



GENEVA SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY
& INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE



EXECUTIVE MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (EMIR)

Programme Handbook

Global Challenges and Diplomatic Strategies

Executive Master of International Relations (EMIR)
Academic Year 2019-2020

Geneva School of Diplomacy & International Relations
www.genevadiplomacy.ch

- Located in the heart of the most diplomatic neighbourhood in the world
- Highly distinguished faculty and small, interactive classes
- Internship & networking possibilities
- Theory & praxis-oriented curriculum



An introduction

The Geneva School of Diplomacy & International Relations (GSD) is located in the *Domaine de Penthes* at Pregny-Geneva, a very beautiful campus in the heart of the most diplomatic neighborhood on the planet. That neighborhood is home to more than 190 international organizations – governmental and non-governmental. GSD students are regular visitors to one or another of these organizations. And every GSD student carries a card and pass to one of the great libraries of the world in the field of international relations and international law – the United Nations Library.

The mission and commitment of GSD is that its graduates and alumni contribute to improving the state of world society – while building careers for themselves of high value. To this end, the faculty of GSD is second to none: lecturers are either renowned academics or are themselves serving diplomats. A number of ambassadors serving their countries in Geneva are regularly teaching at GSD.

The GSD prepares future world leaders for their roles on the world stage to advance peace and human rights. Based on its core values of Academic & Vocational Excellence, Integrity and Professionalism, GSD provides high quality and praxis-orientated education combined with an commitment to student support and promotes a philosophy rooted in the School's motto '*serviendo governo*' – that to govern is to serve.

The Executive Master of International Relations (EMIR) programme is flexible and challenging and aimed at enriching the skills of professionals through a diverse modular curriculum, tailored teaching methods, and an interactive learning environment.

The Executive Master Degree programme is designed for busy professionals from both the public and the private sector who seek to earn a graduate degree in International Relations by developing their practical skills and deepen their knowledge of international politics and diplomatic issues, while working full time. An important part of our EMIR programme is the development and improvement of your diplomatic skills, to improve your professional performance and career path.



Learning outcomes, areas of expertise and teaching methods

Learning outcomes:

- Understand the dynamics of international politics and diplomatic issues, and to develop practical skills necessary to master the challenges of 21st century diplomacy;
- Advance cross-cultural negotiation and communication skills to better diffuse international frictions, manage crises and encourage international cooperation;
- Develop competence in dealing with challenges at the global, regional and national levels;
- Learn and incorporate tools, procedures and instruments to effectively manage complex projects and programmes in international and multicultural environments;
- Engage in a culturally diverse learning environment and build a network of professional relations with fellow students and faculty.

Areas of expertise:

- Diplomacy, international negotiation and policy-making, conflict resolution, management skills, foreign policy, globalization, global governance, global security, regional studies

Teaching methods:

- Small-group workshops, multi-stakeholder simulations, conferences, seminars, roundtable discussions, debates, brainstorming, case studies, role games

Entry requirements

Applicants should possess an undergraduate degree from a university or its equivalent. Students are encouraged to discuss the course with GSD academic tutors prior the submission of the application. Applicants whose mother tongue is not English must provide evidence of their English language capabilities at an approved level. Applicants who fail to reach this standard may be required to complete an agreed English Language tuition program prior to the commencement of the Executive Master program (EMIR).

Graduation requirements

- Total ECTS value of the Programme: 45 ECTS
- Duration: Two semesters
- Students are required to complete modules amounting to 35 credits (ECTS) and to complete a dissertation worth 10 credits.



Programme content

Semester I	ECTS	Contact hours	Non-contact hours
Case Study Weekend I	3	9	66
Case Study Weekend II	3	9	66
Case Study Weekend III	3	9	66
Semester I Paper	2	N/A	50
8 Evening classes	4	16	84
Total Semester I	15	43	332

Semester II	ECTS	Contact hours	Non-contact hours
Case Study Weekend I	3	9	66
Case Study Weekend II	3	9	66
Case Study Weekend III	3	9	66
Semester II Paper	2	N/A	50
8 Evening classes	4	16	84
Total Semester II	15	43	332

