Collegium Civitas

Security and Society Summer School 2020

STUDY ABROAD ONLINE!

Course: Central Europe & Security Issues
&
Research Internship at Terrorism Research Center

6 ECTS (3 US credits)

Duration of the program: 6 weeks

> July 13-July 25 on-line course
> July 28-August 24 on-line tutoring of the participants' work on the research paper for the course publication

Lead Instructors: Dr. Paulina Piasecka & Dr. Katarzyna Maniszewska
E-learning platforms: MS Teams & Moodle
Number of credits: 6 ECTS (equivalent to 3 US credits)
Program tuition: 900 USD

Course Description

This course offers a broad overview of the security challenges faced by the countries of Central Europe and also by NATO and the European Union in the XXI century. It will focus specifically on topics including cybersecurity, terrorism, hybrid warfare, energy security, intelligence, and the media. It will also examine the implications of COVID19 outbreak for international security.

The course will begin with a brief history of security of Central Europe from 1989 to the present day. The collapse of the Soviet Union saw a number of countries in the region detach themselves from the Russian sphere of influence and join Western institutions including NATO and the EU. Whereas the West saw this as the fulfilment of the right of self-determination the Russians tended to view it as a threatening move, which challenged their own defense and security interests.

This course will examine the complex historical roots of these events with a particular focus on Central and Eastern Europe, and will look at various possible future scenarios between Russia, the EU, and NATO. These contemporary conflicts and disputes have increased global awareness of the importance of intelligence gathering in this region. Students will explore the links between information and security in a time of hybrid war. They will learn about the importance of energy security with a focus on oil and gas, nuclear, coal, and alternative energy sources. They will also look at the political, economic, and strategic importance of other natural resources in the region.

There will also be an emphasis on the challenges of cybersecurity, terrorism, and war, including cyberwar and net-centric warfare. Students will look at the challenges of rising fundamentalism and

migration and how it affects the region. We will also take a look at newly emerging challenges to security, such us the outbreak of coronavirus.

The participants will leave the course with an in-depth knowledge of some of the most challenging security issues in contemporary Central Europe, and the world, and will gain a sense of the importance of the region on international affairs.

The participants will be working on their own research project under the supervision of Dr. Paulina Piasecka and Dr. Katarzyna Maniszewska. In result a book will be published "Security and Society in the Information Age. Central Europe & Security Issues" containing papers written by the participants.

Course Objectives

This course is designed for higher-level undergraduate and postgraduate students. After completion of the course students should:
- Understand the history of security in the region including changes in Russia
- Understand the various interactions between NATO and non-NATO players globally
- Study regional instabilities and implications from a security perspective
- Have a greater understanding of issues including cybersecurity, energy security, and new defense priorities
- Assess threats including the rise of fundamentalism
- Have acquired in-depth knowledge of the history and role of NATO
- Be able to critically analyze the impact of changes currently evolving in Europe and the world, i.e. COVID-19 pandemic
- Put the Central European case in a global perspective
- Be able to diagnose the changing security situation in the regional and global environment.

Assessment
The final course grade will be determined based on the following distribution:
- Active participation in online classes and meetings: 45%
- Presentation and research paper: 45%
- Peer review of other participants presentations and papers: 10%

The grading scale

93-100	A
90-92	A-
88-89	B+
83-87	B
80-82	B-
78-79	C+
73-77	C
70-72	C-
68-69	D+
65-67	D
64 & below	F

Number of hours & credits

Please, note: one academic hours is equivalent to 45 minutes.

- Preparatory work (pre-readings): approx. 10 hours
- 10 online lessons x 2 hours
- Individual work on the Moodle platform: approx. 20 hours
- Online meetings with special guests/ additional activities: 10 hours
- Individual work on the final presentation - approx. 10-12 hours
- Individual work under academic supervision, incl. consultations with tutor – research paper: approx. 80 hours

It amounts to a total of approx. 150 hours of work and 6 ECTS points (equivalent to 3 US credits). The transcript will be issued by Collegium Civitas – a renowned university in Warsaw, Poland.

The topics of lectures

Day 1

- **Security in Times of Asymmetric Threats**
- **From Defense to Crisis Management – Evolution of Security Cooperation Mechanisms in Central Europe**

Day 2

- **The EU and Central Europe: Past, Present and Future**
- **NATO and Central Europeans**

Day 3

- **Terrorism in Europe Divided by the Iron Curtain and Today**

Day 4

- **The Issue of Migration**

Day 5

- **Security Issues and the Media**

Day 6

- **The State in Cyberspace: Espionage, Sabotage and Cyberwar**

Day 7

- **Pandemics and National and Global Security**
- **Managing the Risk and Impact of Pandemics**

Day 8

- **War & Information Conflict in the 21st Century**

Day 9

- **Graph Theory and Network Structures in a Confrontation with Asymmetric Threats**

Day 10

- **Post-Covid19 World Security**

Afternoon sessions - additional on-line meetings:

- **Poland at a Glance**
- **Black Swan Theory and the Covid-19 Outbreak**
- **Rule of Law in the Post-Pandemic World (tbc)**
- **Risk Assessment and Risk Analysis**
- **The European Union and Cybersecurity**

Lead Lecturers:

Dr. Paulina Piasecka is an expert in the area of international terrorism and cybersecurity. She is a former senior expert in the Counter-terrorism unit of the Ministry of Interior and Administration of the Republic of Poland, and head of the unit for Non-Military Security (Department of Legal and Non-Military Affairs) at National Security Bureau, Poland. Dr. Piasecka was a participant of the US State Department "International Visitor Leadership Program" in the area of cybersecurity. She is Deputy Director of the Terrorism Research Centre at Collegium Civitas, Deputy Head of Information Analysis Institute at Collegium Civitas, and a lecturer at Collegium Civitas. She is a co-author and editor of publications on cybersecurity, information analysis, and international terrorism and counterterrorism. More information: https://www.civitas.edu.pl/en/our-university/faculty/paulina-piasecka

Dr. Katarzyna Maniszewska is an expert in security issues, journalist and philologist. Her research focuses on the history and development of political extremism and terrorism with particular emphasis on media coverage of terrorism. She is a member of the Scientific Board of the Terrorism Research Centre and lecturer at Collegium Civitas. Her academic publications include two books on the history of terrorism as well as numerous papers devoted – among other issues – to the role of the media (incl. Internet and social media) in the strategies of terrorist organizations. In her papers she points out the significance of media-literacy and public education in enhancing the traditional counterterrorism measures. Dr. Maniszewska is the Vice-Rector for International Relations at Collegium Civitas. More information: https://www.civitas.edu.pl/en/our-university/faculty/maniszewska-katarzyna-ph-d

For more information, please visit our website www.civitas.edu.pl/en

This on-line course is based on the format "Security and Society in the Information Age Summer School and Study Abroad" Program: **www.securityandsociety.org**