

MGIMO University
School of Government and International Affairs

Syllabus approved
Dean, The MGIMO School of Government and International Affairs
Mikhail Troitskiy
« » 2017

Russia in Global Politics
Undergraduate Course Syllabus

Instructor
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This syllabus is designed in accordance with the MGIMO Educational Standard for the Bachelor Program in International Affairs.

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PART 1:
INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION, COURSE DESCRIPTION
AND TEACHING METHODS

1.1 General information

- Full course title: **Russia in Global Politics**
- Type of course: [Compulsory]
- Level of course B.A.
- Year of study: 4th
- Number of ECTS credits allocated: [3]
- Name of lecturer(s) and office hours:
Timur Makhmutov, Ph.D. in Political Science
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1.2 Course aims and learning outcomes

The aim(s) of the course is (are) to provide students with foundational knowledge and sound understanding of Russia's role in international politics, its potential and strategies in maintaining global and regional stability, to introduce students to current fundamental documents of Russia's foreign policy, to orient students to comparative analysis of Russia's interactions on the global arena with regard to other countries foreign policy activities, to provide students with data explaining the potential of Russia to play a significant role in world politics.

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- understand the logic and arguments of Russian foreign policy planners and senior officials,
- give critical analysis of any publication on international relations,
- give well-founded explanations on political, economic, cultural and military potential of Russia on the global arena,
- include into strategic analysis of Russian foreign policy basic documents regulating Russia's external activity.

1.3 Course requirements and grading plan

Course requirements

Students will be required to attend not less than 90% of classes and be prepared for class discussions. Conscientious reading of the assigned materials is compulsory. Students will also be required to be prepared for written tests which can include also statistical data.

Grading plan

- Class participation - 50%
Students are expected to attend all the lectures seminars and participate in class discussions; since the course is highly interactive, it is essential that students attend the seminars having read the materials for that day's class.
- In-class tests – 10%
Students will write two tests during the semester. Dates of test classes are defined by the instructor and communicated to the students at the first class of the respective course.
- Essay – 20%

During the course each student is expected to write an essay (minimum 4000 characters, up to 8000 characters, Times New Roman font, size 14, 1.5 interval) on one of the topics proposed. The essay should demonstrate the level of student's knowledge of publications on the subject. The work is to be presented at least 2 weeks before the end of the course.

- Oral exam – 20% (in class, 120 minutes).

PART 2. COURSE CONTENT

2.1 Types of work

Types of work	Academic hours
Total	108
Total for lectures, seminars and written exam	32
Lectures	16
Seminars	16
Written tests and/or exam	2
Homework	76
Written and oral home assignments	36
Preparation for lectures, seminars and written exam	38

2.2. Course content and readings by topic

Topic 1. Historical Background and Geographical Potential of Russia to Be a Global Power

Lecture 1.1 Historical Background and Geographical Potential of Russia to Be a Global Power.

Summary: The role of history in the formation of Russia's foreign policy. The role of geography in explaining Russia's potential in international affairs on regional and global levels. Russia's land and maritime boundaries. Russia's neighbor-countries and Russia's vision of cooperation with them. Russia's geopolitical specifics in comparison with other influential countries.

Lecture 1.2 Foreign Policy Mechanisms of Russia: actors, institutions, and documents.

Summary: The role of the President of the Russian Federation in establishing principal directions of the Russia's foreign policy. MFA is a key institution in foreign policy implementation. Other ministries in foreign policy implementation. Involvement of expert community and analytical NGOs in foreign policy-making in Russia. Main documents regulating Russia's foreign policy activity.

Seminar 1.2 Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation.

Questions for discussion:

What are the differences of the two Concepts: that of 2013 and the newly approved of 2016?
What are the Russia's foreign policy priorities according to the Concept of 201?

- Compulsory readings:

Tsygankov, Andrei, Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity, 4th Edition, 2016

Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation // Web-site of the MFA of Russia. URL:

http://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/official_documents/-/asset_publisher/CptICkB6BZ29/content/id/2542248

Sergunin, Alexander. Explaining Russian Foreign Policy Behavior: Theory and Practice (Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics and Society), 2016.

Mankoff, J. Russian foreign policy : the return of great power politics. - 2nd ed. - Lanham [etc.] : Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

- Further readings:

Riasanovsky, Nicholas. A History of Russia. Any edition by the author or with co-author(s).

