

TEACHING ASSISTANT POSITION

Sciences Po Paris, Collège Universitaire is seeking: A teaching assistant for the undergraduate lecture course: “War and conflicts,” taught in English.

Professor: Jean-Yves Haine

Course description:

This course will examine some fundamental questions about the sources and the nature of wars in international politics. War is a significant part of our culture and remains a tragically recurrent phenomenon. From Ukraine to Gaza, from Armenia to Sudan, weapons are fired and people are killed.

The first part of the course will deal with the passions and reasons of conflicts. We will revisit classic motives such as status, revenge, honor to better understand the decision to go to war. We will also analyze the role of the political regime and leaders’ reputation in the process leading to the use of force. We will also explore the forces of the international system, the logic, the security dilemma, the dynamics of great powers’ rise and fall.

In the second part, we will address specific issues related to conflicts: the nuclear dimension, the war on terror and its consequences, the practice of humanitarian operations ? Can we speak of “new wars” in the 21st century, and if so, why? How do wars end?

We will try to answer some of these questions through an interdisciplinary perspective, incorporating insights from political science, anthropology, psychology and history and illustrated through specific cases’ analyses. With these elements, the course will attempt to better understand our current security environment and to make better sense of the phenomena of wars.

Pedagogical format: Lecture course

Calendar: The course is taught in the Fall semester, in the 2025-2026 academic year, on a weekly basis and 2-hour sessions over 12 weeks, from September 1st to December 5th, 2025.

Activities: The Teaching Assistant’s assignments support course delivery and may include the following responsibilities:

- Assisting in communication with the student group; answering student questions, mostly by e-mail or through the Moodle platform, in English and French;
- Following up with students for bibliographic and methodological advice, reminders of instructions, logistical assistance, etc.;
- Liaising any questions or concerns from the students with the Professor and the academic advisor;
- Assisting the Professor for each class; helping in making course materials available to students on the platform or via other media (email, Google group);
- Coordinating the preparation, proctoring, organization and grading of the various assignments and exams
- Any grading done will be paid extra.

Profile:

- To hold a Master's degree in Social Science (with prior knowledge of international relations theory);
- To be a PhD candidate (2nd year with experience possible);
- To have an interest and background in wars and conflicts;
- To have a C1 level in English. Working and research experiences related to the topic are appreciated. The position requires an excellent level of English (written and oral), work autonomy, social skills and the requisite personal qualities (intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, punctuality, availability, ability to listen, analytical clarity, rigor, and a sense of responsibility).

Number of hours and compensation:

The contractual number of hours is 16 for the semester, with a remuneration set to 65.10 € per hour (pre-tax).

Application: If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your application (CV and cover letter, in English) to Academic Advisor Sara Tonsy (sara.tonsy@sciencespo.fr).