

Course code (filled in by the Office for Education)	
Course title	Introduction to Political Science
Module title	Public Governance and Political Science
Level of the course	BA
Institute/Department responsible for course	Institute of State Theory and Governance
Course director	Dr. Gábor Pál
Name of the Lecturer(s)	Prof. Dr. Gergely Egedy Richard Szentpéteri Nagy Dr. Gábor Pál
Number of the ECTS credits	5 Credits
Teaching methodology	Lectures, student presentations, interactive tasks, simulations (30 hours/semester)
Language of instruction	English
Prerequisite(s) for the course	Fluency in English
Semester	Spring
Course description	Introduction to Political Science is a course for students interested in understanding the logic of modern political systems. By the end of the semester students will have developed a basic understanding about relevant concepts of political science including the frequently used terms. Since a marked emphasis will be put on interactive methods, students will also be furnished with the adequate analytical skills to apply lexical knowledge. Beside discussions, simulation exercises and student presentations, a parliamentary visit and guest lectures will be included in the semester.
Learning outcomes and course competences	Upon completing the course and having met the course requirements students will: - understand the basics of political science and the logic of modern political systems with a marked emphasis on the topics covered throughout the semester - be able to apply certain theoretical concepts acquired (left-right scale) - gain practical experience with regard to the use of political science terminology through simulations and interactive methods
Weekly content of course	1. Politics and Political Science I.: Basic Concepts and Terminology - Self Assessment 2. Politics and Political Science II.: Approaches, theories, methods 3. General Framework: Political systems (structures, functions, elements). 4. Political ideologies I. 5. Political ideologies II. 6. Political ideologies III. 7. Political cleavages and the left-right scale 8. Political culture 9. Political behaviour, political participation, voting behaviour 10. Political parties and party systems 11. Electoral systems 12. Governmental systems 13. Regime types I.: Autocracies (authoritarian and totalitarian regimes). 14. Regime types II.: Democracies 15. Summary of the course - Self Assessment 2.
Compulsory and recommended reading materials	Compulsory reading materials: Hawkesworth, Mary and Kogan, Maurice /eds./ (2002 [1992]): <i>Encyclopedia of Government and Politics</i> , Volume 1. (First published by Routledge, London) Taylor & Francis e-Library. 637 pages. Download: http://aberkane.yolasite.com/resources/Encyclopaedia-of-Government-and-Politics.pdf ; handouts and online resources

	<p>Supplementary reading materials: Hix, S. and Whiting M. (2012): <i>Introduction to political science</i>. London: University of London. Marsh D. and Stoker, G. (2010): <i>Theory and methods in political science</i>. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. Lijphart, Arendt (1999): <i>Patterns of Democracy. Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries</i>. Yale University Press. Linz, Juan J. (1990). The Perils of Presidentialism. <i>Journal of Democracy</i>, Volume 1, Number 1, Winter 1990, pp. 51-69., and online resources</p>
Assessment methods and criteria	Regular and active class participation is required; two written exams (five scale rating)
Grading	Class participation, midterm and final exam
Office hours/contact details	Prof. Dr. Gergely Egedy: Thursday 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm Dr. Gábor Pál: Wednesday 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm Richárd Szentpéteri Nagy: Monday 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm