

1.4.3. Critical Security Studies (Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg)

Name of Module/Course	Critical Security Studies			
Short description	Our understanding of what constitutes an issue of international security has changed fundamentally following the end of the Cold. While the world was previously concerned with mutual nuclear annihilation, other threats such as terrorism, piracy, immigration or small wars have become far more prominent. While the empirical focus has changed, so has the theoretical engagement with international security threats shifting from a positivist to a post-positivist understanding of international security in which such dangers are not so much down to material existence but are the result of a process of discursive construction. This critical turn in the analysis of security threats had led to a new sub-field in the discipline of International Relations often referred to as Critical Security Studies. The course will examine in detail such a critical turn and reflect on the merits and problems such a turn brings with it.			
Name of Programme	MA Peace and Conflict Studies			
Name of University	Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg			
Name of Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Alexander Spencer			
Responsible University lecturer	Prof. Dr. Alexander Spencer			
Credit Points	SWS	Attendance (h)	Self-study (h)	Total workload (h)
4 or 6	2	1:30 per week		
Start & end dates, WS		timeslot:		
08.04.2021		Thursday 9-11		
Registration until		Number of possible AGEP participants		
15.03.2021		4		
Content and goals of qualification	<p><i>Aims of the course:</i> Upon completion of this course students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Have substantial knowledge of the main issues, trends and problems of traditional and critical approaches to security. ➤ Be able to apply theoretical ideas to empirical case studies. ➤ Be able to developed well-articulated arguments concerning central questions of security studies. ➤ Have practiced and improved the ability to present, write and discuss academic topics in English. 			

Preconditions for participation	English C1
Teaching Methods	Seminar discussion
lesson format (online/face-to-face)	Online via Zoom
Assessment method	Presentation (4 ECTS) & term paper (6 ECTS)
language	English
Inscription external student	Via AGEP Website