**Program: Undergraduate Academic Studies** 

**Course title: POLITICAL AND LEGAL THEORIES** 

Teachers: Prof. Dr. Dragica Vujadinovic

Course status: mandatory for Legal Theory stream of studies

Number of ECTS: 3

Requirements: regular attendance, active participation of students through short presentations, discussions, seminar papers

### Aims of the course:

- Achieving the knowledge and understanding of the main topics, approaches and conceptionss in the frame of the history of political philosophy and contemporary political theories, and their interrelation with certain legal theories
- Understanding of the historical social roots and background and their impacts on the ways how specific ancient, Middle Age, modern and contemporary theories have been articulated.
- Getting relevant insights about the European thought in its different theoretical, political and ideological articulations, as well as its contested and controversial dimensions which had expressed and determined the process of forming modern society and state.
- Insights about interrelation of social-political and legal conceptions, which enables a better understanding of each of them.
- Understanding of the ideas and principles on which the political and legal institutions have been based.
- Better understanding of the main political terms, concepts, and conceptions.
- Achieving relevant knowledge about the contemporary society and world in total.
- Enabling a better understanding of processes of transition and modernization of the Serbian society and state.

# **Course result:**

Comprehensive understanding of the political thought in its historical and contemporary perspective, of the interrelation between theoretical and practical embeddeness of the state and society, and of the interrelation between political and legal theory and practice in the above mentioned context.

Historical dimension of the course related to the history of political philosophy should enable an understanding of relevant political conceptions in the historical and cultural framework of the epoches in which thay had emerged, as well as an understanding of the historical/political trends in establishing certain traditions of political thought.

The New Age and modern political thought have been in the main focus and they enable an understanding of the main theoretical and ideological forms of articulation of the main issues and controversies of the modern and contemporary society and state. Speciall attention is paid to the legal dimension and institutional articulation of different streams of political philosophy and political theories.

# **Course content:**

#### 1. PRE-MODERN POLITICAL AND LEGAL THOUGHT

# 1. week

# POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE ANCIENT GREECE

Character and main concepts of the practical (political) philosophy, context and preconditions for developing critical thought and philosophy in the Ancient Greece Plato and Aristotle

# 2. week

Athenians` model of democracy Political philosophy in the Hellenistic Period Natural law theory and philosophy

### 3. week

#### POLITICAL AND LEGAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE ANCIENT ROME

Central role of law in the Ancient Rome Universalistic character of the Roman Law *Ius civile, ius gentium, ius naturale*  Natural law theory in the Ancient Rome Polybius and Cicero

#### 4. week

#### MIDDLE AGE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Main features of the Middle Age political thought Political philosophy of Augustine

Political philosophy of Thomas Acquinas

Scholasticism in the later Middle Ages

#### 2. NEW AGE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

#### 5. week

Historical emerging of the modern society

- political ideas of Renaissance and Reformation
- cultural, scientific, industrial and political revolution

#### 6. week

Break-up with traditional political philosophy

- Machiavelli

Political philosophy in the context of apsolutisticism

#### 7. week

Rational theory of natural law and social contract

French Enlightement in the 18th century

#### 3. MODERN POLITICAL AND LEGAL THEORIES

# 8. week

Concept and character of the modern society Modern political thought and ideological perspectives

Political theories and conceptions of law and state

# 9. week

### LIBERAL POLITICAL THEORY

Classical liberalism

Political (social) liberalism

Libertarianism (market liberalism) and neoliberalism

# 10. week

# CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL THEORY

Traditional organistic conservatism

Demochristian political tradition

Individualistic (libertarian) conservatism

Neoconservatism and New Right

# 11. week

# SOCIALIST POLITICAL THOUGHT

Anarchism - central themes

Marxism - kee conceptions

Communism - Leninist conceptions and "Staljinism"

Social-democratic conceptions and welfare state

# 12. week

# THEORIES OF DEMOCRACY

Classical liberal-democratic theories

Classical theories of direct democracy

Sontemporary theories of democracy

- Competitive-elitist model
- Pluralist theories of democracy
- Model of participatory democracy
- Model of legal (constitutional) democracy

#### 13. week

#### **ELITISTIC THEORIES**

Conservative theories of elites Liberal-democratic theories of elites Critical theory of elites

#### 14. week

#### **TOTALITARIANISM**

Main themes and conceptions in the political doctrine of fascism and nacism Main characteristics of staljinism

Theories of totalitarianism

# Literature:

Main textbook: Vujadinović, D., Političke i pravne teorije, Pravni fakultet u Beogradu, Beograd 1996.

Additional literature: Pavićević Vukašinović, G. *Političke teorije i stvaranje zapadnog modernog društva*, Dosije, Beograd, 2006.

# Wider literature:

Korać, V., Istorija društvenih teorija, Beograd 1990.

Lukić, R., Istorija političkih i pravnih teorija, Beograd 1982.

Sabine, G.H., A History of Political Theory, Illinois 1973.

McDonald, L.C., Western Political Theory, New York 1962.

Đurić, M., Istorija političke filozofije, Beograd 1971.

Šatle (ed.), Enciklopedijski rečnik političke filozofije, Sr. Karlovci i Novi Sad 1993.

Hassner, P.; Strauss, L.; Cropsey, J., History of Political Philosophy, Chicago 1972.

Schluck. V., Politička filozofija, Zagreb 1975.

Valentini, F.; Moderna politička misao, Zagreb 1982.

Endru Hejvud, Političke ideologije, Beograd 2005.

Endru Hejvud, Politika, Beograd 2004.

Marvin Peri, Intelektualna istorija Evrope, Beograd 2000.

# Instruction method: lectures, discussions, writing and defending seminar papers

# Grading system (maximum number of points 100)

Pre-exam obligations	points	Final Exam	points
Activities during lectures	30	40 to 70	100
Activities during practical classes			
Tests			
Seminar classes/SEM. PAPERS	30		