

Program: Undergraduate Academic Studies
Course title: POLITICAL SYSTEM
Teachers: professor Jovica Trkulja, teaching assistant Stefan Dušanić
Course status: Mandatory course within the Legal Theory Stream
Number of ECTS: 3
Requirements: none
<p>Aims of the course:</p> <p>This course aims to provide students with theoretical and, to the appropriate extent, practical knowledge from the complex field of political systems. The focus is on the general theoretical problems of political science and the political system, as well as the principles and institutions of contemporary political systems, especially that of the Republic of Serbia. The study is open to all valuable ideas and theories that discuss freedom, human rights, human dignity, democracy and the struggle for the <i>Rechtsstaat</i> and the rule of law.</p> <p>More specifically, the aim of the course is to underline the characteristics of democratic political systems and the ways of constituting Serbia as a modern democratic state. In a sense, the special task of the course is to systematically and with a multidisciplinary approach (from a legal, political and sociological perspective) highlight the most important aspects of the theory and practice of government that are relevant to the liberal-democratic constitution of Serbia.</p>
<p>Course result:</p> <p>Knowledge gained from the field of political systems is of great importance in the overall academic education of lawyers, since in his work, he or she will directly or indirectly address the key issues of politics and political systems. On the other hand, citizens and legal entities exercise their rights to the fullest extent and fulfill their obligations through the institutions of the political system. Therefore knowledge in this field will be valuable for the realization of these rights and obligations, but also for the healing of our political life, a reasonable and just solution of our social problems.</p>
<p>Course content:</p> <p>1. INTRODUCTION</p> <p>1.1. Origin of the term political system. Different meanings and conceptions of the political system. 1.2. Subject matter and method of the political system. Structure of the political system. 1.3. Relation to other scientific and teaching disciplines. 1.4. The science of the political system. The classic tradition of political science. Contemporary theoretical concepts and directions in the science of the political system.</p> <p>2. BASIC CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM</p> <p>2.1. The concept and analysis of politics. Different meanings of the terms politics/polity/policy. Conceptions of politics in classical antiquity. Machiavelli and the meaning of politics in the early modern period. The contribution of liberal philosophy to the understanding of politics. Modern concept of politics. 2.2. The notion of power. Origin, forms, structure and function of power. Political power and political system. Concept and types of authority. Authority in politics. 2.3. Values and politics. Morality and politics. The relation between ideology and politics. Religion and politics. 2.4. Concept and content of freedom. Order and freedom. Freedom and tolerance. Freedom and the political community. Determining properties and types of freedom. The problem of equality. 2.5. The notion and grounds of political legitimacy. Theories about the legitimacy of political power. Modern state and procedural legitimacy. 2.6. The notion and basics of political obligations. Concept and principles of citizenship. 2.7. Principles of justice and the political order. Constitutionality as a restraint on politics.</p>

3. THE STATE AND THE POLITICAL SYSTEM

- 3.1. The state and the political system. The state as the subject of the political system.
- 3.2. Forms of government. Monarchy and the republic.
- 3.3. Forms of state structure. Unitary state. Regional state. Federation and Confederation.
- 3.4. Forms of state organization. Centralized and decentralized state. The concept and types of territorial decentralization. Concept and types of autonomy. Concept, forms and political role of local self-government.
- 3.5. Forms of political order. The notion and features of democracy. Equality and freedom in democracy. Values and weaknesses of democracy. Models of democracy. The concept and types of autocracy.
- 3.6. The *Rechtsstaat* and the rule of law.
- 3.7. A modern democratic state. Characteristics of a democratic state.

4. ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

- 4.1. Classical theories about the organization of power. The theory of the separation of power and its application. Parliamentary government and the presidential system. Assembly system and principle of unity of power.
- 4.2. Concept, characteristics and development of political representation. Function of political representation. About the term and types of mandates.
- 4.3. Elections and electoral systems. Principles of free democratic elections. Major and proportional electoral systems.
- 4.4. The notion and meaning of political responsibility. Types of responsibility and their realization.
- 4.5. Executive power and the political system. Concept and essence of execution of law. Democratic control of the executive.
- 4.6. Character, development and political significance of the judicial function. Modern judiciary - principles of proper functioning of the judiciary.

5. SOCIETAL STRUCTURE AND POLITICAL SYSTEM

- 5.1. The relationship between the social structure and the political system. Deterministic and indeterministic views of the political system.
- 5.2. Changes in the structure of contemporary society and their influence on the political system. Different theoretical approaches to the study of social structure of contemporary society (theory of stratification, class models, contemporary elitist approaches).
- 5.3. The elites and the masses (elite circulation, political class, "iron law of oligarchy", psychology of the crowd, mass rebellion, politics of mass society).
- 5.4. Bureaucracy and bureaucratic rule. Technocracy and management groups.
- 5.5. Place of the intelligentsia in society and its role in politics. Intellectuals and the government.
- 5.6. The nation and politics. The people, nation and national minority. The state in multinational and multicultural communities. Different political contents and meanings of nationalism.
- 5.7. Religion and politics.
- 5.8. Contradictions, interest groups and integration. The notion and process of integration in contemporary society. Types of integration in the political system.

