

History of International Politics:
World Orders in International History

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The course proposes an analysis of the origin and evolution of the modern world order from its early beginnings to the contemporary post-Cold War world. Its purpose is to go back over the major stages of this evolution with the view of enabling students to have an in-depth knowledge of long-term trends and processes at the roots of current world affairs.

Social sciences being plural fields composed by competing paradigms, the analysis proposed is necessarily a personal – although not an arbitrary – one. As such, it is open to discussion and criticism.

Syllabus

1. **Introduction.** History of/and International Politics

Part I. The Evolution of the International System

2. 1492-1648: From the Middle Ages to a Global International System

3. 1648-1815: The Anglo-French Struggle for Mastery in Europe

4. 1815-1945: The Rise and Decline of *Pax Britannica*

5. 1945-1989/91: The Soviet-American Struggle for Mastery in the World

6. 1989/91-...: The Triumph of *Pax Americana*

Part II. The Development of an International Society

7. 1492-1648: Christianity vs. Heathen Barbarians

8. 1648-1815: European Commonwealth vs. Savage Tribes

9. 1815-1945: Civilization vs. Non-Civilized Entities

10. 1945-1989/91: Western Freedom vs. Eastern Totalitarianism

11. 1989/91-...: International Community vs. Rogue Actors

12. **Conclusion.** What Have We Learned?

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