Glosdev N., Marsh C. Russian Foreign Policy: Interests, Vectors, and Sectors. SAGE, 2014.

Russian Empire: space, people, power, 1700-1930 / Ed. by Jane Burbank, Mark von Hagen, and Anatoly Remnev. Indiana University Press, 2007.

Newton, Julie, and Tompson, William. Institutions, Ideas and Leadership in Russian Politics. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Anders Aslund, Andrew Kuchins. The Russia Balance Sheet. Peterson Institute for International Economics Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2009.

The vitality of Russia / edited by Armand Clesse and Sergei Lounev. Amsterdam : Dutch University Press, 2004.

Robert Legvold. Russian Foreign Policy in the Twenty-first Century and the Shadow of the Past. Columbia University Press.2007.

Russia and its Near Neighbours / ed. by Freire, M., Kanet, R. Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

- Internet resources:

Timofeev, Ivan. Russia and the West: the New Normal // RIAC Working Paper. 2016. No. 32. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=8540#top-content

Romanova, Tatiana. Russia and Europe: Somewhat Different, Somewhat the Same? // RIAC Policy Brief. 2016. No. 5. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=8011#top-content

Russian Foreign Policy in Historical and Current Context. A Reassessment // Perspectives. 2015. RAND Corporation. URL: <http://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PE144.html>

Topic 2. Russia and International Organizations.

Lecture 2.1 Russia and International Organizations.

Summary: Russia's participation in UN organizations. Russia's contribution to the UN development. Russia's involvement in regional organizations. Russian strategy on the level of international organizations. Russia's role in preserving and developing international law.

- Compulsory readings:

The United Nations // RIAC Reader. URL: <http://russiancouncil.ru/en/un>

Lavrov, Sergey. The United Nations' legitimacy is unique // RIAC web-site. 14.09.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6566#top-content

- Further readings:

Sergunin, Alexander. Explaining Russian Foreign Policy Behavior: Theory and Practice (Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics and Society), 2016.

- Internet resources:

Borisov, Dmitry. A Difficult Peace: The UN and the Challenges of Modern Peacekeeping // RIAC web-site. 12.01.2017. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=8565#top-content

Kiku, Dmitriy. The United Nations: New Horizons for Sustainable Development // RIAC web-site. 16.09.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6574#top-content

Topic 3. Russia in Global Economy and International Trade

Lecture 3.1 Russia in Global Economy and International Trade.

Summary: Russian economy and its potential to compete with other economies. Main foreign trade partners of Russia and structure of Russia's export and import. Economic integration projects and Russia's participation in them.

Seminar 3.1 Foreign Service as a Tool to Promote National Economic Interests (brain-storming).

Questions for discussion:

How Russian diplomatic service can help to promote Russia's national economic interests?
What should be improved to defend Russia's presence on the markets of other countries?
What are the products that Russia can export successfully? To what countries?

- Compulsory readings:

Dynkin, Aleksandr. Russia in the Global Economy 2012-2020 // RIAC web-site. 11.02.2013. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=1378#top-content

The World in 100 Years. Russian International Affairs Council, 2016.

Russia's "Pivot" to Eurasia / ed. by Kadri Liik. The European Council on Foreign Relations, 2014.

- Further readings:

Russia and the World. Annual Forecast: Economy and Foreign Policy / Project leads – A.A. Dynkin, V.G. Baranovskii. – Moscow, IMEMO RAN, 2016. – 166 p.

Anders Aslund, Sergei Guriev, Andrew C. Kuchins. Russia After the Global Economic Crisis. Peterson Institute for Internal Economics, 2010.

- Internet resources:

Komarov, Ilya. Russia's Position amid Emerging Trade Partnerships // RIAC web-site. 23.07.2015.

URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6375#top-content

Topic 4. Russia and Its Potential in the Military Sphere

Lecture 4.1. Russia and Its Potential in the Military Sphere

Summary: Russia's potential to project military power across its borders. Debates on Russia's ambitions to have military bases abroad. Russia's naval forces installations and Russia's access to the World Ocean. Russia on the global arms market.

- Compulsory readings:

Russia: arms control, disarmament and international security / IMEMO supplement to the Russian edition of the SIPRI Yearbook 2015. Edited by A. Arbatov, S. Oznobishchev. Moscow: IMEMO, 2016, 203 p.

