**DISCIPLINE DesCRIPTION**

**1. Information about the program**

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| 1.1 Higher education institution | BABES-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY |
| 1.2 Faculty | POLITICAL SCIENCE, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES |
| 1.3 Department | POLITICAL SCIENCE |
| 1.4 Field of study | POLITICAL SCIENCE |
| 1.5 Level of study | Bachelor of Arts |
| 1.6 Study program / Qualification | POLITICAL SCIENCE |

**2. Information about the discipline**

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| 2.1 Discipline title | | | Political Ideologies. Democratic Theory | | | | | | | |
| 2.2 Course lecturer | | | | | Lector univ. dr. Sata Kinga-Koretta | | | | | |
| 2.3 Seminar assistant | | | | | Lector univ. dr. Sata Kinga-Koretta | | | | | |
| 2.4 Year of study | 2 | 2.5 Semester | | 4 | | 2.6. Evaluation type | | exam | 2.7 Discipline type | comp |
| 2.8 Code of the discipline | | | | ULE1418 | | |  | | | |

**3. Total estimated time** (hours of didactic activities per semester)

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| 3.1 Number of hours per week | 3 | | of which: 3.2 course | | 2 | 3.3 seminar/laboratory | 1 |
| 3.4 Total hours in the study plan | 42 | | of which: 3.5 course | | 28 | 3.6 seminar/laboratory | 14 |
| Time distribution: 3 hours face to face 6 hours individual study | | | | | | | hrs |
| Studying the manual, course reader, bibliography and notes: | | | | | | | 2X14 |
| Supplementary documentation in the library, on electronic platforms and in the field: | | | | | | | 2X14 |
| Preparing seminars/laboratories, homework, syntheses, portfolios and essays: | | | | | | | 2X14 |
| Tutorials | | | | | | |  |
| Examinations | | | | | | | 6 |
| Other activities: .................. | | | | | | |  |
| 3.7 Total hours of individual study | | 84 | |
| 3.8 Total hours per semester | | 126 | |
| 3.9 Number of credits | | 5 | |

**4. Prerequisites** (where applicable)

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| 4.1 based on the curriculum |  |
| 4.2 based on competences | * Using adequately the main concepts of the field of political science |

**5. Conditions** (where applicable)

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| 5.1 for the course | Students have to respect the following rules:  Those that will plagiarize or will engage in academic fraud will get 1 and will be reported to the department with a recommendation to be expelled.  Please guide yourself according to the following criteria:  Team work that is not approved by the course lecturer is academic fraud.  The presentation of a paper written by someone else or a paper presented at the same time to another course constitutes plagiarism.  Using materials or unauthorized sources during exams constitutes cheating. Consult also the Students’ Code of Ethics: <https://fspac.ubbcluj.ro/application/files/9215/7017/6735/FSPAC-code-of-ethics.pdf> |
| 5.2 for the seminar/laboratory | Seminar attendance is mandatory for 75% of the classes. You have to attend 10 out of 14 seminars in order to be accepted to submit the final paper. |

**6. Accumulated specific competencies**

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| **Professional competencies** | * C1 The implementation of fundamental social and political theories in understanding, analyzing and evaluating the socio-political organization * Analysis of a concrete situation through applying some principles, theories and fundamental methods in the political science field. * Conceiving, individual or in a team, of a project on social on political theories * Using adequately the main concepts from political science field * Using the conceptual framework from political science in assessing the relevance and impact of socio-political theories * Using the fundamental concepts from political science in describing and explaining the genesis and evolvement of political events * C5. Support, promotion and communication of ideas and social and political values * Appropriate use in professional communication of the concepts in the field of political ideas * Adequate use of fundamental concepts in the interpretation of concrete socio-political situations |
| **Transversal competencies** | * The implementation of team work through the development of organizing capability, adaption to unknown situations, capacity of getting information and data suitable in complex situations for the analysis of a specific problem and a formula for possible solutions (by taking responsibility for an important decision) * The initiation and maintenance of functional relationships in a multi-cultural and pluralist environment, based on reciprocal trust, empathy, and communication, in the spirit of respecting people dignity, irrespective of any ethnic, national, religious, racial, gender, or lifestyle |

