**DISCIPLINE DesCRIPTION**

**1. Information about the program**

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| 1.1 Higher education institution | Babeş–Bolyai University, Cluj–Napoca |
| 1.2 Faculty | Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences |
| 1.3 Department | Political Science |
| 1.4 Field of study | Political Science |
| 1.5 Level of study | Undergraduate |
| 1.6 Study Program/Qualification | Political Science |
| 1.7 Location | Course: FSPAC 1, 401; Seminar: FSPAC 1, 401 |
| 1.8 Times | Mondays, 9 am to 1 pm. |

**2. Information about the discipline**

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| 2.1 Discipline title | Introduction to political economy (ULE1419) |
| 2.2 Course lecturer | Daniel Pop, PhD (daniel.pop@ubbcluj.ro) |
| 2.3 Seminar assistant | - |
| 2.4 Year of study | 2 | 2.5 Semester | 2 | 2.6. Evaluation type | E | 2.7 Discipline type | compulsory |

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

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| 3.1 Number of hours per week | 4 | of which: 3.2 course | 2 | 3.3 seminar/laboratory | 2 |
| 3.4 Total hours in the study plan | 56 | of which: 3.5 course | 28 | 3.6 seminar/laboratory | 28 |
| Time distribution: 4 hours of classroom work and 3 hours of individual study. | hrs |
| Studying the manual, course reader, bibliography, and notes: | 1X14 |
| Supplementary documentation in the library, on electronic platforms and in the field: | 1X14 |
| Preparing seminars/laboratories, homework, syntheses, portfolios, and essays: | 1X14 |
| Tutorials |  |
| Examinations  | 4 |
| Other activities: .................. |  |
| 3.7 Total hours of individual study | 42 |
| 3.8 Total hours per semester | 98 |
| 3.9 Number of credits | 4 |

**4. Prerequisites** (where applicable)

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| 4.1 based on the curriculum | * Not the case
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| 4.2 based on competences | * Not the case
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**5. Conditions** (where applicable)

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| 5.1 for the course  | The notion of plagiarism is defined following the Department of Political Science policies: (http://fspac.ubbcluj.ro/resurse/formulare-regulamente/reguli-etice-si-deontologice/). Plagiarism and attempted fraud at examination is punishable by 1 to this note and the case presented to the Dean to take appropriate administrative measures.Final exam fraud is punishable by removal from the exam. |
| 5.2 for the seminar/ laboratory | University regulations require attendance at seminars to a level of 75%.Note: the final exam includes a seminar component. If the work done by the student does not meet the seminar requirements to promote this discipline, the student will not be admitted to the final exam. |

**6. Accumulated specific competencies**

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| **Professional competencies** | * The development of reports and analyses regarding the evolution of local, regional, national, and international policy processes.
* The identification of key concepts and methods to evaluate public policy processes and critical policy events.
* The application of tools and instruments specific to comparative public policy analysis.
* The use of domain-specific tools and instruments in evaluating political and policy processes.
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| **Transversal competencies** | * Ability to effectively operate in a multidisciplinary and hierarchic environment.
* The ability to assimilate, operationalise, synthesise, and communicate complex information in at least one international language.
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**7. Discipline objectives** (from the accumulated competencies grid)

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| 7.1 General objective | This course provides a general introduction to the extensive field of political economy. The principal aim of this course is to support students in their learning and comprehensive understanding and to master the general skills and competencies, as well as to acquire concepts and to become familiar with theories of people facing individual and collective decisions under constraint. To this end, the course will introduce basic economic concepts (microeconomics and macroeconomics) so that students can apply economic principles to studying politics and public policy. Finally, we will employ concepts from economics to real-world political events and processes.  |
| 7.2 Specific objectives | The key specific objectives of the course include:* To introduce students to the principal tenets of microeconomics and macroeconomics and to acquire the knowledge to apply economic theories to explain political behaviour effectively.
* To problematise the market concept, operate effectively with conditions of market failures, and differentiate effectively among types of private and public goods.
* Students will be able to discuss the principal arguments in favour of and against state intervention in the market and to analyse and describe possible solutions to market failures.
* To help students acquire the skills and competencies and learn about the key analytical tools necessary to comprehend and elaborate political economic analyses.
* To problematise the limitations of the field and present students with the principal lines of inquiry seeking to develop the political economy further as a standalone multi-disciplinary field of scientific inquiry.
* To help students acquire the competencies to explain current events through the lenses of incentives and institutions.
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**8. Contents**

