

Course code (filled in by the Office for Education)	
Course title	<b>Constitution and state-building</b>
Module title	Public Governance and Political Science
Level of the Course	BA
Institute/Department responsible for course	Institute for Constitutional Law
Course director	Iván HALÁSZ
Name of the Lecturer(s)	Zsolt SZABÓ, Iván HALÁSZ, Fruszina GÁRDOS-OROSZ, Balázs ORBÁN
Number of the ECTS credits	5 ECTS
Teaching methodology	Lectures: Class contact teaching Assignments Individually: class participation, team project
Language of instruction	English
Prerequisite(s) for the course	fluency in English
Semester	all semesters
Course description	Democracy and Rule of Law are core components of a modern state. After major changes in the political system, these values have to be adopted and strengthened. Transition countries, like Hungary, have major experience in constructing a democratic political and legal system upon authoritarian background. This knowledge needs to be shared with other countries in transition. The course outlines the main elements of a democratic state, presents some methods of constitution-making, sharing democratic values and proper legal solutions, including some best practices and institutions dealing with democracy assistance worldwide (EU, US).
Learning outcomes and course competences	Participants will be able to identify the prerequisites of the democratic functioning of states, to assess the state of democracy and to assist and advise on these issues.
Weekly content of course	1. Terminological introduction 2. Concept of modern constitutionalism. I. 3. Concept of modern constitutionalism II. 4. Constitution-making: methods and procedures 5. The role of the international organizations in the constitution-making 1. 6. The role of the international organizations in the constitution-making 2. 7. Democratic institutions and assistance: parliaments, courts, ministries. I. 8. Democratic institutions and assistance: parliaments, courts, ministries. II. 9. Constitution-making with international assistance in the past 10. Case study of postsoviet region 11. Case study: Western Balkan 12. Case study: Central Europe 13. Case study: Africa 14. Case study: Asia 15. Evaluation.
Compulsory and recommended reading materials	Improving Democracy Assistance: Building Knowledge Through Evaluations and research (USAID, 2008) Constitutional-Making: Process and Substance (Oxford Handbook) The Endurance of National Constitutions (Cambridg University Press) Improving Democracy Assistance: Building Knowledge Through Evaluations and research (USAID, 2008) Theatre of Rule of Law (Cambridge University Press)
Assessment methods and criteria	essay writing
Grading	Five Scale Grading
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