Caucasus International University

Faculty of Social and Humanitarian Sciences

Master's Education Program

Global Politics and Security Studies

0312.2.2

Modified Program

Aproved by the Academic Board Meeting

Protocol # 02-2024, 18 April, 2024.

Resolution # 02-2024, 18 April, 2024.

Name of the education program	
Global Politics and Security Studies	
Cycle of Higher Academic Education	
Master's (MA)	
Type of the educational program	
Academic Higher Education Program	
Broad Field	
Social Sciences, Journalism and Informatics	
Narrow Field	
Social and Behavioral Sciences	
Detailed Field	
0312 Political Sciences and Civil Rights	
Field of study	
0312.2.2 Security Studies	
Duration of study	
Duration of teaching 4 semesters (2 academic years)	
Program volume with credits	
120 ECTS Credit	
Qualification to be awarded	
Master of Security Studies	
Language of instruction	
The educational program is taught in English	
Head of the program	
Dr. Vakhtang Maisaia Doctor of Political Science (Ph.D); MA in Public Administration; Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of Caucasus International University; Professor of Warsaw University of Humanities (Republic of Poland); Professor in National Security at the University of Business and Entrepreneurship in Ostrowiec (Republic of Poland).	
Co-head of the program	

María Espona (Republic of Argentina), Biologist (1994), Master in Terrorism Studies (2013) and PhD in Criminology (2019). International expert in the EU structures, in the field of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, in the direction of non-proliferation of chemical and biological weapons.

Program prerequisites

Enrollment in the Master's Educational Program in Global Politics and Security Studies is available to any person with a bachelor's or an equivalent academic degree in any detailed/field of study, who is enrolled based on the results of the Common Masters Exam and internal university examination-testing.

For the purpose of promotion of master's degree candidates and mobility of students, studying in a higher educational institution without passing the Common Master's Degree exams, under the rules and terms established by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia is allowed for::

a) MA candidates who graduated abroad and obtained documents confirming higher education academic degree;

b) Citizens of a foreign country (except the ones enrolled in the joint high educational program and student exchange educational programs), who are studying/studied and obtained credits/qualifications abroad in the master's degree in/from a higher educational institution recognized by the legislation of the given country;

b[1]) Citizens of Georgia (except the ones enrolled in the joint high educational programs and student exchange educational programs), who, during the defined time provided by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia, are living/lived, studying/studied and obtained credits/qualifications in/from in MA program at HEI of a foreign country, recognized according to its legislation;

e) MA candidates who enrolled in high educational institutions based on the Third Paragraph of Article 52 of the Law on Higher Education of Georgia.

A prerequisite to admission to the educational program is knowledge of English at the **B2 level.**

A basis for obtaining the status of a student in the MA education program is the results of the Common Master Exams conducted by the National Examination Center, the internal examination in specialty conducted at the university, and the English language test.

A person who submits a verified knowledge certificate in English at the **B2 level** is exempt from taking the test exam.

According to the decision of the University, an interview may be held instead of the exam in the specialty.

Definition of foreign language proficiency at B2 level according to ALTE (Association of Language Testers in Europe) (www.alte.org)

List of certificates and grades corresponding to B2 level:

TOEFL PBT score: **not less than 513** points;
TOEFL IBT score: **not less than 65** points;
British Council and Cambridge University English language tests (IELTS) score: **not less than 5.5 points;**
British Council and Cambridge University English Language tests
(Cambridge Exam) Proficiency Level: Not less than FCE.

After obtaining the status of a student at Caucasus International University, a person is required to submit a bachelor's or equivalent academic degree to the University, and a person subject to military registration under the rule established by law must also submit a document certifying military enrollment.

Enrollment process in the Master's Degree Program in „Global Politics and Security Studies" is open twice a year, within the timeframe set by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia and is subject to mandatory procedures and university rules.

Enrollment in the master's degree program or transfer from a recognized higher education institution of a foreign country is carried out based on the decision of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports Affairs of Georgia.

Program Objectives

The MA program in Global Politics and Security Studies aims to prepare highly qualified specialists in global policy and security studies, who possess deep theoretical and practical knowledge of global politics and issues of security studies, analytical methods in that field of expertise and can independently resolve the problems.