**7. Discipline objectives** (from the accumulated competencies grid)

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| 7.1 General objective | This is a course in the theory of democracy without a textbook. Instead it is conceived to include a range of texts, tackling a series of conceptual, normative and empirical issues related to democracy, ranging from classic arguments to contemporary scholarship. When studying democracy (even if it is only the empirical study of really existing democracies) one cannot leave aside the basic question whether the claim of a state to a right to rule can be justified. Thus, one has to consider normative issues. Democratic theory insists that the democratic nature of political rule is part of the necessary conditions of the legitimacy of political authority. This course aims to consider the variety of arguments brought in support of this thesis. |
| 7.2 Specific objectives | * to help students develop abilities to reflect, debate and critically discuss orally and in written form on the subjects presented in the course * to form and develop abilities such as identifying the problems of the text, operating with its concepts, actively and critically participating in debates * to use theories and concepts from democratic political theory |

**8. Contents**

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| **8.1 Course** | **Teaching methods** | **Observations** |
| 1. Introduction: Democracy in Political Theory | Interactive discussion |  |
| 2. Defining democracy | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 3. Sources of democracy | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 4. Democracy, culture and society | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 5. Class discussion of the essay proposals | Discussion |  |
| 6. Democracy and constitutionalism | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 7. Presidentialism vs. parliamentarism | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 8. Representation | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 9. Interest groups | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 10. Class discussion of essays in progress | Discussion | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 11. Democracy’s effects | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 12. Democracy and the global order | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 13. Democratic backsliding | Interactive lecturing | The students will work on a week-by-week basis, in order to follow the readings and to prepare the reviews of the readings for the course and seminar |
| 14. Class discussion of essays in progress; revision of readings | Discussion |  |
| **Bibliography**  **Mandatory bibliography**  Textbook: Robert Dahl, Ian Shapiro and Jose Antonio Cheibub (eds.), The Democracy Sourcebook (Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press, 2003)  1. Introduction: Democracy in Political Theory  No reading.  2. Defining democracy  Reader, pp. 12-17. 48-54  3. Sources of democracy  Reader, pp. 93-98, 108-116  4. Democracy, culture and society  Reader, pp. 142-146 157-167  Deadline for submission of essay topics and abstract.  5. Class discussion of the essay proposals  No reading for this class.  6. Democracy and constitutionalism  Reader, pp. 246-256  7. Presidentialism vs. parliamentarism  Reader, pp. 258-271  8. Representation  Reader, pp. 354-362  9. Interest groups  Reader, pp. 372-380 398-407  10. Class discussion of essays in progress  No reading for this class.  11. Democracy’s effects  Reader, pp. 436-454  12. Democracy and the global order  Reader, pp. 516-526.  13. Democratic backsliding  Pippa Norris, “Is Western Democracy Backsliding?: Diagnosing the Risks” <https://www.americanacademy.de/democratic-degeneration-three-easy-paths-regression/>  Charles Taylor, Reasons for Hope - Democratic Degenerations <https://youtu.be/QWS_KtuwsQY>  Cambridge Vice-Chancellor's Dialogues: Is democracy dying? <https://youtu.be/7XCV_pf4yhE?si=qSeybIt-5ukEnKtE>  Zaiafet: Erdogan - Noul sultan al Turciei moderne <https://youtu.be/m70S5xyafPs>  Zaiafet: Cum îngroapă Viktor Orban democrația în Ungaria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4SjkVEmyDqg&ab_channel=Zaiafet>  Lucia Cianetti, James Dawson & Seán Hanley (2018) Rethinking “democratic backsliding” in Central and Eastern Europe – looking beyond Hungary and Poland, East European Politics, 34:3, 243-256, DOI: 10.1080/21599165.2018.1491401  Rethinking Democratic Backsliding launch event: <https://youtu.be/-23eaGtlUyQ>  David Van Reybrouck, Why elections are bad for democracy  <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jun/29/why-elections-are-bad-for-democracy>  14. Class discussion of essays in progress; revision of readings  No reading for this class. | | |
| **8.2 Seminar / laboratory** | **Teaching methods** | **Observations** |
| 1. Introduction: Democracy in Political Theory | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 2. Defining democracy | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 3. Sources of democracy | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 4. Democracy, culture and society | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 5. Class discussion of the essay proposals | Discussion | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 6. Democracy and constitutionalism | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 7. Presidentialism vs. parliamentarism | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 8. Representation | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 9. Interest groups | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 10. Class discussion of essays in progress | Discussion | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 11. Democracy’s effects | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 12. Democracy and the global order | Interactive discussion of the assigned texts | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 13. Democratic backsliding | Discussion | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| 14. Class discussion of essays in progress; revision of readings | Discussion | Active participation (reading, taking part in discussions) Seminar activities which will include: an individual presentation (mandatory) on a topic announced at least one week in advance; taking part in debates during the seminar and home works |
| **Bibliography**  **Mandatory bibliography**  Textbook: Robert Dahl, Ian Shapiro and Jose Antonio Cheibub (eds.), The Democracy Sourcebook (Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press, 2003)  1. Introduction: Democracy in Political Theory  No reading.  2. Defining democracy  Reader, pp. 12-17. 48-54  3. Sources of democracy  Reader, pp. 93-98, 108-116  4. Democracy, culture and society  Reader, pp. 142-146 157-167  Deadline for submission of essay topics and abstract.  5. Class discussion of the essay proposals  No reading for this class.  6. Democracy and constitutionalism  Reader, pp. 246-256  7. Presidentialism vs. parliamentarism  Reader, pp. 258-271  8. Representation  Reader, pp. 354-362  9. Interest groups  Reader, pp. 372-380 398-407  10. Class discussion of essays in progress  No reading for this class.  11. Democracy’s effects  Reader, pp. 436-454  12. Democracy and the global order  Reader, pp. 516-526.  13. Democratic backsliding  Pippa Norris, “Is Western Democracy Backsliding?: Diagnosing the Risks” <https://www.americanacademy.de/democratic-degeneration-three-easy-paths-regression/>  Charles Taylor, Reasons for Hope - Democratic Degenerations <https://youtu.be/QWS_KtuwsQY>  Cambridge Vice-Chancellor's Dialogues: Is democracy dying? <https://youtu.be/7XCV_pf4yhE?si=qSeybIt-5ukEnKtE>  Zaiafet: Erdogan - Noul sultan al Turciei moderne <https://youtu.be/m70S5xyafPs>  Zaiafet: Cum îngroapă Viktor Orban democrația în Ungaria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4SjkVEmyDqg&ab_channel=Zaiafet>  Lucia Cianetti, James Dawson & Seán Hanley (2018) Rethinking “democratic backsliding” in Central and Eastern Europe – looking beyond Hungary and Poland, East European Politics, 34:3, 243-256, DOI: 10.1080/21599165.2018.1491401  Rethinking Democratic Backsliding launch event: <https://youtu.be/-23eaGtlUyQ>  David Van Reybrouck, Why elections are bad for democracy  <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jun/29/why-elections-are-bad-for-democracy>  14. Class discussion of essays in progress; revision of readings  No reading for this class. | | |