Off Term	ECTS	Contact hours	Non-contact hours
Full-Time Advanced Winter Course: Leadership in the New Era: Vision, Creativity, Change, Communications	5	30	95
EMIR Thesis	10	N/A	250

TOTAL ECTS	45	116	1009
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Thematic Case Study Weekends topics:*

- "Smart Power" - New Trends in the Global Science Diplomacy
- "Soft Power" - Public Diplomacy & Media
- The Evolving Dimensions of Strategic Foresight
- Newest Trends and Challenges in Human Rights Protection
- Transforming Global Governance for the 21st Century: International Institutions & Rising Power
- Blue Diplomacy: International Ocean & Marine Governance
- Humanitarian Diplomacy
- Energy, Environment and Development Diplomacy

*Subject to change from one semester to another, depending on the most urgent challenges for diplomacy and international community.

Modules:

- **Module 1.** Governing global issues (trade, health, migration, human rights, climate change, etc.)
- **Module 2.** New dimensions of foreign policy, geopolitics and global security (global security; foreign policy; trade and development; conflict resolution; arms control, etc.)
- **Module 3.** Fundamental skills for the leaders of tomorrow (leadership; strategic thinking; decision-making; policy-making; project management; teamwork; conflict management and resolution; negotiations; cross-cultural communication)

Schedules and the Calendar can be viewed [here](#).

Programme**Workload:**

- Attendance and participation in the in-class sessions and work on class assignments (readings, presentations, other in-class and home assignments)
- Semester I, [Essay](#) 4000 words
- Semester II, [Essay](#) 4000 words
- [Dissertation](#), 10'000 words

Deadlines for submission:

- Spring Term Essay: 30 June
- Autumn Term Essay: 30 January
- Dissertation:
 - ◆ September intake: 31 August
 - ◆ February intake: 31 March.

Essay-writing Instructions: choosing a topic, a teacher, and submission

All academic papers/essays performed at GSD shall meet the requirements described in the GSD Student Handbook available on the [Intranet page](#). Students must write their essays on one of the topics discussed in class and are requested, well in advance, to ask for instructions and coordinate the writing process with the faculty member teaching that module. The finalized work needs to be submitted via-email to the teacher – the main grader – and the academic office. Crucial to mention, all final drafts must be submitted to the Turnitin and a similarity percentage copy must be submitted/sent altogether with papers/essays, as well. Teachers will have one month to check, grade, and give feedback on the paper.

Preparation of the home assignments and readings

Timely preparation of the home assignments and readings is essential part of the Programme workload and has to be done on the regular basis following the lecturer's instructions.



Dissertation

Each EMIR Student will be assigned to the Dissertation Adviser upon submission to the Academic Office a duly filled out [Dissertation Research Proposal](#). The deadline for submission of the Research Proposal is:

- September intake: 1 May
- February intake: 1 December

Assessment

1. The students are given either Pass or Fail **for their classes** based on the feedback from their lecturers. Feedback from the lecturers shall take into consideration:
 - Regular attendance
 - Active informed participation in class activities
 - Preparation of home assignments and readings
 - Other relevant criteria

Class attendance is mandatory and gives 30% of the final grade for the Term Essay, which will be reduced in case of unexcused absence(s). **The Students must attend a minimum of 80% of the sessions.**

2. Final assessment of the **Term Essay and Thesis** is based on the [GSD Marking Scheme & Guidance](#).
In case of "Fail" students are given one month to improve their Term Essay/Thesis, and the maximum grade will be "Pass" = "E" 50%.¹

Late submission of the Term Essay/Thesis

Late submission of the Term Essay will lead to the following possibilities:

- Late submission within one week after the deadline - the maximum grade will be "Pass" = 50%
- Late submission one week after the deadline - the student gets "Fail" for the Term Essay/Thesis²

In case the student has **valid excuse** for non-submission of his/her Thesis, the [Extension Request Form](#) has to be duly filled out and submitted to the Academic office at least 1 month before the deadline.

¹ If the work received an "F" on the second attempt, the school will decide whether an additional final attempt will be considered; the financial penalty will be applied, as well.