The program enables the students to gain knowledge in the following fields of study: military, economics and information security. Moreover, the MA program enables to the students obtain expert-level knowledge in CBRN non-proliferation policy issues;

Moreover, the program aims to prepare high-level qualified analysts and researchers in national and international security spheres – Security Studies Analyses, Comparative Studies in Regional Security, National Security Planning and Strategy Composition and other special issues of international, regional and national security, etc.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

Upon graduation the student:

- Possesses theoretical knowledge of global politics and security studies, which in turn includes the fundamentals of scientific research components and methodology of security studies;
- Deeply analyzes the theoretical framework and problems in the field of global politics and security studies, carries out their critical understanding, and develops and analyzes them using appropriate research methods;
- Knows the current political processes in world politics and security problems, which is necessary for the formation and development of professional skills.

Skill

Upon graduation the graduate:
- Can carry out proper research and analyze specific problems in terms of their correct perception, which refers to such fields as global politics, CBRN non-proliferation policy, international security and regional security issues;
- Can develop political-analytical documents related to security studies, where he/she will study the course of geopolitical, geoeconomic and geostrategic processes and their impact on global security conditions at a highly professional level;
- Can process scientific research or practical and analytical materials in the field of security studies, in order to compose argumentive positions to the interested audience and present them in written and oral form;
- Adheres to the principles of academic integrity and professional ethics.

Responsibility and Authonomy

Upon graduation, the graduate can:

- In order to increase his/her professional skills, independently take part and engage in professional debates, discussions and forums in three scientific directions (informational, economic and military):
- Following the principles of individual and teamwork, carries out the development, planning and execution of scientific research and analytical projects in security studies;
- Independently analyzes data and/or situations specific to the mentioned field, as well as using standard and several unique methods, formulates reasoned conclusions and provides qualified recommendations.

Methods for achieving learning outcomes

Depending on the specifics of a particular study course, it uses teaching methods such as:

- Method of working on a book;
- Verbal method;
- Presentation and demonstration;
- Writing assignments;
- Discussion/Debates;
- Individual and group exercises;
- Cooperative teaching;
- Roleplaying games;
- Problem-Based Learning;
- Explanatory method;
- Case Study;
- Brain Storming;
- Action-based learning to learn empirical methodology;
- Expert research method.
- Mental Outline;
- Experience Based Learning;
- Collaborative learning.
- Reporting.

Considering the specific content of the teaching discipline and specifics, the course teaching method selection is outlined in the course syllabus.

1. Method of working on a book - the method by which particular results are obtained based on facts. This is basically critical thinking;

2. Verbal method - This method includes lecture, narration, conversation, etc. In this process, the teacher delivers and explains the learning material through words, and the students actively perceive and assimilate it by listening, memorizing and comprehending;

3. Presentation and Demonstration Method - This method involves visualizing information. It is quite effective in terms of achieving results. In many cases, the material should be delivered to students simultaneously in audio and visual terms. The teaching material can be demonstrated by both the teacher and the student. This method helps us to identify different levels of perception of the learning material, to specify what students will do independently; At the same time, this strategy visually illustrates the essence of the issue/problem;

4. Method of writing, which involves the following activities: making excerpts and notes, editing material, dissertation, abstract, or essay;

5. Discussion / Debate - The discussion process dramatically enhances the quality and activity of student engagement. The discussion may turn into a debate. This process is not limited to questions asked by the

professor. This method develops the student's skills to argue and reason. From the discussion/debate method, we distinguish the free and direct discussion;

• **Free Discussion** - The purpose of a free discussion is to create an environment where the student is accustomed to an argumentative and well-reasoned formulation of his or her opinion. This method allows the student to adhere to the basic principles of critical thinking. In a free discussion, the lecturer creates so-called guided chaos and students try to adjust the situation by agreeing to specific rules.

• **Directional Discussion** - a teaching method where the group discusses one particular issue, and the lecturer (by formulating questions, comments, and theses) provides the discussion in the direction that is needed to inspire a thorough study of a particular topic. Directional discussion is a kind of incentive for the student to become interested in an in-depth analysis of the issue and to start studying it.

