

COURSE DESCRIPTION (Group C)

Course code	Course group	Volume in ECTS credits	Course valid from	Course valid to	Reg. No.
TPV3001	C	6	2012 09 01	2015 09 01	

Course type (compulsory or optional)	compulsory
Course level (study cycle)	Bachelor's
Semester the course is delivered	5
Study form (face-to-face or distant)	face-to-face

Course title in Lithuanian

LYGINAMOJI POLITIKA

Course title in English

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Short course annotation in Lithuanian

Šiame kurse yra aptariama: Lyginamosios politikos objektas ir mokyklos; Lyginamasis metodas ir politikos mokslas. Lyginamosios politikos koncepcijos ir problemos: 1. Politinė sistema: samprata ir funkcijos, 2. Politinis režimas ir politinis stabilumas, 3. Tautinė valstybė ir jos efektyvumas, 4. Valstybės ir politikos tyrimo modeliai: a) struktūriniai, b) instituciniai, c) aktoriaus. 5. Politikos legitimacija ir efektyvumas. Socialinis politikos kontekstas: 1. Politinis dalyvavimas ir politinė kultūra, 2. Rinkimai ir rinkėjai, 3. Interesų grupės, 4. Politinės partijos. Valdžios institucijos: 1. Įstatymų leidyba; 2. Vykdomoji valdžia; 3. Teismai; 4. Vietos ir centrinė biurokratija, Viešojo politika: 1. Politinis procesas, 2. Institucijos ir ideologija viešojoje politikoje.

Short course annotation in English

This course aims to introduce and systemically discuss classical themes and topics of comparative politics including political culture and socialization, political recruitment, interest groups, political parties, government and policy-making. The second part of the course will cover case studies of politics in developed, developing and transforming countries. Students will acquire basic knowledge of qualitative comparative analysis.

Prerequisites for entering the course

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Course aim

This course provides the analytical knowledge and practical skills to understand comparative politics worldwide.

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

Study programme outcomes	Course outcomes	Criteria of learning achievement evaluation
Compare socio-political processes in developing countries and regions	Skills to understand and analyze main concepts and issues of comparative politics, and learn the methods and techniques of comparative politics.	Ability to understand main concepts, to assess critically academic texts and to present own argument in a clear and structured form.
	Practical skills to apply the methods and techniques of comparative politics for a cross-national analysis and study of the major issues in comparative politics.	Ability to present own work in a well organized and engaging way, competence in independent research on selected topics for individual written reports and case studies.

Link between course outcomes and content

Course outcomes	Content (topics)
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Skills to understand and analyze main concepts and issues of comparative politics, and learn the methods and techniques of comparative politics.	<p>An object and schools of comparative politics. Comparative method and political science. Main concepts and issues of comparative politics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political system: structure and functions, 2. Political regime and political stability, 3. The nation state , 4. Research models of state and politics: a) structural, b) institutional, c) actor-oriented. 5. Political legitimacy and efficiency.
Practical skills to apply the methods and techniques of comparative politics for a cross-national analysis and study of the major issues in comparative politics.	<p>The social context of politics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political participation and political culture, 2. Voters and elections, 3. Interests groups, 4. Political parties. <p>Governing institutions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legislature; 2. Executive power; 3. Courts; 4. Local and central bureaucracy. <p>Public policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The political process, 2. Institutions and ideology in public policy.

Study (teaching and learning) methods

Lectures, problem-oriented training, case studies and seminars

Methods of learning achievement assessment

Final exam, case study presentations, written assignment.

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

Lectures – 30 hours, seminars – 15 hours, distance collective work – 15, paper work – 25 hours, individual work – 75 hours.

Structure of cumulative score and value of its constituent parts

Ten grade and gathered evaluation system is applied. The semester's individual work tasks are evaluated by grades; the final grade is given during the examination session while multiplying particular grades by the lever coefficient and summing the products. Written report – 25 %, class participation - 25 %, final exam - 50 % of final grade.

Recommended reference materials

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.	2009	Almond G. A., Powell G. B. Jr., Dalton R.J., Strom K. (eds.) <i>Comparative Politics Today: A World View</i>	Pearson	1		
2.	2011	Caramani D. (ed.) <i>Comparative Politics</i>	Oxford University Press	1		
3.	2010	Hague R., Harrop M. (eds.) <i>Comparative Government and Politics.</i>	Palgrave/ Macmillan	2		
4.	2004	Hauss Ch. <i>Comparative</i>	Wadsworth	1		

		<i>Politics - Domestic Responses to Global Challenges</i>				
5.	2009	Newton K., Deth van J. <i>Foundations of Comparative Politics</i>	Cambridge University Press	4		
6.	2008	Landman T. <i>Issues and methods in comparative politics : an introduction</i>	Routledge	1		
<i>Supplementary materials</i>						
1.	2010	Lane J-E. <i>Comparative Politics– The Principal-Agent Perspective</i>	Routledge			
2.	2007	Munck G.L., Snyder R. <i>Passion, Craft, and Method in Comparative Politics</i>	The Johns Hopkins University Press			

Course programme designed by

Prof. dr. Algis Krupavičius