² If the work is submitted after this deadline (but within 2 months) a financial penalty of 500CHF will be applied and the grade of the work (if equivalent to 'E') will be officialized at the end of the following semester, only. In cases of delays of more than 2 months (but within 5 months), the financial penalty increases to 1000CHF and the communication and officialization of the grade (if equivalent to 'E') will be postponed for another semester. Submission done beyond these delays will be discussed and decided by the GSD Academic Panel. In all these cases, the (re)submitted works will receive a maximum grade of 'E'.



Late submission of the Research Proposal

→ In case of late submission of a Research Proposal within one week after the deadline,

10% of the final grade for the thesis will be deducted

→ Should a student submit his/her Research Proposal two weeks after the submission deadline, 20% of the final grade for the thesis will be deducted

→ No Research Proposal will be accepted after the two week allowance, and the student's deadline for dissertation submission will be reported to the next semester.



Resources

Methodological Support

The Students will find methodological support for their research in the EMIR Dissertation Handbook which they will find on the [EMIR Programme Intranet web-page](#).

The EMIR Students have **electronic resources** at their disposal which are available at the [GSD Intranet page](#).

EMIR resource guide

This short bibliography aims to provide background readings on the issues to be covered in the GSD's Executive Master's in International Relations. The topics are organized along three big focus areas: global issues; new dimensions in geopolitics and security and development of leadership skills.

Books:

Module 1. Governing global issues

- John L. Seitz and Kristen A. Hite. Global Issues: An Introduction. 2012.
- Mark Beeson and Nick Bisley. Issues in 21st Century World Politics. Palgrave Macmillan, April 2013.
- Joseph E. Stiglitz and Mary Kaldor. The Quest for Security: Protection Without Protectionism and the Challenge of Global Governance. 2013
- Alan S. Alexandroff and Andrew F. Cooper. Rising States, Rising Institutions: Challenges for Global Governance. 2010.
- Bhargava, Vinay. Global Issues for Global Citizens: An Introduction to Key Development Challenges. Washington, DC: World Bank, 2006.
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/7194>

Module 2. New dimensions of foreign policy, geopolitics and global security

- Joseph S. Nye Jr and David A. Welch. Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History (9th Edition). Pearson 2012.
- Paul T.Kennedy. Local lives and global transformations: towards world society. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
- Daniel Yergin. The Quest. Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World. The Penguin Press, 2011.
- P W Singer. Wired For War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century. 2009.

Module 3. Fundamental skills for the leaders of tomorrow

- [James M. Kouzes](#) and [Barry Z. Posner](#) . The Leadership Challenge: How to Make Extraordinary Things Happen in Organizations.2012
- Robert B. Denhardt, Janet V. Denhardt, Maria P. Aristigueta. Managing Human Behavior in Public and Nonprofit Organizations. SAGE, 2012.



Online resources

- [Center for International Policy](#)
- [Chatham House](#)
- [Columbia International Affairs Online \(CIAO\)](#)
- [Council on Foreign Relations](#)
- [CSGR Centre for the Study of Globalisation & Regionalisation](#)
- [CTBTO Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban-Treaty Organisation](#)
- [Human Rights Watch](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [Global Policy Forum](#)
- [Globalization - BBC World Service](#)
- [Oxfam International](#)
- [Project Syndicate](#)
- [Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch](#)
- [SIPRI Stockholm International Peace Research Institute](#)
- [Transparency International](#)
- [UN online database](#)
- [UNESCO - Management of Social Transformations](#)
- [UN Documentation Centre](#)
- [World Bank Open Knowledge Repository](#)
- [World Policy Institute](#)
- [Yale Global Online](#)

Blogs

[Arms Control and Proliferation](#)

[Asia Unbound](#)

[Charlemagne - The Economist](#)

[China Rises](#)

[CIPSBLOG - Centre for International Policy Studies](#)

[Defence Viewpoints](#)

[Foreign Policy Watch](#)

[Global Voices Online](#)

[INSS Dynamic Dialogue](#)

[International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence](#)

[IRIN](#)

[Overseas Development Institute](#)

[Rethinking Security](#)

[Reuters Global News Blog](#)

[SAGE International](#)

[Strategic Security Blog](#)

[The Economist's Free Exchange](#)

[The World](#)

[Transmission - RFE/RL](#)

