FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB
ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020
Course: Comparative Political Systems
(Elective Course – Tutorial)

Lecturer: Dr. Marjeta Šinko
Student hours: Fabkovićeva St. 1 / 3rd Floor, Mondays from 5 p.m.
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SYLLABUS & COURSE RULES

1st Session (17/10/2019, 10.15 a.m., F3) Introduction to the Course

2nd Session (31/10/2019, 10.15 a.m., F3) Defining Democracies

3rd Session (21/11/2019, 10.15 a.m., F3) Classification of Systems of Government

4th Session (5/12/2019, 10.15 a.m., F3) Third Wave of Democratization

5th Session (19/12/2019, 10.15 a.m., F3) Political System of the United Kingdom

6th Session (9/1/2020, 10.15 a.m., F3) Political System of the United States of America

7th Session (23/1/2020, 10.15 a.m., F3) Political System of France
Recommended Further Reading:


Recommended Databases / Online Sources:

*Bertelsmann Transformation Index* [https://www.bti-project.org/en/home/](https://www.bti-project.org/en/home/)

*Economist Intelligence Unit’s Democracy Index* [https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index](https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index)

*EIGE Gender Equality Index* [https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/about](https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/about)

*Freedom in the World* [https://freedomhouse.org/](https://freedomhouse.org/)

*IPU Parline Database on National Parliaments* [https://data.ipu.org/](https://data.ipu.org/)


*Political Data Yearbook* [http://www.politicaldatayearbook.com/](http://www.politicaldatayearbook.com/)


*Varieties of Democracy* [https://www.v-dem.net/](https://www.v-dem.net/)
COURSE RULES

1. **Tutorials** take place **every other week (on Thursdays from 10.15 a.m. to 11.45 a.m.) in room F3** (Fabkovićeva St. 1 / 3rd Floor) according to the programme outlined above. Tutorials are envisaged as group consults (not ‘traditional’ lectures) where students discuss the biweekly topic with the lecturer and among themselves. Tutorials can also be used to discuss the final course essay. Students are encouraged to start the preparations of the final course essay early on in the semester. Students are expected to attend the tutorial meetings as well as to write position papers based on the prescribed reading materials. These are **mandatory requirements for the course exam**.

2. All the reading **materials** (obligatory, exam, recommended, essay) are available at the Faculty of Political Science Intranet. Students are **obligated to adhere to the Guidelines for Writing Academic Papers at the Faculty of Political Science** while preparing their position papers and final course essays.

3. **Position papers** are commentaries on the prescribed reading materials, preferably including discussion questions. In total 6 position papers in need to be prepared each 300-330 words in length. For each biweekly topic 1-2 articles or book chapters in the amount of some 40 pages are to be read. Position papers, in Word format, need to be delivered via e-mail to the course lecturer **48 hours prior to the tutorial session (Tuesdays at 10.15 a.m.).**

4. To **successfully complete the course** both the written exam and the final course essay need to be passed. Each of these constitute **50% of the final grade**. Although position papers are mandatory requirements for the exam, in the case of their continuous excellence they can contribute to a better final grade. Active participation in the tutorial discussions can contribute to a better final grade as well.

5. **Written exam** will be scheduled for late January and February 2020 (during the winter semester examination period). In total some 300 pages of literature will be covered: all the tutorial sessions’ prescribed reading (which is discussed during the tutorial sessions and commented on through position papers) as well as additional 60 pages of:


6. **Final course essays** can be written on one of 3 suggested topics. For each theme 4 book sources are given. Students can do additional research on the topics, but available literature must be used. Essays need to be in Word format, 3,000-3,100 words in length, and based on literature totalling a minimum of 220 pages. The deadline for the final course essay is **December 22nd, 2019**. Students will have (only) one opportunity to edit their essays through January 2020 if they fail at the first attempt. See below for the list of essay topics and book sources:
A) Devolution in the United Kingdom


B) Election Campaigns in the United States


C) Presidential and Prime Ministerial Phases in France