

Course title	Politology
Course code	Ties1005
Credit points	2
ECTS creditpoints	3
Total Contact Hours	32
Number of hours for lectures	32

Dmitrijs Oļehnovičs

Prerequisite knowledge

PolZ1003, Theory of state

Course abstract

The study course is envisaged for the students of the study programme “Law”. Students are acquainted with the main categories, concepts, and notions (politics, state, political system, power, etc.), as well as with its theoretical problems, research methods, and methodology of political science. The study course also aims at developing the students’ skills and abilities to independently analyze and discuss political topicalities.

Learning outcomes

The students develop their academic competence:

- know and appropriately use political terminology;
- demonstrate their knowledge of regularities of socio-political processes;
- are ready to draw conclusions concerning the significance of socio-political processes in the development of a political nation;
- understand and are able to explain the mutual interaction of political processes in functioning of social processes.

Students develop their skills to apply their academic competence in practical activity:

- demonstrate skills in finding and selecting information, its analysis and comparison, as well as its use in the analysis of a definite situation, argumentative discussion;
- demonstrate skills to select study materials and are aware of the basic principles of their use.

Students develop their skills to use their academic competence in value-oriented action:

- demonstrate critical understanding of the transformations in the treatment of the history of Latvia under the influence of political regimes and are able to discuss controversial issues in the history of Latvia.

During the implementation of the study course the students:

- demonstrate knowledge about politics;
- are able to independently search for information that is necessary for the analysis of a definite situation, particularly emphasizing the possibilities and the restrictions of the information analysis;
- gain knowledge of topical issues of political science and real policy;
- will be able to analytically and critically discuss the developments in international and regional policy by discussing the topicalities of contemporary politics;
- are aware of the outer and inner factors that influence countries’ foreign policy and internal politics;
- will be able to express and defend their findings by using academic and other sources; •will be able to discuss the alternatives of the development of states, poles of personalities in politics and the role of individuals in political processes.

Course plan

Lectures – 32 acad. hours.

Lecture topics:

- 1.Introduction of political science. Political science in the system of sciences. Object and objectives of political science. The aim, objectives and structure of the study course.
- 2.Theoretic al issues of political sciences. The history of theories. Sources of political science. Concise socio-political and socio-economic description. Paradigms of culture.
- 3.The notion of politics. The object and the subject of policy. Objective and subjective borders of policy. Policy effectiveness.
- 4.Policy structure. Political typology. Types of forms of policies. Political tools.
- 5.The notion of a state. State as a political institution.
The principle of the division of power and the construction of a state apparatus. State forms.
- 6.Ideology. Types of ideologies (conservatism, social-democratic ideology, liberalism).
- 7.Types of ideologies (nationalism, “ecologism”, “non-ideological ” ideology). State ideology. Analysis of state ideology.
- 8.Political regimes and their typology. Political regimes in Poland, Belarus, Russia, Latvia and Lithuania – characteristics and comparative analysis.
- 9.Political system. Elements of political system. Economics and politics.
- 10.Power in a political system. The phenomenon of power. Political power.
- 11.The legitimacy of political power. The structure of power. Resources (tools) of political power.
- 12.Political culture. Elements of political culture. Paradigms of political culture in Latvia, Lithuania, Russia and Belarus.
- 13.Introduction to geopolitics. Geopolitics and real policy.
- 14.Global and regional organizations: EU, NATO, Commonwealth of Independent States, Shanghai Organization, etc.
- 15.Analysis of international relations: historical, behaviouristic, and system approach. Prospects and models of the development of Latvia. 16.Analysis of contemporary international relations. Political alternative of Eastern European development.

Requirements for awarding credit points

Participation in lectures – 30 %, graded test at the end of the semester – 70%

Course content

Political science in the system of sciences. Sources of political science. The notion of politics. The notion of a state. Ideology. Political regimes ad their typology. Political system. Power in a political system. Political culture. Geopolitics. Global and regional organizations. Analysis of international relations. Prospects and models of the development of Latvia.

Compulsory reading

- 1.Ārente H. Totalitārisma izcelsme. Rīga: Zvaigzne ABC, 2000.
- 2.Ašmanis, M. Politikas terminu vārdnīca. Rīga, 1999.
- 3.Dunleavy P., Bredan O’Leary. Theories of the State: The Politics of Liberal Democracy. London: Maxmillan, 1987
- 4.Eitzen, D.S., Zinn, M.B. In Conflict and Order. Boston, etc., 1991.
- 5.Faulks, K. Political Sociology: A Critical Introduction. Edinburgh University Press, 1999.
- 6.Ikstens, J. Politikas pamati. Rīga, 2009.(vai citi izdevumi)
- 7.Laķis, P. Vara un sabiedrība. Rīga, 1997.
- 8.Kudors, A. et.al. “Humanitarian Dimension”of Russian Foreign Policy toward Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, and the Baltic States. 2010. <http://politika.lv/index.php?f=1571>
- 9.Murvar, V. Theory of Liberty, Legitimacy and Power. London: Routledge, 2006.
- 10.Orum, A.M., Dale, J.G. Introduction to Political Sociology. Power and Participation in the Modern World. Oxford University Press, 2008.
- 11.Mangott, G. Der russische Phönix. Das Erbe aus der Asche. Wien: Kremayr und Scheriau 2011.
- 12.Mihelss R. Partejiskuma socioloģija. Rīga: AGB, 2004
- 13.Rodins, M. Politoloģija: Ievads salīdzināmajā politikā. Rīga, 2000.
- 14.Rokasgrāmata praktiskam darbam ar Eiropas Savienības jautājumiem. Latvijas Republikas Ārlietu

ministrija, 2010.gads <http://rokasgramata.am.gov.lv> 15.Smelser, N.J. Sociology. Alternote edition. [S.l.], 2011.

