



## FICHA TÉCNICA DE LA ASIGNATURA

Datos de la asignatura	
Nombre completo	War and Peace in the 21st Century
Código	E000013477
Impartido en	Master in International Security Management [Primer Curso]
Nivel	Master
Cuatrimestre	Semestral
Créditos	5,0 ECTS
Carácter	Obligatoria
Departamento / Área	Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales
Responsable	María del Carmen Chas Bartolomé

Datos del profesorado	
Profesor	
Nombre	María del Carmen Chas Bartolomé
Departamento / Área	Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales
Correo electrónico	mcchas@comillas.edu

## DATOS ESPECÍFICOS DE LA ASIGNATURA

### Contextualización de la asignatura

### Competencias - Objetivos

#### Resultados de Aprendizaje

By the end of this module, students will:

- Understand the key debates associated with war and peace in the twenty-first century.
- Become familiar with the key concepts and theoretical approaches relevant to the study of war and peace.
- Understand some of the most important challenges—whether to individuals, states, and international society—stemming from war and peace.
- Be able to critically analyse and interrogate different concepts and theoretical approaches.
- Improve their writing, oral communication and analytical skills.

## BLOQUES TEMÁTICOS Y CONTENIDOS

### Contenidos – Bloques Temáticos

#### Foundations

1. What is war? Introduction to the history, theory, foundations and debates of the discipline



2. What is peace? Introduction to the history, theory, foundations and debates of the discipline
3. Types of conflicts
4. Theoretical approaches: International society, multipolarity and actors

### **International Cooperation, international law, and international organizations**

1. International organizations
2. Introduction to international law: What role does it play today?
3. International criminal law: Structure, cases, and debates
4. International humanitarian law: Structure, cases, and debates

### **Stopping war: Humanitarianism and the responsibility to protect**

1. The origins of human rights and humanitarianism
2. Peacekeeping missions
3. Humanitarian interventions and the responsibility to protect (R2P)
4. Peace processes

### **Arms control and disarmament**

1. Origins, historical background, and theoretical debates
2. Weapons of mass destruction: Nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons
3. Conventional weapons
4. The arms trade

### **War, peace, and new technology**

1. New technologies, unmanned vehicles, and drones
2. New challenges and opportunities: Cybersecurity, cyberwar, and cyberdiplomacy
3. Theoretical debates and concepts

## **METODOLOGÍA DOCENTE**

### **Aspectos metodológicos generales de la asignatura**

The course "War and Peace in the 21st Century" will be taught in person and online.

The professor will give in person classes on the different contents of the course. In addition to these classes, teaching will be enriched with the analysis of case studies, joint commentary of the required readings, and guest lectures. The active participation of the students in the in person sessions will be encouraged and evaluated.

The students will also be required to make a detailed study of the readings and case studies assigned by the professor throughout the course.

## **EVALUACIÓN Y CRITERIOS DE CALIFICACIÓN**

<b>Evaluation activity</b>	<b>Evaluation criteria</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Punctuality in the delivery of the essay and adaptation</li></ul>	40%



Evaluation activity	Evaluation criteria	Weight
3000 word essay. The topic and question will have to be discussed and agreed upon in advance with the lecturer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of the format to the guidelines established by the lecturer.</li> <li>Critical analysis of the information and materials consulted.</li> <li>Use of materials derived from independent research.</li> <li>Critical analysis and reflection about the material.</li> <li>Correct usage of academic and official data sources</li> </ul>	
<b>Individual presentations</b> The topic and question will have to be discussed and agreed upon in advance with the lecturer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarity</li> <li>Terminological precision</li> <li>Depth of knowledge of the chosen topic</li> <li>Length of the presentation</li> </ul>	30%
<b>Class participation</b> Class participation during the module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active participation in group discussions and activities during the class.</li> </ul>	20%
<b>Assistance</b> Assistance to the module's classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistance</li> </ul>	10%

#### Important clarification about the evaluation

In order to take the exam it is a requirement not to have missed without justification more than one third of classes. If this requirement is not met, the student may be prevented from taking the exam in the ordinary and extraordinary examination sessions. This is in accordance with the provisions of article 93.1 of the General Regulations of the University: "non-attendance of more than a third, or even a number less than a third, is established in the academic standards of the Center, of the contact hours in each subject may have as a consequence the impossibility of taking the exam in the ordinary session of the same academic year. Academic standards of the Center may also extend this consequence to the extraordinary call."

#### Use of artificial intelligence in the evaluation

If AI tools are used in any of the activities, the student must include a paragraph stating what AI has been used for, and what instructions were provided to obtain the results. Failure to do so will be a violation of academic integrity policies.

