

Information sheet for the course

Comparative Politics I

University: <i>Alexander Dubcek University of Trencin</i>	
Faculty: <i>Department of Political Science</i>	
Course unit code: <i>PLTP4</i>	Course unit title: <i>Comparative Politics I</i>
Type of course unit: <i>compulsory</i>	
Planned types, learning activities and teaching methods: <i>Lecture: 2 hours weekly</i> <i>Seminar: 2 hours weekly</i>	
Number of credits: 6	
Recommended semester: <i>autumn</i> Recommended year: 3	
Degree of study: <i>I. (bachelor)</i>	
Assessment methods: <i>Students have to prepare a presentation and study recommended readings during the semester to receive credits. The course will be completed by oral exam.</i>	
<i>Marking of the course: A – at least 92 points, B – at least 83 points, C – at least 74 points, D at least 65 points, E – at least 56 points.</i>	
Learning outcomes of the course unit: <i>By completing the course, the student will be able to:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>briefly describe the political systems of the large countries of Western Europe and the USA as well as the significant changes that have taken place in them;</i><i>distinguish the political systems of the adopted countries from the point of view of the institutional division of power, the mutual position of the executive, legislative and judicial powers, the type of electoral systems, the state establishment, the party system;</i><i>characterize the impact of the institutional setting in these countries on political stability in them;</i><i>distinguish within the framework of political science the comparative approach and the main topics of its interest;</i><i>create professional and popular text on the topic of political systems;</i><i>formulate own opinions and expert opinions, based on theoretical knowledge, facts and logical thought processes;</i><i>apply general knowledge and theories about the political, party and electoral system to a specific case.</i>	
Course contents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Introductory information about the content and organization of the subject and the conditions for its successful completion</i><i>2. Comparative political science and its main topics</i><i>3. United Kingdom, political system, head of state, executive and legislative power</i><i>4. United Kingdom, judiciary, devolution and local governments, electoral and party system</i><i>5. United States of America, political system, head of state, executive and legislative power</i><i>6. United States of America, Judiciary, Federation and Local Governments, Electoral and Party System</i><i>7. French Fifth Republic, political system, its origin and development, head of state, executive and legislative power and their relationship</i><i>8. French Fifth Republic, judiciary, decentralization and local governments, electoral and party system</i><i>9. Federal Republic of Germany, political system, head of state, executive and legislative power</i><i>10. Federal Republic of Germany, judiciary, federal organization and local governments, electoral systems and party system</i><i>11. Common trends in the development of political systems of large Western countries</i><i>12. Colloquium on the advantages, limitations and risks of individual political systems</i>	

Recommended or required reading:

CARAMANI, D. *Comparative Politics. 5th edition.* Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2020. 664 s. ISBN 0198820607

DVOŘÁKOVÁ, V.. *Základní modely demokratických systémů : komparace politických systémů. 1. vyd. (doilač).* Praha : Oeconomica, 2010. 255 s. ISBN 9788024513577.

FARRELL, D. M. *Electoral Systems: A Comparative Introduction.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011. 2nd edition. ISBN 9781403912312

HLOUŠEK, V. - KOPEČEK, L. - ŠEDO, J. *Politické systémy.* Brno : Barrister & Principal Publishing, 2018. 2. aktualizované vydání. 9788074851506

NOVÁK, N. *Strany, volby a demokracie : od Duvergera k Sartorimu a dále.* Praha : Slon, 2016. ISBN 978-80-7419-233-3

ŘÍCHOVÁ, B. *Komparace politických systémů : západoevropské politické systémy. 1. vyd.* Praha : Vysoká škola ekonomická, 2009. 290 s. ISBN 9788024515168.

Recommended or required reading:

BULMER, S. et al. Politics in the European Union. 5th ed. Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2020. 596 s. ISBN: 9780198820635

FIALA, P. - KUTÍLEK, O. - PITROVÁ, M. Evropská unie. Brno : Centrum pro studium demokracie a kultury, 2018. ISBN 9788073254506

KRATOCHVÍL, P. Teorie evropské integrace. Praha : Portál, 2008. 224 s. ISBN 978-80-7367-467-0

KUBICEK, P. European Politics. London and New York : Routledge, 2017.

HRIVÍK, P. Európska integrácia a základy fungovania Európskej únie (Historický, politologický a inštitucionálno-právny rámec vývoja integrácie). Trenčín : Trenčianska univerzita Alexandra Dubčeka, 2016. 308 strán. ISBN 978-80-8075-620-8.