



## Critical theories of International Relations

### Presentation

The « critical approaches to international relations » share a critical stance on the positivist pretention to produce value-free scholarship, and the hope that new perspectives may help to disclose the current relations of domination that structure world politics. The course does not purport to exhaust the numerous varieties of critical international relations theories (post-positivist, feminist, post-colonial, neo-Marxist, radical, etc.). Such an ambition would appear all the more overweening as critical thinking on international relations has not only emerged in the (sub)discipline of international relations but also found some stimulating formulations in other disciplines such as history, law, anthropology, linguistics, and philosophy, etc. Rather, this course introduces to some works produced in these fields with a particular focus on four critical approaches to international relations: the (neo)-Marxist, the postcolonial, the feminist and the « post-structuralist » approaches.

### Recommended Prerequisite(s)

Those students who want to make the most of this course should have a background on the mainstream theories of international relations, notably realism and liberalism.

### In brief

**ECTS credits** : 3.0

**Number of hours** : 18.0

**Teaching term** : Six-monthly

**Teaching activity** : Lecture course

**Year** : Fourth year

**Validation** : Final written examination

### Contacts

#### **Responsible(s)**

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## Form of assessment

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The number of ECTS credits and the assessment methods are likely to be different for students in credit exchange programmes.

## Bibliography

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- Brincat S., Lima L. & Nunes J., *Critical Theory in International Relations and Security Studies: Interviews and Reflections*, London, Routledge, 2012.
- Edkins J. & Vaughan-Williams N., *Critical theorists and international relations*, London, Routledge, 2009.
- Rengger N. & Thirkell-White N., *Critical International Theory. 25 Years After*, Cambridge University Press, 2007.
- Roach S. C., *Critical Theory and International Relations: A Reader*, London, Routledge, 2007.
- Weber C., *International Relations Theory. A Critical Introduction*, Routledge, 2004.

## Formule pédagogique

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Lecture with some assigned readings.