Content

Course Code	Course Name	Semester	Theory	Practice	Lab	Credit	ECTS
RI-649	International Relations in the Digital Age	2	3	0	0	3	5

Prerequisites	
Admission Requirements	

Language of Instruction	French
Course Type	Elective
Course Level	Masters Degree
Objective	This course examines the impact of digital transformation on international relations from a multidimensional perspective. It explores how global politics is being reshaped in the digital age, covering a wide range of issues from cybersecurity and artificial intelligence to data sovereignty and the geopolitics of digital platforms. The course analyzes the evolving roles of states, international organizations, and private sector actors, while revisiting classical IR theories in light of contemporary technological developments. It aims to provide students with both analytical and applied perspectives on the changing dynamics of global politics.
Content	Conceptual and Theoretical Framework • Week 1 – International Relations in the Digital Age: Digital transformation and its implications for power, sovereignty, and global actors • Week 2 – Theoretical Approaches: IR theories in the digital age: new concepts, analytical frameworks, and limitations • Week 3 – Digital Diplomacy: The use of digital tools in foreign policy, public diplomacy, and social media International Security and Conflict • Week 4 – Cybersecurity and Cyber Warfare: Digital threats, cyber operations, and intelligence in international security • Week 5 – Information and Disinformation: Digital propaganda, platforms, social media, and perception management • Week 6 – Hybrid Warfare and Military Technology: Changing dynamics of conflict, hybrid threats, and the role of emerging technologies Week 7 – Case Study & Student Presentations Economy, Technology and Power • Week 8 – Technology and Global Economic Competition: US–China technological rivalry, EU strategies, and the roles of South Korea and Japan • Week 9 – Technology Companies and Digital Competition: Political and economic influence of Big Tech and platform power • Week 10 – Data, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Sovereignty: Data governance, data sovereignty, and the implications of AI Governance, Regimes and the Future • Week 11 – Global Technology Governance International organizations, digital infrastructure, and supply chains • Week 12 – Digital Authoritarianism and Digital Democracy Political systems, surveillance, regulation, and digital rights • Week 13 – Digitalization, Regulation and Sustainability: AI and data policies/regulations; Technology and ESG; and the global standards. Week 14 – Case Study & Student Presentations

References	Joseph Nye, The Future of Power, PublicAffairs, 2011 Corneliu Bjola and Markus Kornprobst (Ed.), Digital International Relations: Technology, Agency and Order, Routledge, 2023 Corneliu Bjola and Ilan Manor (Ed.), The Oxford Handbook on Digital Diplomacy, Oxford University Press, 2024 Peter Singer and Allan Friedman, Cybersecurity and Cyberwar: What Everyone Needs to Know, Oxford University Press, 2014 Adam Segal, The Hacked World Order, PublicAffairs, 2015 Anaum Chander and Haochen Sun (Ed.), Data Soverignty: From the Digital Silk Road to the Return of the State, Oxford Uni. Press, 2023 Bhaso Ndzendze and Tshilidzi Marwala (Ed.), Artificial Intelligence and International Relations Theory, Palgrave Macmillan, 2023 Stephen Coleman and Lone Sorenson (Ed.), Handbook of Digital Politics, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2023 Additional academic articles, policy papers, and media sources will be provided throughout the course in line with weekly topics.

Theory Topics

Week	Weekly Contents
1	International Relations in the Digital Age
2	Theoretical Approaches
3	Digital Diplomacy
4	Cybersecurity and Cyber Warfare
5	Information and Disinformation
6	Hybrid Warfare and Military Technology
7	Technology and Global Economic Competition
8	Technology Companies and Digital Competition
9	Data, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Sovereignty
10	Global Technology Governance
11	Digital Authoritarianism and Digital Democracy
12	Digitalization, Regulation and Sustainability
13	Case Study & Student Presentations
14	Case Study & Student Presentations