Information sheet for the course International Political Relations

University: Alexander Dubcek University of Trencin

Faculty: Department of Political Science

Course unit code: *PLTP5* | Course unit title: *International Political Relations*

Type of course unit: *compulsory*

Planned types, learning activities and teaching methods:

Lecture: 2 hours weekly Seminar: 2 hours weekly

Number of credits: 6

Recommended semester: autumn

Recommended year: 3

Degree of study: *I. (bachelor)*

Assessment methods:

Students have to prepare a presentation and study recommended readings during the semester to receive credits. The course will be completed by oral exam.

Marking of the course: A – at least 92 points, B – at least 83 points, C – at least 74 points, D at least 65 points, E – at least 56 points.

Learning outcomes of the course unit:

By completing the course, the student will be able to:

- distinguish individual stages of the development of international relations and be able to characterize them;
- know and use basic concepts of international relations;
- understand individual elements of current international political relations and be able to place them
 in a wider context;
- recognize a liberal and realistic approach to international relations and their basic features, concepts and assumptions;
- assess their usefulness for understanding specific cases in international relations;
- communicate and present topics of international relations in English or Russian

Course contents:

- 1. Introductory information about the content and organization of the subject and the conditions for its successful completion
- 2. Origins of international relations, basic theoretical concepts
- 3. Westphalian system, European concert,
- 4. The Versailles peace system and its destruction by Nazi Germany and the USSR,
- 5. The founding of the United Nations and the beginning of the Cold War, a liberal and realistic view of international relations
- 6. Containment of communism, Berlin and Cuban crisis
- 7. Détente and arms control
- 8. The end of the Cold War, the breakup of the Eastern Bloc
- 9. American unilateralism, Afghanistan and Iraq
- 10. The EU and the contradiction between economic and military power
- 11. The arrival of a multipolar world, the ambitions of China and Russia
- 12. International political relations on the threshold of the third decade of the 21st century

Recommended or required reading:

DRULÁK, P. 2010. Teorie mezinárodních vztahů. Praha : Portál, 2010. 224 s. ISBN 9788073677213. KISSINGER, H. Umění diplomacie. Od Richelieua k pádu Berlínské zdi. Edice Obzor. Prostor, Praha 1996, 920 stran, ISBN 80-85190-51-6.

MÉNISSIER, T. 2015. Machiavelliho Vladař. Praha : Oikoymenh, 2015 ISBN 978-80-7298-434-3.

SNOW, D. M. 2014. Cases in International Relations: Principles and Applications. Pearson, 2014. 352 s.

ISBN 978-0-205-98353-7.
YOUNG, J. W KENT, J. 2013. International relations since 1945. 2nd edition. Oxford: Oxford University
Press, 2013. 792 s. ISBN 978-0-19-969306-1