6. POLITICAL ENTITIES AND THE POSITION OF THE MAN IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEM

- 6.1. The origin, concept and importance of political organization. The meaning of political pluralism. Social basis and types of pluralism. The domains and boundaries of contemporary pluralistic democracy.
- 6.2. Political parties. Concept and constitutive features. Typology of lots. Party systems.
- 6.3. Social movements. The relation between classical and new social movements. The crisis of political organizations and classic political institutions and the rise of new social movements. The alternative character of new social movements. New movements and new human needs.
- 6.4. Political socialization - concept, degrees and agents.
- 6.5. Citizen - concept and meaning. The citizen in political processes.
- 6.6. Human rights. Development of freedoms and human rights. Personal freedoms and rights of citizens. Political freedoms and rights of citizens. Economic and social rights. Cultural rights. Civil disobedience. Citizens' duties.
- 6.7. The relationship between civil society and the state. The rise of the state and the *étatization* of the society.

Limits of institutional policy and the crisis of political rationality. Autonomous civil society.

7. POLITICAL LIFE AND POLITICAL CULTURE

- 7.1. The origin, concept and importance of political life. The public and the responsibility of political life. Factors of shaping political life.
- 7.2. Public opinion and political life. The notion of public opinion and its role in political life.
- 7.3. Political communications. Producing political loyalty.
- 7.4. Political propaganda in contemporary society. Political marketing. Mass media and "Industry of consciousness".
- 7.5. Political rhetoric. Political speaker. Auditorium. Organization of speech. The power of the spoken word. Ethical component of speech. Speech and manipulation. The role of advisers.
- 7.6. Political culture and the political system. Concept, components and basic forms of political culture. Formative factors of political culture. The influence of political culture on the functioning of the political system.

8. BASIC ELEMENTS OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF SERBIA

- 8.1. Genesis and important features of the Serbian political system.
- 8.2. Characteristics of the Republic of Serbia as a state. System of authority in the Republic of Serbia.
- 8.3. National Assembly, President of the Republic, Government of the Republic of Serbia.
- 8.4. Courts and other organs of the judiciary of the Republic of Serbia. Constitutional principles of the judiciary. Types of courts. Independence of the courts and judges.
- 8.5. Principles of the electoral system.
- 8.6. The features of the autonomous provinces in the constitutional order of Serbia.
- 8.7. Local government. The municipality as a unit of local self-government.
- 8.8. Changes in the social structure and political system. Determinants of the formation of a social structure. Party-state monopoly and hierarchical power distribution.
- 8.9. Basic social subjects: old and new political-management structures, mediating groups, intelligentsia, old and new ownership layers, workers, peasantry, marginalized social groups.
- 8.10. The citizen and his freedoms and rights. Rights of members of national minorities. Realizing and protecting human rights. Protective functions and institutions.
- 8.11. The inherent contradictions of the *Rechtsstaat* and the rule of law.
- 8.12. Political organization in the Republic of Serbia. Transformation of political monism into political pluralism. The assumptions of parliamentarism and political pluralism.
- 8.13. Elements of system restructuring and transformation of social power relations: civil society, pluralism of property, autonomous union organization, division of power.
- 8.14. Multiparty mosaic of Serbia. The emergence of political parties. Commitments in party platforms. Organizational characteristics of the parties: organizational forms, membership, structure, internal relations, financing, media promotion, methods of operation.
- 8.15. Political life and political culture in the Republic of Serbia. Public opinion between totalitarianism and democracy. From authoritarian (traditional-patriarchal) to democratic political culture.

9. MODERN POLITICAL SYSTEMS

- 9.1. Classification of political systems. Classical classifications of political systems. The perceptions of political systems as a mixed structure. Modern classifications of political systems.
- 9.2. Political systems of contemporary capitalism. Basic features of political systems in capitalism. Types of political systems in contemporary capitalism: the US presidential system, the UK parliamentary system, parliamentarism in the countries of Western Europe (France, Germany, Italy), the political system of Switzerland.
- 9.3. The main features of the political system of countries in transition. The collapse of socialism and the "implosion" of its political systems. Determinants of the transition of post-communism from an authoritarian to a democratic political system. Pluralization of political life - from one-party to multiparty systems.
- 9.4. Processes of constituting the political system and characteristic forms in developing countries. General characteristics and tendencies. The basic types of political system in developing countries.
- 9.5. Globalization and globalism. Globalization and democracy. Globalization, European Integration and Transition. The Impact of Globalization and Europeanization on National States.

