

Course Title : Introduction to Political Sciences

Code	Course Type	Regular Semester	Lecture (hours/week)	Seminar (hours/week)	Lab (hours/week)	Credits	ECTS
PLS 101	C	3	3	0	0	3.00	5
Lecturer and Office Hours			Ferdinand Xhaferaj, PhD				
Teaching Assistant and Office Hours							
Language			Albanian				
Course Level			Bachelor				
Description			In a world where the importance of politics is increasing, many questions arise that need to be answered. In this context why we will aim to study the most important questions related to politics and attempt to find relevant answers. This course is an introduction to politics in a globalised world, with a particular focus on how political science tries to understand and explain cross-country differences and cross-time differences between countries.				
Objectives			The course aims to provide students with the basic concepts in politics; to inform students about government and non-governmental institutions; to introduce them to the main differences between democratic and non-democratic regimes, and between different models of democratic government; introduce students to how political preferences are formed, how voters behave, how parties compete, how interest groups are formed, and how electoral systems shape behavior. In addition during this course the students will learn how politics works nowadays. At the end of this course the students will be informed about the structure of politics and politicians in modern times.				

Course Outline

Week	Topics
1	Introduction to the course
2	What is the Political Science? Aim and Objectives
3	Scientific Methodology in politics: (A historical development in the political science)
4	Scientific Methodology in politics: (Thought in a scientific methodology for politics)
5	Main Concepts in political Science: Power and its way to exercise
6	Main Concepts in political Science: Nation and State
7	Political Theory: explanation of ethics in politics
8	“Wise man” in political science
9	Midterm
10	Political Ideology: Liberalism; Conservators and Socialism
11	Political Ideology: Fascist and Nazism
12	Feminist, postmodernism and environment
13	Comparative Politics 1: Governance Systems: Democracy and Non-Democratic Regimes
14	Comparative Politics 2: Interest Groups, Political Parties and Elections
15	Comparative Politics 3: Interest Groups, Political Parties and Elections
16	Final Exam
Prerequisites	

Textbook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Heywood, "Key Concepts in Politics" • Ellen Grigsby, An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Cengage Learning 2009 • S. Hix and M. Whiting, Introduction to political science (University of London 2012) • David Beetham, The Legitimation of Power (2nd Edition. Palgrave Macmillan 2013)
Other References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawson Kay, "Introduction to Political Science 1e", San Francisco State University Ben Duprè, "50 political ideas you really need to know"
Laboratory Work	
Computer Usage	
Other	

Learning Outcomes and Competences

1	Students will get to know the main concepts in politics, the nature of politics, government and state based on the modern theories of political science.
2	Students will be informed on the models of political and rational behavior of political "actors".
3	Students will be able to obtain knowledge on the principles of the International Law and Human Rights
4	Students will be prepared for further in-depth studies in political science

Course Evaluation Methods

In-term studies	Quantity	Percentage
Midterms	1	40
Quizzes	0	0
Projects	0	0
Term Projects	0	0
Laboratory	0	0
Attendance	1	10
Contribution of in-term studies to overall grade		50
Contribution of final examination to overall grade		50
Total		100

ECTS (Allocated Based on Student) Workload

Activities	Quantity	Duration (hours)	Total Workload (hours)
Course Duration (Including the exam week : 16 x Total course hours)	16	3	48
Hours for off-the-classroom study (Pre-study, practice)	14	4	56
Assignments	0	0	0
Midterms	1	10	10
Final examination	1	11	11
Other	0	0	0
Total Work Load			125
Total Work Load / 25 (hours)			5
ECTS			5