SYLLABUS & COURSE RULES

1st Session (20/10/2016, 5.30 p.m.) Introduction to Course

2nd Session (3/11/2016, 5.15 p.m.) Defining Democracies

3rd Session (17/11/2016, 5.15 p.m.) Classification of Systems of Government

4th Session (1/12/2016, 5.15 p.m.) Third Wave of Democratization

5th Session (15/12/2016, 5.15 p.m.) Comparison of US and UK Political Systems (Pt. 1)

6th Session (12/1/2017, 5.15 p.m.) Comparison of US and UK Political Systems (Pt. 2)
7th Session (26/1/2017, 5.15 p.m.) Political System of France

Recommended Further Reading:
COURSE RULES

1. Tutorials take place every other week (on Thursdays from 5.15 p.m. to 6 p.m.) according to the programme outlined above. Students are expected to attend these meetings as well as to write position papers based on the prescribed reading materials. These are mandatory requirements for the course exam. 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.

2. Position papers are commentaries on the prescribed reading materials, preferably including discussion questions. In total 6 position papers need to be prepared each 300 words in length. For each biweekly topic 1-2 articles or book chapters in the amount of some 40 pages are prepared. Position papers need to be delivered via e-mail to the course lecturer 48 hours prior to the tutorial session (Tuesdays at 5.15 p.m.).

3. In order to successfully complete the course both an oral examination and the final course essay need to be completed. 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.

4. Oral exam will be scheduled for late January and February 2017. In total some 300 pages of literature will be covered: all of the tutorial sessions’ prescribed reading (that will be discussed during the tutorial sessions and commented on through position papers) as well as the additional 50 pages of:


5. Final course essays can be written on one of three suggested topics. For each theme 5 book sources are given. All the reading materials (obligatory, exam, additional, essay) are available at the Faculty of Political Science Intranet. Students can do additional research on the topics but available literature has to be used. Essays need to be 3,000 words in length and based on literature totalling 240 pages. The deadline for the final course essay is January 1st 2017. Students will have (only one) opportunity to edit their essays through January if needed. 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