6. **Groupwork** - Teaching this method involves dividing students into groups and giving them instruction. Group members work individually on the issue and share it with the rest of the group. Depending on the task set, it is possible to redistribute functions between the members during the group work. This strategy ensures maximum involvement of all students in the learning process;

7. **Cooperative teaching** - is a teaching strategy where each member of the group is required not only to study but also to assist the teammate in learning the subject. Each team member works on a problem until all of them have mastered the issue;

8. **Role-Playing Games** - Role-playing games allow the student to look at the issue from different positions and help him/her to develop an alternative viewpoint. Like discussion, role-playing games develop the student's skills to independently express and defend his or her arguments;

9. **Problem-Based Learning** - a learning method that uses the problem as an initial step in the process of acquiring and integrating new knowledge;

10. **Explanatory Method** - is based on a discussion of a given issue. The professor gives specific examples when giving the material which is discussed in more detail within the given topic

11. **Case study** - the professor will discuss particular cases with students who shall thoroughly and comprehensively study the subject. For example, the solution of a case;

12. **Brainstorming** - This method involves the formation of as many, preferably radically different, opinions and ideas about a specific issue/problem within a specific topic, as possible and facilitates its expression. This method helps to develop a creative approach to the problem. This method is effective in the presence of a large group of students and consists of several main stages:

- Identifying the problem/issue creatively;
- In a certain period of time, write down ideas from the audience around the issue without any criticism (mainly on the blackboard);
- Through exclusion, distinguishing those ideas that are most relevant to the question;
- Define evaluation criteria to determine the relevance of the idea to the purpose of the study;
- Evaluate selected ideas using predefined criteria;
- Identifying the highest-rated idea as the best way to solve the problem;

13. **Action-oriented teaching** - requires the active involvement of the professor and student in the teaching process, where the practical interpretation of the theoretical material is particularly important;

14. **Expert Survey Method** - Conducting expert research with the so-called Delphi method involves performing the following tasks:

1. Formulate the questions that you should ask the experts to answer;

2. Expert selection by the method of concourse. The highest-ranked individuals will be selected through a survey of specialists in this or that target field. The number of persons is determined by the nature of the task at

hand.

3. During the first round of the survey (the so-called first iteration), the selected experts will be asked questions and their conversation will be recorded. Questions are being clarified at this point as well.

4. The material obtained from the survey is formalized and formulated into theses. These can be mutually exclusive.

5. A second round of survey (second iteration) is held, during which experts are anonymously introduced to theses and the arguments that support theses. Experts are asked for comments.

6. The material is re-processed and formalized into one central thesis with its arguments, or two equally concurrent theses.

7. If necessary, a third round of inquiries is held.

15. Mental Outline - helps to identify problems, including establishing hierarchical relationships, separating true and pseudo-problems from each other; Understanding what needs to be changed in the current situation and what can be done in reality;

16. Experiential teaching i.e. learning by doing - is a practical strategy. When using this strategy, accurate information is provided for experimentation or simulation. It is intended for masters to perform such actions that contribute to the formation of knowledge or habit. Learning by doing helps the student to actively engage in the learning process, to be a participant in it, to gain new knowledge;

17. Participatory teaching method - ensures the maximum involvement of the student in the learning process and is the basic principle of the constitutive approach. According to this theory, the student is an active participant in the learning process and not a passive receiver of information. Acquisition of knowledge means the construction-formation of this knowledge with the active participation of the student

18. Reporting - Summary of previous lectures, discussion, debate and submission in writing, etc.

Forms of achieving learning outcomes

1. Lecture;
2. Working with groups;
· Seminars - discussions/argumentation on problems, analysis, team and individual work, working on analytical documents;
· Q&A;
· Directional discussion;
· Free discussion;
· Brainstorming;
· Mental Outlines;
· Role and Situational Games, Simulations;
  3. Practical lessons;
  4. Preparing individual and group projects;
  5. Presentations;
  6. Conducting research;
  7. Designing an academic paper;
  8. Preparing and planning mid-term examination;
  9. Working on the Master's Thesis.

Student Knowledge Assessment System

Courses delivered within the Master's program in **Global Politics and Security Studies** are based on the active participation of students in the teaching process and on the principle of continuous assessment of acquired knowledge.

Assessment of the student's work during the semester includes:
- Evaluation of student's independent work;
- Interim evaluation;
- Final evaluation.