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| 8.1 Course | Teaching methods | Observations |
| **Week 1. Introduction to the intersection between politics and economics. Review of syllabus**Austen-Smith, David. 2006.Downs, Anthony. 1957. | Introduction and explanation of key course concepts and theories. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 2. Economics methods in political science - utility concepts**Moulin, Hervé. 2006. Acemoglu, Daron, et. al. 2008. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 3. Individual and collective choice under scarcity**Arrow, J. Kenneth. 1963. Second edition. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 4. Public choice** Mueller, Dennis C. 2015. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 5. Voting and preference aggregation**Saari, Donald G. 2009. | Review of concepts and methodologies | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus |
| **Week 6. Electoral and political competition** Vachudova, Milada Anna. 2021. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 7. Failures of political competition -Clientelism, Patronage and Coercion, and Populism**Urbinati, Nadia. 2019. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 8. Economic governance**de Haan, Jakob. 2020.Hacker, Jacob S., et. al. 2022. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 9. Political Economies of the Welfare State**Esping-Andersen, Gøsta. 2019. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 10. The political economy of poverty and economic inequality**Elkjær, Mads Andreas, and Michael Baggesen Klitgaard. 2021. | Review of concepts and methodologies | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 11**. **Government budgets and fiscal policy**Corsetti, Giancarlo et al. 2019.Mawejje, Joseph, and Nicholas M. Odhiambo. 2020. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 12. Globalization and protectionism**Amadi, Luke. 2020. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 13. Automated governance**Kuntsman, A. and Miyake, E. 2022. | Exposure to a set of concepts and theories in this course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 14. Summary and wrap-up** |  |  |
| BibliographyAcemoglu, Daron, Michael Golosov, and Aleh Tsyvinski. 2008. “Political Economy of Mechanisms.” *Econometrica* 76, no. 3: 619–41. http://www.jstor.org/stable/40056459.Amadi, Luke. 2020. “Globalization and the Changing Liberal International Order: A Review of the Literature.” *Research in Globalization* 2(100015): 100015. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.resglo.2020.100015.Arrow, J. Kenneth. 1963. Social Choice and Individual Values. New York, NY, USA: Wiley: New York. *Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics at Yale University*.Austen-Smith, David. 2006. “Economic Methods in Positive Political Theory”. In Weingast, Barry R., and Donald Wittman, eds. 2006. *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy*. London, England: Oxford University Press.Corsetti, Giancarlo et al. 2019. “Macroeconomic Stabilization, Monetary-Fiscal Interactions, and Europe’s Monetary Union.” *European journal of political economy* 57: 22–33. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2018.07.001.de Haan, Jakob. 2020. “Some Reflections on the Political Economy of Monetary Policy.” *Review of economics* 70(3): 213–28. http://dx.doi.org/10.1515/roe-2019-2001.Downs, Anthony. 1957. “An Economic Theory of Political Action in a Democracy.” *The journal of political economy* 65(2): 135–50. http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/257897.Elkjær, Mads Andreas, and Michael Baggesen Klitgaard. 2021. “Economic Inequality and Political Responsiveness: A Systematic Review.” *Perspectives on politics*: 1–20. http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/s1537592721002188.Esping-Andersen, Gøsta. 2019. “The Three Political Economies of the Welfare State.” In *The Study of Welfare State Regimes*, Routledge, 92–123.Hacker, Jacob S., Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, Paul Pierson, and Kathleen Thelen. 2022. “The American Political Economy: Markets, Power, and the Meta Politics of US Economic Governance.” *Annual review of political science (Palo Alto, Calif.)* 25(1): 197–217. http://dx.doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-051120-013916.Kuntsman, A. and Miyake, E. 2022. “Automated Governance: Digital Citizenship in the Age of Algorithmic Cruelty” in *Paradoxes of Digital Disengagement: In Search of the Opt-Out Button*. Pp. 41–58. London: University of Westminster Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.16997/book61.c. License: CC-BY-NC-ND 4.0Mawejje, Joseph, and Nicholas M. Odhiambo. 2020. “The Determinants of Fiscal Deficits: A Survey of Literature.” *International review of economics* 67(3): 403–17. http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12232-020-00348-8.Moulin, Hervé. 2006. “Social Choice.” In Weingast, Barry R., and Donald Wittman, eds. 2006 *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy, Oxford University Press*, 373–89.Mueller, Dennis C. 2015. “Public Choice, Social Choice, and Political Economy.” *Public choice* 163(3–4): 379–87. http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11127-015-0244-0.Saari, Donald G. 2009. “A Tool Kit for Voting Theory.” In Weingast, Barry R., and Donald Wittman, eds. 2006. *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy*, Oxford University Press, 390–407.Vachudova, Milada Anna. 2021. “Populism, Democracy, and Party System Change in Europe.” *Annual review of political science* (Palo Alto, Calif.) 24(1): 471–98. http://dx.doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-041719-102711.Urbinati, Nadia. 2019. “Political Theory of Populism.” *Annual review of political science* (Palo Alto, Calif.) 22(1): 111–27. http://dx.doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-050317-070753. |