Tsygankov, Andrei, Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity, 4th Edition, 2016

Sergunin, Alexander. Explaining Russian Foreign Policy Behavior: Theory and Practice (Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics and Society), 2016.

Mankoff, J. Russian foreign policy : the return of great power politics. - 2nd ed. - Lanham [etc.] : Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

The World in 100 Years. Russian International Affairs Council, 2016.

- Further readings:

Roy Allison. Russia, the West, and Military Intervention. Oxford University Press, 2013.

- Internet resources:

Fenenko, Alexei. War of the Future – How Do We See It? // RIAC web-site. 06.05.2016. URL:

http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7645#top-content

Antonov, Alexander. The Russian Navy as a Military Instrument of Global Politics: Prospects for Development // RIAC web-site. 14.03.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7384#top-content

Topic 5. Russia and New Global Challenges

Lecture 5.1. Russia and New Global Challenges

Summary: Migration. Cyberspace Threats. Terrorism. Climate Change.

Seminar 5.1: Russia and New Global Challenges: case of migration

Questions for discussion:

What are the main destinations from which migrants arrive to Russia?

What are their motivations and plans for the future?

How Russia reacts to migrant flows?

Is Russia's experience in tackling challenges of migration comparable with that of EU countries?

Is there a possibility for Russia and EU to exchange their experience in managing migration?

- Compulsory readings:

Migration in Russia. 2000–2013. Russian International Affairs Council, 2013.

The World in 100 Years. Russian International Affairs Council, 2017.

Russia and the Challenges of the Digital Environment // RIAC Working Paper. 2014. No. 15.

Recruiting Foreign Terrorist Fighters and Dealing with Returnees: European Experience and the Prospects for Russia // RIAC Working Paper. 2015. No. 27.

- Further readings:

Malakhov, Vladimir. Migration Crisis: International Cooperation and National Strategies // RIAC Policy Brief. 2016. No. 10.

Information Security Threats during Crisis and Conflicts of the XXI Century. Eds.: A.V. Zagorskii, N.P. Romashkina. Moscow: IMEMO, 2016, 133 p. URL:

http://www.imemo.ru/en/index.php?page_id=645&id=3158

- Internet resources:

Inozemtsev, Vladislav. Russia and Global Humanitarian Challenges // RIAC web-site. 27.09.2013.

URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=1466#top-content

Ulybina, Olga. Nuclear Waste Storage and Climate Change: What should we expect? // RIAC web-site.

02.06.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7744#top-content

Kiku, Dmitriy. Global Action against Climate Change: Time to Join Forces // RIAC web-site.

02.02.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7191#top-content

Yablokova, Alina. Russia at COP21: An Opportunity to Reengage with the West // RIAC web-site.

27.11.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6910#top-content

Topic 6. Russia's Soft Power Instruments

Lecture 6.1. Russia's Soft Power Instruments

Summary: Russia's education on the global market of education. Russian science diasporas abroad.

International science and education associations: Russia's involvement. International activity of Russian universities. Russian Culture as a Global Brand. Russia and Global Media. Stereotypes about Russia and image of Russia produced by Russian and global media-resources.

- Compulsory readings:

Sergunin, Alexander. Explaining Russian Foreign Policy Behavior: Theory and Practice (Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics and Society), 2016.

Tsygankov, Andrei, Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity, 4th Edition, 2016

Mankoff, J. Russian foreign policy : the return of great power politics. - 2nd ed. - Lanham [etc.] : Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

Kiselev, Vladimir. The Russian Federation's International Science and Technology Cooperation: An Overview and Development Issues // RIAC Report. 2014. No. 15.

Timofeev, Ivan, et al. Web Internationalization: Russian Universities // RIAC Report. 2016. No. 24.

- Further readings:

Russia Direct Guidebook to Russian Foreign Policy / ed.by E. Zabrovskaya, and Dominic Basulto. Russia Direct, 2014.

From nyet to da: understanding the new Russia. Intercultural Press, 2009.