Writing (tests, open questions, essays, etc.) is mainly used to assess students' knowledge. Particular study courses may include the preparation and presentation of homework or business projects.

The evaluation method, forms, criteria and their specific share, depending on the specifics of the educational course and objectives, are determined by the leading professor of the educational course in agreement with the quality assurance service, which is reflected in the syllabus of a given study course and is notified to the student at the beginning of the academic semester.

The rules, forms, and criteria for evaluating the research component of the master's educational program in Global Politics and Security Studies are determined following the Provisions of the Master's Studies of the Caucasus International University approved by the order of the Chancellor of the University of March 27, 2014 #01-36 (see www.ciu.edu.ge).

The performance in each discipline is evaluated according to the **European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)** and the following evaluation system, approved by the order **N3 of January 5, 2007, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on the "Rules for calculating credits for higher education programs".**

Evaluation of the acquisition of the topics provided by the syllabus of the completed study course, as well as the research component of the master's program, is done by the university with a 100-point assessment system, which consists of specific shares of evaluation methods included in the educational process.

The interim evaluation includes the weekly **current assessment, equal to 40 points and the evaluation of the midterm exam, which is a maximum of 20 points. In total, the student can get 60 points in the midterm evaluations.**

The minimum competence threshold for interim assessments equals 30 points.

As for the final exam, its maximum evaluation is 40 points and the minimum competence threshold of the final exam equals 20 points.

The student is considered to have passed the final exam if the sum of the interim assessments and the final exam equals to minimum of 51 points.

The performance in each discipline is evaluated according to the **European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)** and the following evaluation system, approved by the order **N3 of January 5, 2007, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on the "Rules for calculating credits for higher education programs".**

Evaluation system envisages:

Five types of the positive evaluation
a) (A) Excellent – 91 - 100 points;
b) (B) Very Good – 81 - 90 points;
c) (C) Good – 71 - 80 points;
d) (D) Satisfactory – 61 - 70 points;
e) (E) Sufficient – 51 - 60 points.

Two types of negative evaluation:

- **(FX) – Not passed** – maximum evaluation **41-50 points,** implies that a student needs to work harder to pass the exam and is allowed to take an additional exam after working independently.
  (F) - Failed – **40 and less points** of maximum evaluation meaning that work accomplished by the student is not sufficient and he/she must take a course anew.

Note: In case of not passing the exam (Fx) student has the right to re-take the exam in the same semester No later than 5 days after the announcement of the final exam results.

As for the evaluation of the master thesis, it is evaluated once by the commission during the master thesis defense. In case the student receives a positive evaluation, he/she obtains 25 credits predefined by the education program and is granted the academic degree/qualification of Master of Security Studies.

The level of academic performance of a student at the university is determined both by the points received in the study courses and by the 4-point equivalent of the mentioned points - **the Grade Point Average (GPA).**

Issuance of a diploma confirming academic qualification/degree

Qualifications for graduates of the Master's Educational Program in Global Politics and Security Studies are granted under the "National Qualifications Framework" and "Classifier of Fields of Study" approved by Order No. 69/N of April 10, 2019, of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia.

The graduate of the educational program is awarded the **qualification/academic degree of Master of Security Studies** and is given a Diploma and a Diploma Supplement of the state model confirming the completion of the relevant master's program.

The prerequisite for awarding the qualification/academic degree is the accumulation of 120 ECTS credits by the student.

To determine the Diploma category of graduates of bachelor degree programs, after completing the entire educational program, the cumulative GPA is calculated, according to which the university awards graduates with the following categories of diplomas:

GPA 3.5 and above – Diploma with Honours: with a high level of competence and the ability to use knowledge creatively;

Common Diploma - positive evaluation in all subjects and GPA less than 3.5.

In order to change the category of the diploma, the student can use the right to retake the subjects, but not more than three subjects.

Possibility of continuing the education

A graduate of the Master's Program is entitled to continue studies in higher education institutions of Georgia or other countries in the detailed sphere of a Doctoral Program focused on the preparation of researchers of the next level.

Field of employment

The graduates of the program in Global Politics and Security Studies will have all the necessary skills to work in public service, law enforcement, think tanks that specialize in security studies, research institutions,

international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, diplomatic service and media outlets, institutions that are connected with analysis and development of foreign and security policies.

