

COURSE DESCRIPTION (Group C)

Course code	Course group	Volume in ECTS credits	Course valid from	Course valid to	Reg. No.
SOC5008	C	6	2011-06-01	2013-06-01	

Course type (compulsory or optional)	Compulsory
Course level (study cycle)	Master
Semester the course is delivered	2nd
Study form (face-to-face or distant)	Face-to -face

Course title in Lithuanian

Moderni politikos sociologija

Course title in English

Modern Political Sociology

Short course annotation in Lithuanian

Kurso tikslas yra pristatyti klasikines ir modernias politikos sociologijos teorijas. Baigę kursą studentai sugebės suprasti politikos sociologijos teorijų raidą, žinoti politikos sociologijos vystymosi ypatumus, kitimo dėsningumus bei kompleksiskumą ir šioje srityje atliktų tyrimų įvairovę, žinoti pagrindinius politikos sociologijos terminus, modernias ir postmodernias politikos sociologijos teorines perspektyvas bei mokėti jas taikyti praktikoje, analizuoti socialinius procesus remiantis šiame kurse išdėstytais teorijomis, idėjomis ir sąvokomis, įvertinti šiandieninių politikos procesų tendencijas bei ateities perspektyvas.

Short course annotation in English

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the major problems and trends of contemporary political sociology; to familiarize them with the most prominent modern and postmodern thinkers; and to demonstrate the influence of social changes on political theory. It is anticipated that, after taking this course, students should be able to: 1) describe the main contemporary political sociology theories; 2) to think critically about social and political developments; and 3) to use social theory to examine political processes.

Prerequisites for entering the course

Before entering the course, students are expected to know basics of sociology, classical and contemporary sociological theories and social research methods.

Course aim

To provide theoretical and practical background to study political processes on local, national and global level.

Links between study programme outcomes, course outcomes and criteria of learning achievement evaluation

Study programme outcomes	Course outcomes	Criteria of learning achievement evaluation
Competence to apply sociological theoretical models for the analysis of peculiarities of the functioning and development of society	Students will be able to describe the historical and theoretical developments in political sociology	To describe developments of classical and modern theories of political sociology, “postmodern turn” in political sociology.
	Students will be able to understand and apply the main terms and concepts of classical and modern political sociology and to apply them in their research .	To understand and apply the Marxists and neo-Marxists, Weberian and neo-Weberian concepts and perspectives of political sociology. To understand and apply the postmodern concepts and perspectives of political sociology.
	Students will be able to interpret and evaluate the impact of global processes on the displacement of sovereign nation-state	To evaluate the impact of different aspects of globalization on the role of the sovereign nation-state, to analyze cultural politics and disjunctures in global “scapes”.

Competence to analyse social problems from the perspective of local and global processes	Students will be able to analyze the relationship between economic, social, cultural context and political processes and political behavior	To analyze the politicization of the social, to evaluate the impact of economic, social and cultural factors on the development of social movements, citizenship and democratization.
	Students will be able to analyze political processes that take place in groups and in a whole society.	To analyze the politicization of the social, to evaluate the impact of different aspects of globalization on the role of the sovereign nation-state, to evaluate the impact of social and cultural factors on the development of social movements, citizenship and democratization.
	Students will be able to identify, analyze and critically evaluate the political processes in everyday social interaction and the politicization of the social.	To analyze the politicization of the social, to evaluate the impact of different aspects of globalization on the role of the sovereign nation-state, to evaluate the impact of social and cultural factors on the development of social movements, citizenship and democratization.
Competence to prepare and implement research projects on social problems	Students will be able to choose and justify research strategies and adapt them to the data collection.	To choose quantitative and qualitative research methods in order to do research of political phenomena.

Link between course outcomes and content

Course outcomes	Content (topics)
Students will be able to describe the historical and theoretical developments in political sociology	Cultural politics and new political sociology. Globalization and the displacement of the sovereign nation-state. The nation – state in modernity and postmodernity. Cultural politics and disjunctures in global „scapes“. Complexity and democracy. Postmodernity and radical democracy. Cosmopolitan democratic governance. Global democracy and cultural politics. Contesting rights: contesting universalism. European citizenship. New Institutionalism: theory and analysis. European institutions.
Students will be able to understand and apply the main terms and concepts of classical and modern political sociology and to apply them in their research .	
Students will be able to interpret and evaluate the impact of global processes on the displacement of sovereign nation-state	
Students will be able to analyze the relationship between social context and human behavior, explain social behavior and social relationships and examine the causes of social inequality and exclusion.	
Students will be able to analyze political processes that take place in groups and in a whole society.	
Students will be able to identify, analyze and critically evaluate the political processes an everyday social interaction and the politicization of the social.	
Students will be able to choose and justify research strategies and adapt them to the data collection.	

Study (teaching and learning) methods

Lectures, work in groups, homework presentations, independent work.

Methods of learning achievement assessment

Test, homework reading, presentation listening.

Distribution of workload for students (contact and independent work hours)

Lectures - 30 hrs. Seminars - 15 hrs. Group work – 15 hrs.
Individual work – 100 hrs. (individual written assignments – 40 hrs; other individual work including preparation for midterm and final exam - 60 hrs.). Total: 160 hrs.

Structure of cumulative score and value of its constituent parts

Midterm exam – 30%, homework (short papers and presentations) – 10%; participation in discussions – 10%, final exam - 50 %.

Recommended reference materials

No.	Publication year	Authors of publication and title	Publishing house	Number of copies in		
				University library	Self-study rooms	Other libraries
Basic materials						
1.	2005	Appadurai, A. Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization.	Minneapolis [Minn.]: University of Minnesota press.	1		
2.	1995	Archibugi, D. & Held, D. (eds.). Cosmopolitan Democracy: an Agenda for a New World Order. Polity Press: Cambridge	Polity Press: Cambridge.	1		
3.	2007	Calhoun, C. 2007. Nations Matter: Culture, History, and the Cosmopolitan Dream.	London; New York: Routledge.	1		
4.	2006	Cini, M.(ed.) European Union Politics.	Oxford University Press.	1		
5.	1989	Habermas, J. The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere.	Polity Press: Cambridge.	1		
6.	2005	Lecours, A. (ed.) New Institutionalism. Theory and Analysis.	Toronto [etc.] : University of Toronto Press.	1		
7.	1993	Mouffe, C. The Return of the Political.	Verso: London.	1		
8.	1990	Featherstone M. (ed.) Global Culture: Nationalism, Globalization and Modernity.	Sage: London	1		
Supplementary materials						
9.	2000	Nash K. Contemporary Political Sociology.	Blackwell Publishers.			

Course programme designed by

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