- Internet resources:

Fenenko, Alexei. Soft Power: Reality and Myth // RIAC web-site. 29.01.2016. URL:

http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7167#top-content

Timofeev, Ivan. Soft Power, Economic Diversification and Dilemmas Facing Russian Universities // RIAC web-site. 11.04.2016. URL:

http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7528#top-content

Dezhina, Irina. The Russian science as a factor of soft power // RIAC web-site. 21.06.2012. URL:

http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=515#top-content

Bovt, Georgi. Soft power of the Russian word // RIAC web-site. 02.10.2013. URL:

http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=2423#top-content

Torkunov, Anatoly. Education as a Soft Power Instrument of Russia's Foreign Policy // RIAC web-site.

06.03.2013. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=1495#top-content

2.3. Essay topics/Exam Questions

1. The role of geography and history in explaining Russia's potential in international affairs on regional and global levels.
2. Russia's neighbor-countries and Russia's vision of cooperation with them.
3. The role of the President of the Russian Federation in establishing principal directions of the Russia's foreign policy.
4. MFA and other ministries in foreign policy implementation.
5. Involvement of expert community and analytical NGOs in foreign policy-making in Russia.
6. Main documents regulating Russia's foreign policy activity. Russia's foreign policy priorities according to the Concept of 2016.
7. Russia's participation in UN organizations.
8. Russia's involvement in regional organizations.
9. Russia's role in preserving and developing international law.
10. Russian economy and its potential to compete with other economies.
11. Main foreign trade partners of Russia and structure of Russia's export and import.
12. Economic integration projects and Russia's participation in them.
13. Russia's potential to project military power across its borders and debates on Russia's ambitions to have military bases abroad.
14. Russia on the global arms market.
15. Russia and new global challenges
16. Migration in Russia.
17. Russia's key soft power instruments.
18. Russia's education on the global market of education. Russian science diasporas abroad.
19. Russian Culture as a Global Brand.
20. Russia and Global Media.

2.4. Exam timing

- Fall semester tests – last week of December; exams January 10-25
- Spring semester tests – last week of May; exams June 1-25

2.5. Consolidated reading list

Readings Required

Sergunin, Alexander. Explaining Russian Foreign Policy Behavior: Theory and Practice (Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics and Society), 2016.

Tsygankov, Andrei, Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity, 4th Edition, 2016

Readings Recommended

Anders Aslund, Andrew Kuchins. The Russia Balance Sheet. Peterson Institute for International Economics Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2009.

From nyet to da: understanding the new Russia. Intercultural Press, 2009.

Glosdev N., Marsh C. Russian Foreign Policy: Interests, Vectors, and Sectors. SAGE, 2014.

Information Security Threats during Crisis and Conflicts of the XXI Century. Eds.: A.V. Zagorskii, N.P. Romashkina. Moscow: IMEMO, 2016, 133 p. URL:

http://www.imemo.ru/en/index.php?page_id=645&id=3158

Kiselev, Vladimir. The Russian Federation's International Science and Technology Cooperation: An Overview and Development Issues // RIAC Report. 2014. No. 15.

Malakhov, Vladimir. Migration Crisis: International Cooperation and National Strategies // RIAC Policy Brief. 2016. No. 10.

Mankoff, J. Russian foreign policy : the return of great power politics. - 2nd ed. - Lanham [etc.] : Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

Migration in Russia. 2000–2013. Russian International Affairs Council, 2013.

Newton, Julie, and Tompson, William. Institutions, Ideas and Leadership in Russian Politics. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Recruiting Foreign Terrorist Fighters and Dealing with Returnees: European Experience and the Prospects for Russia // RIAC Working Paper. 2015. No. 27.

Robert Legvold. Russian Foreign Policy in the Twenty-first Century and the Shadow of the Past. Columbia University Press.2007.

Romanova, Tatiana. Russia and Europe: Somewhat Different, Somewhat the Same? // RIAC Policy Brief. 2016. No. 5. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=8011#top-content

Roy Allison. Russia, the West, and Military Intervention. Oxford University Press, 2013.

Russia: arms control, disarmament and international security / IMEMO supplement to the Russian edition of the SIPRI Yearbook 2015. Edited by A. Arbatov, S. Oznobishchev. Moscow: IMEMO, 2016, 203 p.

Russia and its Near Neighbours / ed. by Freire, M., Kanet, R. Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

Russia and the Challenges of the Digital Environment // RIAC Working Paper. 2014. No. 15.