Structure of the Program

The program is designed to meet students' aspirations and desires and to train highly qualified specialists in global politics and security research.

The master's program consists of field-of-study mandatory courses (A), Field-of-study modular mandatory courses (B), Field-of-study elective courses (C), practical component (D), and research component (E).

Elements of the Master's Program in Global Politics and Security Studies
(120 ECTS)

(A)	Field of study mandatory study courses -	**30 ECTS**
(B)	Field of study modular mandatory study courses -	**30 ECTS**
(C)	Field of study elective study courses -	**14 ECTS**
(D)	Practical component -	**10 ECTS**
(E)	Research component -	**36 ECTS**

Human resources needed to implement the program

The implementation of the Master's Program is ensured by highly qualified relevant human resources. The academic and visiting staff of the university with relevant scientific and practical experience and competencies lead the educational components provided by the educational program;

In addition, the following researchers participated in the program development process:
1. **Maria J. Espona** (Argentina);
2. **Dr Jean Pascal Zanders** (Belgium);
3. **Professor Quentin Michel** (Belgium).

Material resources necessary for the implementation of the program

In order to achieve the learning outcomes envisaged by the Master's program, the infrastructure and material and technical resources of the university are used, which are available to students without any restrictions,
- Adequately equipped lecture rooms and conference halls;
- A library equipped with computers and other technologies necessary for information and communication;
- **Computer Base** – computer classrooms, computer equipment connected to the Internet and internal network, and adequate computer programs for the learning/teaching process; various technical devices, etc.;
- **CIU Strategic Institute for CBRN Research;**
- **Research Center for Conflict and Peace Processes;**
- **Human Security Research Center;**
- **Career Management and Development Center;**
- **The NATO and EU Research Center.**

№	Subject Code	Subject	Components		
			Knowledge and Understanding	Skill	Responsibility and Authonomy
		Field of Study Mandatory Study Courses			
1.	MGPS001	Theory and Practice of New Security Challenges	X	X	X
2.	MGPS002	Problems of Global Politics	X	X	X
3.	MGPS003	Modern Challenges of CBRN Security	X	X	X
4.	MGPS004	Regional Security Studies (Black Sea Basin, Post-Soviet Space)	X	X	X
5.	MGPS005	National Security Studies Analysis and Strategy Planning	X	X	X
		Field of Study Modular Mandatory Study Courses			
7.	MGPS006	Military Strategy and Globalization	X	X	X
8.	MGPS007	Hybrid War Theory and Analysis	X	X	X
9.	MGPS008	Economic Security Analysis	X	X	X
10.	MGPS009	Resolutions of the UN Security Council regarding the control of strategic goods and restrictions imposed on international trade	X	X	X
11.	MGPS010	Information Security Strategy and Analytical Models	X	X	X
12.	MGPS011	Cyber Security and Cyber Defences	X	X	X
		Field of study Elective Teaching Courses			

1.	MGPS017	Art of War and Strategy	X	X	X
2.	MGPS013	Special Services and International Relations	X	X	X
3.	MGPS014	Analysis of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Threats and Risks	X	X	X
4.	MGPS015	Geoeconomic Warfare and Statecraft	X	X	X
5.	MGPS016	Political Communication	X	X	X
6.	MGPS012	History of Development of Export Controls Related to CBRN Threat and Their Basic Concepts	X	X	X
7.	MGPS018	National CBRN Transfer Control Mechanisms	X	X	X
8.	MGPS019	Legal Frame of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)	X	X	X
9.	MGPS020	Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	X	X	X
10.	MGPS021	Religion and International Security	X	X	X
11.	MGPS022	Geopolitics and Geoeconomics	X	X	X
12.	MGPS023	Psychological and Disinformation Warfare	X	X	X
13.	MGPS024	Overview of the EU Military and Dual-Use Items Control Lists and Commodity Identification against the Dual-Use Items Control List (Practical Cases)	X	X	X
		Practice Component (Compulsory)			
1.	MGPS025	Practice	X	X	
		Scientific Research Component			
1.	MGPS026	Research Methods in Security Studies	X	X	X
2.	MGPS027	Academic Writing	X	X	X
3.	MGPS028	Preparation of Master's Thesis and Defense of Master's Thesis	X	X	X