Social sciences and methods : State and Democracy

ECTS : 4

Volume horaire : 36

Description du contenu de l'enseignement :

This course is an undergraduate-level introduction to political science. The course, in broad terms, comes in two halves. The first part deals with different aspects of international politics most relevant to the Euro-Atlantic area, examining shifts in the European security environment as well as the institutional mechanisms for managing competition amongst nation-states in the contemporary world. Here, the aim is to furnish students with an understanding of the way in which international relations have evolved since the end of the Cold War. The second part deals more directly with the foundations of political organisation, critically evaluating with students key concepts such as democratic govoernance, freedom and social movements. Focusing on political order in the domestic and international contexts, this course explores the nature of political organisation and the causes of conflict. It is a course in its own right to reflect on the political underpinnings of the contemporary European states system. But it also serves as a foundation for more specialised courses in Political Science/ International Relations at the graduate level.

Compétence à acquérir :

This module introduces the principles of political organisation in both domestic and international politics. By the end of this course, students will have acquired the empirical knowledge, theoretical understanding and transferable skills necessary to analyse, explain and evaluate institutions, politics and legitimacy. Students should further be able to discuss critically, and write knowledgeably, about major issues in politics. At the end of the course, students should be able to think, talk and write in an informed, critical and theoretical manner about on-going developments in political organisation in domestic and international system.

Mode de contrôle des connaissances :

Etude de cas : présentation et rapport (50%) et dissertation (50%)

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