

UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS - VARNA
FACULTY OF „MANAGEMENT“
DEPARTMENT „SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN STUDIES“

ACCEPTED BY:

Rector:

(Prof. Dr. Plamen Iliev)

SYLLABUS

SUBJECT: “POLITICAL SCIENCE”;

DEGREE PROGRAMME: „Accounting“; BACHELOR’S DEGREE

YEAR OF STUDY: 2; SEMESTER: 3;

TOTAL STUDENT WORKLOAD: 120 h.; incl. curricular 60 h.

CREDITS: 4

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKLOAD ACCORDING TO THE CURRICULUM

<i>TYPE OF STUDY HOURSE</i>	WORKLOAD, h.	TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK, h
CURRICULAR:		
incl.		
• LECTURES	30	2
• SEMINARS (lab. exercises)	30	2
EXTRACURRICULAR	60	-

Prepared by:

1.
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2.
(Teaching Assistant Boyan Vassilev)

Head of department:
„Social and Humanitarian Studies“ (Assoc. Prof. Nikoleta Mihaleva)

I. ANNOTATION

The course in political science will make students familiar with the studies of politics, the powers and the state. There will be an exclusive focus on the institutional and functional analysis of politics. Fundamental concepts will be explicated, e.g. power, politics, democracy, governmental elite, political system, parliamentarism, lobbyism, political culture, etc. The fundamental problems will be examined through the perspective of philosophy, social psychology, sociology, social anthropology and common economic theory.

The course in political science offers knowledge that will expand the students' theoretical and practical orientation skills in the complex and dynamic interactions of powers in the global world. The aim is for the students to master the institutional structure of the interactions of powers and to acquire abilities that will enable them to interact with both state and civil institutions (e.g. political parties, professional organizations, NGOs, etc.)

These specific skills are related to solutions of cases about interaction between institutions, decision-making technology on different political levels and skill-acquisition for interactions with professionals from other fields of expertise.

II. THEMATIC CONTENT

No. by row	TITLE OF UNIT AND SUBTOPICS	NUMBER OF HOURS		
		L	S	L.E.
Unit 1. Political science and politics as a public phenomenon		2	4	
1.1.	Political science as an academic discipline – various approaches and tools for analysis.			
1.2.	Politics in the system of public life. Limits and functions of politics.			
1.3.	History of ideas about politics. Classical political theories.			
1.4.	Politics and morality.			
Unit 2. Theory of power.		4	2	
2.1.	The concept of “power” – basic definitions. Power as an asymmetrical social interaction.			
2.2.	Power and force, influence and manipulation.			
2.3.	Political power – subject, object, sources and power resources.			
2.4.	Power and freedom. Legitimacy of power.			
2.5.	Economics and politics.			
Unit 3. Political system – nature, structure and functions		4	2	
3.1.	Defining the concept of “political system”. Systematic analysis of politics.			
3.2.	Democratic political systems – basic principles and institutions. The concept of “political regimen”.			
3.3.	Unitary state, federation and confederation.			
3.4.	Comparative analysis of basic types of democratic political systems.			
3.5.	Parliamentarism – historical roots and functions. The idea of separation of powers.			
3.6.	Lobbyism and politics.			

Unit 4. Theory of democracy.		2	4	
4.1.	The concept of “democracy” – nature, types and historical forms. The ancient democracy.			
4.2.	Contemporary theories of democracy – common characteristics and basic principles.			
4.3.	Problems and disadvantages of democracy. Political crisis and crisis in democracy.			
Unit 5. Political parties.		2	2	
5.1.	Origin, functions and organization of political parties. Principles for classification.			
5.2.	Types of party systems. Problems of the party systems in Bulgaria.			
5.3.	Civil society.			
Unit 6. Elections and electoral systems.		4	2	
6.1.	Elections in a democratic political process. Majority rule, proportional representation and semi-proportional representation.			
6.2.	Types of political representation. Types of mandates for a minister.			
6.3.	Electoral behavior.			
6.4.	Governmental elite. Circulation of elites. Ruling class. The „Iron Law of Oligarchy”.			
6.5.	Political leadership.			
Unit 7. Contemporary political doctrines.		2	4	
7.1.	Liberalism and conservatism – basic political principles and values.			
7.2.	Social democratism and christian democratism.			
7.3.	Nationalism. Nationalist state during conditions of globalization.			
Unit 8. Political culture.		2	2	
8.1.	Nature, structure and functions of political culture. Types of political cultures.			
8.2.	Political socialization and political behavior.			
8.3.	Bulgarian political culture.			
Unit 9. Political conflicts.		4	2	
9.1.	Interpretation of a conflict. Basic models of political conflicts during XIX and XX century.			
9.2.	Social conflict resolution in the contemporary world.			
9.3.	Types of political conflicts and solutions.			
Unit 10. Political marketing.		2	4	
10.1.	Marketing research and strategies in politics.			
10.2.	Political image and political advertising.			
10.3.	Techniques of communication and media cooperation.			
Unit 11. European political process and political institutions.		2	2	
11.1.	The European Union – political establishment, integration and politics.			
11.2.	The political system of the European Union.			
Total:		30	30	

III. FORMS OF CONTROL:

No. by row	TYPE AND FORM OF CONTROL	№	extra-curricular, h.
1.	Midterm control		
1.1.	Test	2	20
1.2.	Term paper	1	20
Total midterm control:		3	40
2.	Final term control		
2.1.	Examination (test)	1	20
Total final term control:		1	20
Total for all types of control:		4	60

IV. LITERATURE

REQUIRED (BASIC) LITERATURE:

1. Ball, T., Bellamy, R. (eds.) *The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century Political Thought*, Cambridge University Press, 2003.
2. Ethridge, M.E. & Handleman, H. *Politics in a Changing World. A Comparative Introduction to Political Science*. Wadsworth, 2010
3. Goodin, R.E., Klingemann, H.D. (eds.) *A New Handbook of Political Science*. Oxford University Press, 1996
4. Goodin, R.E., Pettit, P., Pogge, T. (eds.) *A Companion to Contemporary Political Philosophy*. (Two volumes.) Blackwell Publishers, 2007
5. Grigsby, E. *Analyzing Politics. An Introduction to Political Science*. Wadsworth, 2009
6. Miller, D., Coleman, J., Connolly, W. & Ryan, A. (eds.) *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Political Thought*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1991.
7. Pennings, P., Keman, H., Kleinnijenhuis, J. *Doing Research in Political Science. An Introduction to Comparative Methods and Statistics*. Sage Publications, 2006

RECOMMENDED (ADDITIONAL) LITERATURE:

1. Almond, G. & Verba, S. *The Civic Culture. Political Attitudes and Democracy in Five Nations*. Princeton. New Jersey, 1963.
2. Dovi, Suzanne, "Political Representation", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2014 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2014/entries/political-representation/>.
3. Easton, D. *Political System: An Inquiry into the State of Political Science*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1953.
4. Георгиева, С. 2015. Политология. Варна: „Наука и икономика“.
5. Енциклопедия на политическата мисъл – Блекуел. Справочник. 1997. София: ЦИД.
6. Пиргова, М. 2013. Основи на политологията. София: УИ „Св. Кл. Охридски“.
7. Тодоров, А. 2012. Елементи на политиката. София: НБУ.