester: Winter

Course: **Comparative political sciences of the V4**

Annotation: This course focuses on the political systems of V4 countries: Czech republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. The attention will be paid to the comparison of legislative, executive and judicial branch where the similarities and differences will be analyzed as well as vertical division of power in these four states.

Number of Credits: 4

Semester: Summer

Course: **International migration and migration policy**

Annotation: As migration represents one of the main global problems nowadays, this course will offer to the students the analysis of migration of such, will provide them with the answers what causes migration, where the main migration flows are around the world and particularly in the EU. Finally the course will provide the students with the framework developed in EU countries, as well as developed countries to tackle migration and also possibilities how to prevent it.

Language: English

Number of Credits: 3

Semester: Summer