Further reading

1. Alternatīva. Politikas zinātnes jautājumi. V. Rīga, 2007.
2. Ašmanis, M. Politoloģija. Politikas izziņa. Vara. Rīga, 2001.
3. Ašmanis, M. Politoloģija. Politikas subjekti. Rīga, 2001.
4. Catlaks, G. Politika un tiesības: Eksperimentāla mācību grāmata. Rīga, 2003.
5. Cerps, U. Politiskās partijas demokrātiskā sistēmā: Zviedrijas pieredze. Rīga, 1993.
6. Chalfant, H.P., LaBeff, E. Understanding People and Social Life. New York, etc., 1988.
7. Chernilo, D. A Social Theory of the Nation-State. The Political Forms of Modernity beyond Methodological Nationalism. London: Routledge, 2007.
8. Chesters, G., Welsh, I. Complexity and Social Movements. Multitudes at the Edge of Chaos. London: Routledge, 2007.
9. Chilcote, R.H. Theories of Comparative Politics. Westview Press Inc. 1994.
10. Cik demokrātiska ir Latvija: Demokrātijas audīts / Zin. red. J. Rozenvalds. Rīga, 2005.
11. Cīpeliuss, R. Vispārējā mācība par valsti. Rīga, 1998.
12. Eysenck, S., Chechabi, H.E., eds. Robert Michaels, Political Sociology and the Future of Democracy. [S.l.], Transaction Pub.
13. Effect of migration on European political thought and decision-making process. Vidzeme University College, 200
14. Goodin, R.E., Klingemann, H.-D., ed. A New Handbook of Political Science. Oxford University Press, 1998.
15. Grundmann, R., Stehr, N., eds. Society. London: Routledge, 2008.
16. Hayward, J.E.S. Elitism, Populism, and European Politics. Clarendon Press, 1996.
17. Integrācija un etnopolitika / E. Vēbera red. Rīga, 2000.
18. Īsākais ceļš uz varas olimpu: Vēlēšanu kampaņu metodika. Rīga, 1998.
19. Kaneti, E. Masa un vara. Rīga, 1999.
20. Lamentovičs, V. Mūsdienu valsts. Rīga, 1996.
21. Lane, R. Political Science in Theory and Practice. The Politics' Model. New York, etc., 1997.
22. Latvija eiropeizācijas krustceļos / Ž. Ozoliņas un T. Tisenkopfa redakcijā. Rīga, 2005.
23. Latvija 2020. Nākotnes izaicinājumi sabiedrībai un valstij. Rīga, 2008.
24. Mihailovs I.J., Berdnikovs N. Mūsdienu politiskie procesi. Lekciju konspekts profesionālo bakalaura studiju programmu studentiem. Līdzautors: Rīgā: Baltijas Starptautiskā akadēmija, 2008. 98 lpp.
25. Marger, M.N. Elites un Masses: An Introduction to Political Sociology. 2nd ed. Belmont (CA), 1987.
26. Mūsdienu politiskā filosofija. Rīga, 1998.
27. Ozolzīle, G. Demokrātija: Teorija un prakse. Rīga, 1998.
28. Parenti, M. Democracy for the Few. 5th ed. New York, 1988.
29. Pettigrew, A.M. The Politics of Organizational Decision Making. Oxford University Press, 2008.
30. Rubene Z., Geikina L., Svece A. „Implications of Totalitarian Values in the Post-Soviet Educational Space: Results in Latvia.” // Changing Education in a Changing Society. ATEE Spring University 2009. Klaipeda: Klaipeda University, Lithuania, 2009. 190-196. pp.
31. Philips, S.W. Power and Choice. An Introduction to Political Science. New York, 1991.
32. Politikas zinātnes jautājumi: Zin. rakstu krāj. Rīga, 2002; 2. daļa. Rīga, 2003.
33. Scheuerman, W.E. Frankfurt School Perspectives on Globalization, Democracy, and the Law. London: Routledge, 2007.
34. Tauriņš, G. Politiskie konflikti un politiskās krīzes. [b.i.], 2008.
35. Vēbers, M. Politika kā profesija un aicinājums. Rīga, 1999.
36. Vēbers, M. Politika kā profesija. Zinātne kā profesija. Rīga, 2002.
37. Wallace, H. Europeanisation and Globalisation: Complimentary or Contradictory Trends? // New Political Economy, Vol.5, 2000, No 3, pp. 369–382.

- 38.Fukuyama, F. The End of History and the Last Man. Free Press, 1992.
39.Fukuyama, F. Our Posthuman Future: Consequences Of The Biotechnology Revolution. International Creative Management, 2002. Pp. 7-12. 40.Gellner, E. Nations and Nationalism. Blackwall Publishing. 2006. Pp.19-34.

Periodicals and other sources

Laikraksti: Diena, Neatkarīgā Rīta Avīze, Latvijas Avīze
Žurnāli: Sociālo Zinātņu Vēstnesis (DU SZF SPI žurnāls), Latvijas Zinātņu Akadēmijas Vēstnesis, Acta Universitatis Latviensis, Social Indicators Research, International Politics
American political science review. American Political Science Association. 1906-.
www.politika.lv
www.soczin.times.lv
<http://www.citapolitika.lv/>
<http://www.balticforum.org/index.php?catalogue&id=23&cid=909>
www.dialogi.lv
www.cvk.lv
www.saeima.lv
<http://www.globalaffairs.ru/numbers/>
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/>
<http://www.mk.gov.lv/>
<http://www.countries.ru>
<http://lietuva.lt/> <http://www.president.gov.by/press10663.html>

Notes

Study programme “Law”, Part B.