Russia and the World. Annual Forecast: Economy and Foreign Policy / Project leads – A.A. Dynkin, V.G. Baranovskii. – Moscow, IMEMO RAN, 2016. – 166 p.

Russia Direct Guidebook to Russian Foreign Policy / ed.by E. Zablovskaya, and Dominic Basulto. Russia Direct, 2014.

Russian Empire: space, people, power, 1700-1930 / Ed. by Jane Burbank, Mark von Hagen, and Anatoly Remnev. Indiana University Press, 2007.

Russian Foreign Policy in Historical and Current Context. A Reassessment // Perspectives. 2015. RAND Corporation. URL: <http://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PE144.html>

Russia's "Pivot" to Eurasia / ed. by Kadri Liik. The European Council on Foreign Relations, 2014.

Riasanovsky, Nicholas. A History of Russia. Any edition by the author or with co-author(s).

The vitality of Russia / edited by Armand Clesse and Sergei Lounev. Amsterdam : Dutch University Press, 2004.

The World in 100 Years. Russian International Affairs Council, 2016.

Timofeev, Ivan, et al. Web Internationalization: Russian Universities // RIAC Report. 2016. No. 24.

Timofeev, Ivan. Russia and the West: the New Normal // RIAC Working Paper. 2016. No. 32. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=8540#top-content

Internet-resources

Antonov, Alexander. The Russian Navy as a Military Instrument of Global Politics: Prospects for Development // RIAC web-site. 14.03.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7384#top-content

Borisov, Dmitry. A Difficult Peace: The UN and the Challenges of Modern Peacekeeping // RIAC web-site. 12.01.2017. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=8565#top-content

Bovt, Georgi. Soft power of the Russian word // RIAC web-site. 02.10.2013. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=2423#top-content

Dezhina, Irina. The Russian science as a factor of soft power // RIAC web-site. 21.06.2012. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=515#top-content

Dynkin, Aleksandr. Russia in the Global Economy 2012-2020 // RIAC web-site. 11.02.2013. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=1378#top-content

Fenenko, Alexei. Soft Power: Reality and Myth // RIAC web-site. 29.01.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7167#top-content

Fenenko, Alexei. War of the Future – How Do We See It? // RIAC web-site. 06.05.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7645#top-content

Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation // Web-site of the MFA of Russia. URL: http://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/official_documents/-/asset_publisher/CptlCk6BZ29/content/id/2542248

Inozemtsev, Vladislav. Russia and Global Humanitarian Challenges // RIAC web-site. 27.09.2013. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=1466#top-content

Kiku, Dmitriy. Global Action against Climate Change: Time to Join Forces // RIAC web-site. 02.02.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7191#top-content

Kiku, Dmitriy. The United Nations: New Horizons for Sustainable Development // RIAC web-site. 16.09.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6574#top-content

Komarov, Ilya. Russia's Position amid Emerging Trade Partnerships // RIAC web-site. 23.07.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6375#top-content

Lavrov, Sergey. The United Nations' legitimacy is unique // RIAC web-site. 14.09.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6566#top-content

The United Nations // RIAC Reader. URL: <http://russiancouncil.ru/en/un>

Timofeev, Ivan. Soft Power, Economic Diversification and Dilemmas Facing Russian Universities // RIAC web-site. 11.04.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7528#top-content

Torkunov, Anatoly. Education as a Soft Power Instrument of Russia's Foreign Policy // RIAC web-site.
06.03.2013. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=1495#top-content

Ulybina, Olga. Nuclear Waste Storage and Climate Change: What should we expect? // RIAC web-site.
02.06.2016. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=7744#top-content

Yablokova, Alina. Russia at COP21: An Opportunity to Reengage with the West // RIAC web-site.
27.11.2015. URL: http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6910#top-content

PART 3. FINAL REMARKS

- Plagiarism is considered as a severe violation and as an indication of incompetence in the course. Plagiarism is understood as making of one's text using compilation method for other people's publications, even connected with own phrases and sentences. Collective performance of individual tasks is also unacceptable. Proved plagiarism an F-mark is given regardless of the fulfillment of all other requirements.
- Assignments are to be handed in on the due date. Late submissions will translate into the lowering of the grade by 1/3 of a grade for each day of delay.
- Students are asked to keep a copy of all work submitted for evaluation.