UCLouvain

bespo1165

2025

Political Science

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

Teacher(s)	Klimis Emmanuel ;				
Language :	English				
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Louis				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to: This course is an introductory course in political science which aims to present and familiarize students with the basic notions of political science, linking them to the essential references of the discipline. Moreover, a gendered perspective will be offered on the different notions that will be developed during the course.				
Evaluation methods	The course will be assessed by a written final exam, which will count for 100% of the total mark. The final exam will last 2 hours and will consist of 3 parts: - A multiple-choice questionnaire (10 points - no negative points) - An open question related to the course content (5 points) - An open question related to the readings (5 points). During the exam, no documents are allowed, including dictionaries (allowed only for exchange students). As this is an English-language course, the only language accepted for the final exam will also be English. The use of artificial intelligence will not be permitted for the final assessment.				
Teaching methods	Lectures Core activity: students will be expected to read two book chapters or two articles that will be communicated at the beginning of the year, in class and on Moodle. The chapters and/or articles will be made available on Moodle. All Powerpoint documents for the course are available on Moodle. At the end of each session, these documents summarise the main points covered as well as possible open questions related to the session. A methodological session on reading and analysing political science texts and assistance with exam preparation will be organised during the term. Examples of corrected questions will be available on the course Moodle page. Visits are organised with the course assistant every fortnight (appointment on Moodle). There will also be a mock examination session during the term.				
Content	Part 1. General Introduction and Foundational Concepts 1.1. Introductory Session: What is Political Science? 1.2. Power, Domination and Legitimacy 1.3. A Portrait of the State Part 2. Political Regimes 2.1. Authoritarian and Totalitarian Regimes 2.2. Democracy Part 3. Political Actors 3.1. Political Parties: Genealogy and Organisation 3.2. Citizens: Political Socialisation and Political Participation 3.3. Electoral Behaviours 3.4. Social Movements: Resources, Repertoires and Mobilisation Part 4. Policy Analysis 4.1. Public Policies: Definition and Analysis The theoretical concepts covered in the course will be illustrated by examples drawn from Belgian and international current affairs, with a particular focus on women's rights and women's participation in politics; sustainable development and transition issues; and the decolonization of thought, politics and international relations.				

Université catholique de Louvain - Political Science - en-cours-2025-bespo1165

Bibliography	(available at the library, Ommegang building) - BROWN, Garrett W., McLEAN, Iain, McMILLAN, Alistair (2018), The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics and International Relations, Oxford University Press > available at the library - GARNER, Robert, FERDINAND, Peter, LAWSON, Stephanie (2016), Introduction to Politics, Oxford University Press > available at the library - HAGUE, Rod, HARROP, Martin, McCORMICK, John (2019), Political Science. A Comparative Introduction, Basingstoke, Palgrave MacMillan
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPB

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes			
Bachelor in History (French - English)	HIAB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Information and Communication (French- English)	COAB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Information and Communication (French-Dutch- English)	COTB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Economics and Management (French-English)	ECAB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Economics and Management (French-Dutch- English)	ECTB1BA	5		Q			
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology (French-English)	SOAB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology (French-Dutch- English)	SOTB1BA	5		Q			
Bachelor in Political Sciences (French-English)	SPAB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Political Sciences (French-Dutch-English)	SPTB1BA	5		٩			
Bachelor in Political Sciences [Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Law]	SPOB1BA	5		٩			