**9. The corroboration of discipline contents with the expectations of epistemic community representatives, professional associations and representative employers in the study program’s corresponding field**

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| * The main topics discussed during the lectures and seminars reflect the main topics of interest in the contemporary discussions on democratic theory |

**10. Evaluation**

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| Type of activity | 10.1 Evaluation criteria | 10.2 Evaluation methods | 10.3 Weight in final mark |
| 10.4 Course | Knowledge and understanding of the main concepts and instruments | Students will be asked to write a term essay on a topic related to one of the major topics of the course. The deadline for choosing the term essay topic is March 30, 2018. The choice of term essay topic should be prepared by consultations with the instructors. The March 30 deadline means that a paper title and abstract is submitted electronically. The submission will be followed by a class discussion of all the paper proposals. The deadline for submitting the term essays will be the last day of the exam session. Length of the paper should be around 5,000 words.  Term essay | 50% |
|
| 10.5 Seminar/laboratory | Knowledge and understanding of the main concepts and instruments | Students are required to read extensively for the course and to systematically prepare for the class discussions. There will be no classical courses, thus the classes will be organized around discussions.  Grading will be based on:  Class participation | 50% |
| The capability of desingning an argument to support an idea based on the studied |
| 10.6 Minimum performance standard | | | |
| Students have to respect the following rules:  Those that will plagiarize or will engage in academic fraud will get 1 and will be reported to the department with a recommendation to be expelled.  Please guide yourself according to the following criteria:  Team work that is not approved by the course lecturer is academic fraud.  The presentation of a paper written by someone else or a paper presented at the same time to another course constitutes plagiarism.  Using materials or unauthorized sources during exams constitutes cheating.  Seminar attendance is mandatory for 75% of the classes. You have to attend 10 out of 14 seminars in order to be accepted to submit the final paper. | | | |

Date Course lecturer signature Seminar assistant signature

20.09.2024 Sata Kinga-Koretta Sata Kinga-Koretta

 

Date of approval in the Department Head of department’s signature

20.09.2024 