

Political Systems

5.00 credits

bspol1315

2023

Q1

30.0 h

Teacher(s)	Duez Denis ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Louis				
Prerequisites	The prerequisite(s) for this Teaching Unit (Unité d'enseignement – UE) for the programmes/courses that offer this Teaching Unit are specified at the end of this sheet.				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : The objective of the course is twofold. First, it aims to provide students with basic knowledge of the characteristics and operating methods of the major contemporary political regimes, whether democratic or non-democratic. At the end of the course, the students will have been introduced to the study of institutional aspects, but also to the social and political regimes studied. Second, the course aims to arouse a critical reflection on the ideological and moral foundations that typically underlies the attempts to classify the political regimes.				
Evaluation methods	The assessment may take two distinct forms depending on the health situation related to COVID-19. The assessment will either take the form of a written examination in an auditorium or a distance written examination with online questionnaires (e.g. via the "test" function of Moodle). In the first case, the examination will be a closed book examination. In the second case it will be an open-book examination. The questionnaires will be adapted according to the formula that will be used.				
	In either case, the examination aims to verify the student's mastery of the notions and concepts studied during the course. The questions presuppose a very good knowledge and understanding of the subject matter. The student could, for example, be asked to comment on a current topic by adequately mobilizing the concepts, theories or typologies presented during the course. One or more exam questions relate to learning activities (+/- 25% of the final grade).				
Teaching methods	Course description:				
reaching methous	The course will present theoretical and empirical works (legal, political and socio-political) on each of the themes. PowerPoint presentations, including the structure of lectures, tables, charts, images and links to videos or websites presented during the course, will be made available in Moodle.				
	Learning activities description:				
	First, students are invited to follow one topical issue in the media. The issue will be identified at the beginning of the semester. Second, students may be invited to attend one or two events (conferences, seminars, etc.), listen to podcasts and/or watch webcasts. Conferences and seminars are selected either in the activities organized at UCLouvain Saint-Louis – Bruxelles or by other Brussels-based universities and institutions.				
Content	The terms "dictatorship", "democracy", "monarchy", "republic" or "totalitarian regime" have today entered everyday language. However, their precise contours are often poorly understood by those who use them. These familiar terms also have a very long history in which merge an effort to describe the political systems they refer to and value judgments on them. For some categories, such as "totalitarianism", their very relevance can be questioned from a political science point of view. The course intends to provide students with a critical analysis of the various types of political regimes, from Plato to the present day, while developing in greater depth some case studies.				
	The course is organised around two main parts: (1) liberal democracies, and (2) authoritarian or 'totalitarian' regimes. For each system studied, the course offers an opportunity to critically reflect on and discuss the meaning and consequences of typologies per se, but also an opportunity to define the systems being studied in details.				

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Ribliography	Almond G., Bingham P., Comparative Politics: A Developmental Approach, Boston, Little, Brown, 1966.				
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	Aron, Raymond, Démocratie et totalitarisme, Paris, Gallimard, coll. « Folio », 1987.				
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	Brooker, Paul, Non-Democratic Regimes, 3rd ed., Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.				
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	Delwit P., Introduction à la science politique, Bruxelles, Ed. de l'Université de Bruxelles, 2015.				
	Brack N., De Waele JM., Pilet JB., <i>Les démocraties européennes. Institutions, élections et partis politiques</i> , 3ème édition, Paris, A. Colin, 2015.				
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	Gel'man V., Authoritarian Russia, Analysing Post Soviet Regime Changes, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2015.				
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	Marques-Pereira B., Garibay D., <i>La politique en Américaine latine : Histoires, institutions et citoyennetés</i> , Pari Armand Colin, 2011.				
	Mény Y., Surel Y., Politique comparée. Les démocraties, 8e éd, Paris, Montchrestien, 2009.				
	Quermonne JL., Les régimes politiques des pays occidentaux, 5e éd., Seuil, 2006.				
	Tomini, L., Cassani, A., Autocratization in Post-Cold War Political Regimes. The Reverse Wave Hypothesi Basingstoke, Palgrave MacMillan, 2019.				
Faculty or entity in	ESPB				
charge					

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Bachelor in Philosophy	FILB1BA	5	BESPO1162	٩		
Bachelor in History	HISB1BA	5	BESPO1162	٩		
Bachelor in Information and Communication	COMB1BA	5	BESPO1162	ھ		
Bachelor in Information and Communication (French- English)	COAB1BA	5	BESPO1165	ھر		
Bachelor in Information and Communication (French-Dutch- English)	COTB1BA	5	BESPO1165	٩		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology	SOCB1BA	5	BESPO1162	۹		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology (French-English)	SOAB1BA	5	BESPO1165	٩		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology (French-Dutch- English)	SOTB1BA	5	BESPO1165	ھر		
Bachelor in Political Sciences	SPOB1BA	5	BESPO1162	٩		
Bachelor in Political Sciences (French-English)	SPAB1BA	5	BESPO1165	٩		
Bachelor in Political Sciences (French-Dutch-English)	SPTB1BA	5	BESPO1165	٩		