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| 8.2 Seminar/laboratory | Teaching methods | Observations |
| **Week 1. Introduction and seminar activities review**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 1. | Case study illustrations of economics, politics and political economy  | Students must read the literature indicated in the syllabus and engage in seminar debates. |
| **Week 2. Individual choice**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 2. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students must read the literature indicated in the syllabus and engage in seminar debates. |
| **Week 3. Demand and supply**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 3.Gronow, Jukka. 2020. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 4. Elasticity and consumer choices**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 5 & 6. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 5. Preference aggregation**Pini, M. S. et al. 2011. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 6. Political competition**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 18. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 7. Clientelism**Hicken, Allen, and Noah L. Nathan. 2020. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 8. Governing the economic**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 27 & 28. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 9. Trade agreements and labour markets**Maggi, Giovanni, and Ralph Ossa. 2021. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 10. Inequality** Cerra, Valerie, Ruy Lama, and Norman Loayza. 2021 | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 11. Inclusive growth**Dutzler, Barbara and Johnson, Simon and Muthoora, Priscilla. 2021.Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 30 & 31. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 12. Protectionism**Taylor, Timothy et al. 2017. ch. 34. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 13. Algorithmic governance**Kuziemski, Maciej, and Gianluca Misuraca. 2020. | Detailing and illustrating the concepts and theories discussed in the course. Interactive discussion of examples. | Students are required to read the literature indicated in the syllabus. |
| **Week 14. Review** |  |  |
| Selected bibliographyBenczes, István, and Krisztina Szabó. 2022. “An Economic Understanding of Populism: A Conceptual Framework of the Demand and the Supply Side of Populism.” Political studies review: 147892992211094. http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/14789299221109449.Cerra, Valerie, Ruy Lama, and Norman Loayza. 2021. “Links between Growth, Inequality, and Poverty.” In *How to Achieve Inclusive Growth*, Oxford University Press, 32–73.Dutzler, Barbara and Johnson, Simon and Muthoora, Priscilla. 2021. The Political Economy of Inclusive Growth: A Review (March 1, 2021). *IMF Working Paper* No. 2021/082, Available at SSRN: [https://ssrn.com/abstract=4026258](https://ssrn.com/abstract%3D4026258)Gronow, Jukka. 2020. “What is Money?” In Deciphering Markets and Money. Saint Philip Street Press.Hicken, Allen, and Noah L. Nathan. 2020. “Clientelism’s Red Herrings: Dead Ends and New Directions in the Study of Nonprogrammatic Politics.” *Annual review of political science* (Palo Alto, Calif.) 23(1): 277–94. http://dx.doi.org/10.1146/annurev-polisci-050718-032657.Kuziemski, Maciej, and Gianluca Misuraca. 2020. “AI Governance in the Public Sector: Three Tales from the Frontiers of Automated Decision-Making in Democratic Settings.” *Telecommunications policy* 44(6): 101976. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2020.101976.Maggi, Giovanni, and Ralph Ossa. 2021. “The Political Economy of Deep Integration.” *Annual review of economics* 13(1): 19–38. http://dx.doi.org/10.1146/annurev-economics-121020-032425.Pini, M. S., F. Rossi, K. B. Venable, and T. Walsh. 2011. “Incompleteness and Incomparability in Preference Aggregation: Complexity Results.” *Artificial intelligence* 175(7–8): 1272–89. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.artint.2010.11.009.Taylor, Timothy, Steven A. Greenlaw, and David Shapiro. 2017. *Principles of Economics 2e*. Suwanee, GA: 12th Media Services.  |

**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 course will synthesise the key and core concepts, notions, and theories in the field of political economy during the undergraduate learning cycle. This way, the course helps students further understand the nature of their professional formation and the practical utility of their acquired skills and competencies in the labour market. From the employer's point of view, graduates' mastery in understanding political economy theories and methods and the related distribution of welfare effects.  |

**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 | Evaluation of expert knowledge taught in class.  | The written final exam will evaluate knowledge of the subjects treated in lectures. | 40% |
| 10.5 Seminar/ laboratory | Work in the seminars | Substantive contributions to the discussions of the seminar. | 15% |
| Weekly quiz. No retakes are possible. | 30% |
| Case presentation | 15% |
| 10.6 Minimum performance standard |
| Course attendance is not compulsory but strongly recommended. Grading:* Students must attend at least 75% of seminars, complete assigned readings, and engage actively in seminar exercises (10%). A 15-minute weekly quiz will be applied at the beginning of each seminar.
* Students will also prepare and deliver a prior agreed original case presentation during the semester following the format requirements and guidelines provided by the instructor. This will count for 30% of your final grade.
* A written final exam comprising all course readings will be up to 40% of the final grade. Failing to obtain a passing grade (at least a 50% score) on the final exam implies failing the class.

Any academic paper relies on information with proper sources cited according to scientific rules. Using one of the existing bibliographical styles (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.) is strongly recommended. The Department of Political Sciences recommends using the [APSA](https://connect.apsanet.org/stylemanual/references/) style (American Political Science Association). If any other style is preferred, it should be used consistently throughout the paper. Evaluation of the papers will also consider the correct use of the bibliographical style. |

Completion date Signature of course holder Signature of seminar holder

25 September 2024 Daniel Pop Daniel Pop

 

Date of approval in the department Signature of the department director

25 September 2024 Cosmin Gabriel Marian

 