

SYLLABUS DE COURS

Intitulé du cours	War, Capitalism, and Empire: Lessons from The Post-Soviet Space		
Enseignant(e)	Caroline Dufy		
Champ disciplinaire		Mots clés War, Post Soviet Space, International Political Economy	
Langue d'enseignement	English	Niveau	Master
Semestre	Semestre 1	Nombre d'ECTS	4 ECTS
Volume d'heures	18 hours	Modalités d'examens	Oral group presentations (50%) and an oral individual exam (50%)
Descriptif	The seminar examines how the collapse of the USSR created a laboratory where war, capitalism, and imperial ambitions intertwined. The seminar analyzes the transition from planned economies to the capitalism of the 1990s, marked by the privatization of resources, the rise of oligarchs, and the concentration of power in the hands of a state-linked elite. It demonstrates how war—in Chechnya, Georgia, and later Ukraine—became a tool for both internal consolidation and external expansion, serving Russia's economic interests and imperial ambitions. The second ambition of the seminar is to show how international political economy and economic sociology can explain war. In this vast theoretical and thematic field, the focus will be on the case of the post-Soviet in its contemporary dynamics. The seminar is therefore composed of three separate parts. The first part will review essential theoretical foundations through an interdisciplinary approach, combining international political economy and economic sociology to explore war-related themes (e.g., border studies, security studies, imperialism). The second part will integrate thematic and area studies perspectives, focusing on specific issues such as: The war economy in Russia ; The effectiveness of sanctions against Russia; Russia as an imperial power ; Illiberal regimes, civil societies and war; Energy rent and the war economy in the East; war in political narratives. The seminar will be linked to the research project SCBC and may involve students attending external sessions, such as conferences, debates, and screenings.		

	The third part will consist of case study analyses, applying the concepts covered throughout the semester to topics selected by the students of the class.
Bibliographie	Hansson, Sten, Andreas Ventsel, et Mari-LiisMadisson. 2026. « Discourses of legitimization in strategic narratives: the case of Russia's war against Ukraine ». <i>European Security</i> 0 (0): 1-25. Jobin, Paul, Horng-luen Wang, et Olga Kutsenko. 2026. « War Frames: Insights from Eastern Europe and East Asia ». <i>The Sociological Review</i> 74 (2): 241-59. Kernic, Franz. 2023. <i>War, Peace and the Military: Sociological Perspectives</i>. Vol. 56. Militär Und Sozialwissenschaften/The Military and Social Research. Springer Fachmedien. Korkea-aho, Emilia, et Luigi Lonardo. 2025. « How Russia's war against Ukraine changed EU sanctions decision-making ». <i>Journal of European Integration</i> 0 (0): 1-22. Makarychev, Andrey, et Caroline Dufy. 2024. « The Spatial Repercussions of Russia's War in Ukraine: Region(alism)s, Borders, Insecurities ». <i>New Perspectives</i>, juin 12. Parker, Noel, et Nick al. 2009. « Lines in the Sand? Towards an Agenda for Critical Border Studies ». <i>Geopolitics</i> 14 (juillet): 582-87. Portela, Clara. 2024. « Sanctions and the Geopolitical Commission: The War over Ukraine and the Transformation of EU Governance ». <i>European Papers - A Journal on Law and Integration</i> 2023 8 (3): 1125-30. Prokopenko, Alexandra. 2025. « The Cracks in Russia's War Economy ». <i>ForeignAffairs</i>, octobre 20. https://www.foreignaffairs.com/russia/cracks-russias-war-economy.