## BIBLIOGRAFÍA Y RECURSOS

### Bibliografía Básica

Abe, Nobuyasu. "The NPT at Fifty: Successes and Failures." *Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament* 3, no. 2 (2020): 224—233. <https://doi.org/10.1080/25751654.2020.1824500>.

Acheson, Ray. "Modernization of nuclear weapons: Aspiring to 'indefinite retention'?" *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 68, no. 5 (2012): 88—95. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0096340212459038>.

Adelman, Kenneth L. "Arms Control with and without Agreements." *Foreign Affairs* 63, no. 2 (1984): 240—263. <https://doi.org/10.2307/20042181>.



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**2024 - 2025**

Asada, Masahiko. "A path to a comprehensive prohibition of the use of chemical weapons under international law: from The Hague to Damascus." *Journal of Conflict and Security Law* 21, no. 2 (2016): 153—207.

Barrinha, André, and Thomas Renard. "Cyber-Diplomacy: The Making of an International Society in the Digital Age." *Global Affairs* 3, no. 4–5 (2017): 353–64. <https://www.doi.org/10.1080/23340460.2017.1414924>.

Bellamy, Alex J., and Paul D. Williams (eds). *Providing Peacekeepers: The Politics, Challenges, and Future of United Nations Peacekeeping Contributions* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013).

Bentley, Michelle. "Strategic taboos: chemical weapons and US foreign policy." *International Affairs* 90, no. 5 (2014): 1033—1048.

Bode, Ingvild, and Hendrik Huelss. *Autonomous Weapons Systems and International Norms*. Montreal and Kingston, London, and Chicago: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2022.

Brown, Frederic J. *Chemical Warfare: A Study in Restraints*. New Brunswick and London: Transaction Publishers, 2006.

Casey-Maslen, Stuart, and Tobias Vestner. *A Guide to International Disarmament Law*. London and New York: Routledge, 2019.

Cassese, Antonio. "Fundamentals of International Criminal Law." In *Cassese's International Criminal Law*, 3rd ed, 3–21. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

Crawford, James, and Simon Olleson. "The Character and Forms of International Responsibility." In *International Law*, edited by Malcolm Evans, 5th ed, 415–49. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

Ford, Matthew and Andrew Hoskins. *Radical War: Data, Attention and Control in the Twenty-First Century* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022).

Foulon, Michiel, and Gustav Meibauer. 2024. "How Cyberspace Affects International Relations: The Promise of Structural Modifiers." *Contemporary Security Policy* (June 2024): 1–33. <https://www.doi.org/10.1080/13523260.2024.2365062>.

Greenwood, Christopher. "International Humanitarian Law and the Tadic Case." *European Journal of International Law* 7, no. 2, (1996): 265–283.

Keohane, Robert O. "International Institutions: Two Approaches." *International Studies Quarterly* 32 (1988): 379–396.

Klabbers, Jan. "Sanctions, Countermeasures, and Collective Security." In *International Law*, 180–98. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023.

Klabbers, Jan. "The Law of Armed Conflict." In *International Law*, 218–334. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023.

Koskeniemi, Martti. "Between Impunity and Show Trials." *Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law Online* 6, no. 1 (2002): 1–35.

Koskeniemi, Martti. *The Gentle Civilizer of Nations: The Rise and Fall of International Law 1870–1960*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Leitenberg, Milton, and Raymond A. Zilinskas. *The Soviet Biological Weapons Program, A History*. Cambridge, Massachusetts and London: Harvard University Press, 2012.

Lubell, Noam. "Challenges in Applying Human Rights Law to Armed Conflict." *International Review of the Red Cross* 87, no. 860 (2005): 737–754.

Orford, Anne. *International Law and the Politics of History*, 285–320. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021.

Cunliffe, Philip. *Cosmopolitan dystopia: International intervention and the failure of the West* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2020).



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Reus-Smit, Christian. "The politics of international law." In *The Politics of International Law*, edited by Christian Reus-Smit, 14-44. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Schwöbel, C. (ed). *Critical Approaches to International Criminal Law: An Introduction*, 1st ed. Routledge. London: Routledge, 2014.

Shestack, Jerome J. "The Philosophic Foundations of Human Rights." *Human Rights Quarterly* 20, no. 2 (1998): 201-234.

Simon, Hendrik. "Can We (Still) Trust International Law?" In *After the War? How the Ukraine War Challenges Political Theories*, edited by Anton Leist and Rolf Zimmermann, 171-194. Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter, 2024.

Simon, Hendrik. "Theorising Order in the Shadow of War. The Politics of International Legal Knowledge and the Justification of Force in Modernity." *Journal of the History of International Law* 22, no. 2-3 (2020): 218-245.

Solis, Gary D. "Rules of War, Laws of War." In *The Law of Armed Conflict: International Humanitarian Law in War*, 3-37. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.