Course code	Course group	Volume in ECTS credits	Course valid from	Course valid to	Reg. No.
POL1002	C	6			

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

Course title in Lithuanian

Politinės institucijos

Course title in English

Political Institutions

Short course annotation in Lithuanian (up to 500 characters)

Šio studijų dalyko paskirtis – apibūdinti pagrindines politines institucijas ir jų tipus įvairiose politinėse sistemose, atskleisti jų raidos ir funkcionavimo ypatybes, analizuoti institucijų veikimo principus ir jų sąsajas. Studentai mokomi lyginti politinių institucijų sąrangą ir veiklą liberalių demokratijų ir demokratiją kuriančių valstybių politinėse sistemose. Tikslo siekiama derinant paskaitos, seminaro ir individualaus studentų darbo formas.

Short course annotation in English (up to 500 characters)

The aim of this course is to make students familiar with fundamental political institutions of the national-state, to introduce their classifications in the context of the respect to the variety of political systems. Besides, the principles of institutional activities and interaction between institutions are analyzed. Students will be capable to comparative institutional structure and operation of liberal democracy as well as democratization of various political systems. The teaching consists of lectures and seminars. Students are expected to study independently in-between seminars.

Prerequisites for entering the course

To be hearing the Introduction to Political science.

Course aim

The main aim of this course is to analyze institutional structure of political systems, to discuss models and principles of institutional activity, to identify the relationship between institutional structure and stability of political systems.

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

Study programme outcomes	Course outcomes	Criteria of learning achievement evaluation
1. Acquisition of skills necessary for the analysis of the programmes of political parties, interest groups and other political entities.	1. To describe the constitutional foundations of political institutions and environmental factors.	Ability to understand and to describe the constitutional foundations of political institutions and environmental factors.
	2. To recognise the relationship between the political participation, parties, party and electoral systems.	Skills to understand and discuss in groups the relationship between the political participation, parties, party and electoral systems.
	3. To explore the relationship between legislature and executive power in various political system models.	Acquired skills in analyzing parliamentary, semi-presidential and presidential system models and discussing in groups their political consequences.
2. Acquisition of skills required for the research of peculiar features of activities of various political entities and their	4. To analyse the various models of bureaucracy and public administration; to explain the relations between interest groups and policy making.	Ability to describe models of bureaucracy and public administration; understanding the consequences of the relations between interest groups and policy making.

interrelations.	5. To describe the fundamental legal conception, legal traditions, to analyse law power and courts systems in various countries.	Skills to understand the fundamental legal conception; to comprehend role of law power and courts systems in various countries.
	6. To explore the main models and levels of local government, variety of institutions and its activity; to describe the main development tendencies.	Ability to understand local government concept, models, levels, institutions of local government and its development tendencies.
	7. To describe media and political communication and to analyze influence of media on civil society, policy making and politics.	Ability to explain media and political communication concepts, to discuss media and policy / politics relations.

Link between course outcomes and content

Course outcomes	Content (topics)
1. To describe the constitutional foundations of political institutions and environmental factors.	1. Institutions and institutionalization. 2. Constitutional foundations of political institutions. Constitutional interpretation and constitutionalism. 3. Political institutions in the political systems and modern regimes: the analysis of environment factors.
2. To recognise the relationship between the political participation, parties, party and electoral systems.	4. Political participation: structural and functional analysis. The society of information, new technologies and political participation. 5. The influence of party systems typologies for political stability. 6. The political consequences of electoral systems: comparative analysis. 7. Electoral systems, party systems and civil society: relationship and political consequences.
3. To explore the relationship between legislature and executive power in various political system models.	8. Parliament: structural – functional analysis. Legislatures in a comparative perspective. 9. Government forms. Relationship between party and government. 10. Parliamentary and presidential systems. Semi-presidential government.
4. To analyse the various models of bureaucracy and public administration; to explain the relations between interest groups and policy making.	11. Bureaucracy and public administration: conception, principles, models. Administration and policy: politics – administration dichotomy. 12. Interest groups: models and politics. Organized interests and parliaments. Tripartism.
5. To describe the fundamental legal conception, legal traditions, to analyse law power and courts systems in various countries.	13. Legal traditions: concept, main principles, types. Law: concept, functions, legal norms, discretion and rules. Legal traditions and courts systems. Constitutional court.
6. To explore the main models and levels of local government, variety of institutions and its activity; to describe the main development tendencies.	14. Local government: structural and functional analysis. Models of local government, institutions, trends and developments. Local government, social capital, civil society and democracy.
7. To describe media and political communication and to analyze influence of media on civil society, policy making and politics.	15. Media: systems, structures, institutions and functions. Commercial media and journalism culture.

Study (teaching and learning) methods

Teaching methods: explanation, analysis of examples, questions– answers, discussions, consulting. Studying methods: studies of literature and sources, preparation of papers and presentations, work in groups, discussions, participation in lectures.

Methods of learning achievement assessment

Observation of groups projects, presentations, testing, reading of individual papers.

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

Contact hours: lectures – 30 hours, seminars – 15 hours, consultations – 15 hours; Individual student work hours: group work – 10 hours, paper work – 20 hours, self-preparation for seminars, midterm and final exams –70 hours. Total: 160 hours.

Structure of cumulative score and value of its constituent parts

Midterm exam – 25%, seminars and term paper – 25%, 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*	*Oth libra*
Basic materials						
1.	2003	Lane, Jan-Erik. Konstitucija ir politikos teorija	Naujasis lankas	4		
2.	2003	Colomer, J. Political Institutions: Democracy and Social Choice	Oxford University Press	1		
3.	2006	Newton, K. and Deth, J. Foundations of Comparative Politics.	Cambridge University Press	1		
4.	2010	Comparing Democracies. Elections and Voting in the 21st Century / eds. L. LeDuc.; G. R. Niemi ; P. Norris.	Sage	2		
5.	2011	Stakeliūnaitė, D. Politinės institucijos. Mokymo metodinė priemonė	Lietuvos akademinė biblioteka (eLABa)Vytauto Didžiojo leidykla	**http://vddb.laba.lt/fedora/get/LT-eLABa-0001:B.03~2011~ISBN_978-9955-12-747-5/DS.001.0.01.BOOK**		
6.	2014	Kavaliauskas, T. Transformations in Central Europe Between 1989 and 2012: geopolitical, cultural, and socioeconimic shifts	Lexington Books	3		
Supplementary materials						
1.	2004	Krupavičius A., Lukošaitis A. Lietuvos politinė sistema: sąranga ir raida	Poligrafija ir informatika	8		
2.	2001	Sartori, G. Lyginamoji konstitucinė inžinerija	Poligrafija ir informatika	7		
3.	2006	Newton, K. and	Cambridge	1		

		Deth, J. Foudations of Comparative Politics	University Press	
4.	2012	Europos trajektorijos XXI a. pasaulyje. Sud. A.Šiliauskas.	Klaipėdos universiteto leidykla	2

Course programme designed by

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