Literature:

- Arent Hana, *Izvori totalitarizma*, Beograd, 1998.
- Aron Rejmond, *Demokratija i totalitarizam*, Sremski Karlovci - Novi Sad, 1997.
- Basta Flajner Lidija, *Politika u grnicama prava*, Beograd, 2012,
- Bobio Norberto, *Budućnost demokratije*, Filip Višnjić, Beograd, 1989,
- Bobio Norberto, *Država, vladavina, društvo*, CID, Podgorica, 1995.
- C.J.Friedrich: *Man and His Government*, New York, 1963.
- Crawford, J, *Democracy in International Law*, Cambridge, 1994.
- Dal Robert *Demokratija i njeni kritičari*, CID, Podgorica, 1999.
- Dahrendorf R., *Betrachtungen uber die Revolution in Europa*, Stuttgart, 1997.
- Diverže Moris, *Uvod u politiku*, Beograd, 1966.
- *Enciklopedija političke kulture*, (red. M.Matić, M.Podunavac), Beograd, 1993.
- Fridrih Karl Joakim, *Konstitucionalizam, ograničenje i kontrola vlasti*, CID, Podgorica, 1996.
- Gabrijel A. Almond, G, Bingam Pael, Rasel A. Dalton, Kore Strom, *Komparativna politika danas, svjetski pregled*, Fakultet političkih nauka, CEDEM, Podgorica, 2009.
- Gidens Entoni, *Sociologija*, Beograd, 2003.
- *Globalizacija, Mit ili stvarnost*, (red.Vladimir Vuletić), Beograd, 2003.
- Goati Vladimir, *Savremene političke partije*, Beograd, 1984.
- Goati Valdimir, *Partije i partijski sistem u Srbiji*, Niš, 2002.
- Rod Hague, Martin Harrop, *Uporedna vladavina i politika*, Fakultet političkih nauka Unverzitetu u Beogradu, Beograd, 2014;
- Hajek A. Fridrih, *Poredak i sloboda*, Novi Sad, 1998.
- Held Dejvid, *Modeli demokratije*, Zagreb, 1990.
- Held Dejvid, *Demokratija i globalni poredak*, Beograd, 1990.
- Hantington Samuel P., *Treći talas, demokratizacija na izmaku HH veka*, Zagreb – Podgorica, 2004.
- Jovičić Miodrag, *Izabrani spisi*, knjiga 4, „Veliki ustavni sistemi“ i „Savremeni politički sistemi“, Službeni glasnik, Beograd, 2006.
- Keane J., *Democracy and Civil Society*, London, 1988.
- Konstan Bendžamin, *Politički principi i drugi spisi*, Beograd, 2000.
- Lajphard Arendt, *Demokratija u pluralnim društvima*, Zagreb, 1992.
- Lajphard Arendt, *Modeli demokratije*, Beograd – Podgorica, 2003.
- Linc Juan, Alfred Stepan, *Demokratska tranzicija i konsolidacija*, Beograd, 1998.
- *Ljudska prava – međunarodni dokumenti* (ur. V. Dimitrijević i Đ.Lazin), Beograd, 1993.
- Marković Ratko, *Ustavno pravo i političke institucije*, Beograd 1994.
- Matić M., Podunavac M., *Politički sistem*, Beograd 1994.
- Nojman Franc, *Demokratska i autoritarna država*, Zagreb, 1974.
- Orlović Slaviša, *Političke partije i moć*, Beograd, 2002.
- Orlović Slaviša: "Političke posledice izobrnih sistema", Beograd, 2015.
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- Pavlović Vukašin, *Civilno društvo i demokratija*, Beograd, 2004.
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- Sartori Đovani, *Stranke i stranački sustavi*, Zagreb, 2002.
- Slavujević Zoran, *Politički marketing*, Beograd, 1999.
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- Tokvil Aleksis, *Demokratija u Americi*, Sremski Karlovci 1990.
- Tomas Flajner: *Ljudska prava i ljudsko dostojanstvo*, Beograd, 1996.
- Trkulja Jovica, *Osvajanje demokratije*, Singlogos, Beograd, 1995.
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- Veber Maks, *Privreda i društvo*, Beograd, 1976.
- Wallerstein I., *Geopolitics and geoculture*, Cambridge, 1991.

Number of lectures – active classes 2+2	Theoretical classes: 2	Practical classes : 2
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Instruction method: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures and seminar classes with power-point presentations • Discussions with questions and answers • Writing and public presentation of seminar papers 			
Grading system (maximum number of points 100)			
Pre-exam obligations	points	Final Exam	points
Attendance and activities during lectures	20%	Oral exam	60%
Seminar classes	20%		