

Political Science II: Capita Selecta (K001012)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 6.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

Offering	Language	Teaching Method	Hours
A (semester 2)	Dutch	guided self-study	5.0 h
		integration seminar	10.0 h
		on-line discussion	2.5 h
		group self-reliant study	20.0 h
		activities	
		lecture	5.0 h
		group work	2.5 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Wauters, Bram PS03 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

Programme	credits	offering
Bachelor of Science in Political Science	6	A
Master of Science in Public Administration and Management	6	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Political science, essay, argumentation, group discussion, political science literature (topics may vary annually, which excludes 'substantive' keywords)

Position of the course

This course aims to gain more in-depth knowledge on topics that have been treated in the introductory course of Political Science. These topics can be revised annually. The course wants to make students acquainted with theoretical and empirical knowledge and literature, enable them to critically analyze and apprehend this, and make them use it as a basis to come to personal, scientifically founded position-taking, a.o. through group discussion.

Contents

Introduction to the central (normally two-)year topic by means of an extensive lecture. Autonomous incorporation of scientific literature concerning the central topics, including both theoretical and empirical research. Students will receive questions on the literature in advance and should respond to these and other questions in a group discussion. During the written exam students write a scientific essay on one of the topics, starting from proposition(s) given by the lecturers. They will have the possibility to consult literature.

Initial competences

necessary:
Having successfully completed 'Political Science' or having obtained the intended competencies of this subject in an alternative way.

Final competences

- 1 Gaining insight in political theory-building and scientific research concerning the topics treated.
- 2 Judge research on its relevance and scientific and social value.
- 3 Apprehend and summarize this literature in a critical and substantiated manner and

- integrate it in social and scientific debate.
- 4 Taking a scientifically well-founded personal stand in discussions concerning these topics in a broad sense.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, group work, lecture, integration seminar, on-line discussion group, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

The central topics will each time be substantially explained in one lecture, taught by one of the responsible lecturers and/or a (potentially external, through guest lecture) specialist in the subject. These courses should enable the students to go autonomously through a reader of specialized literature, composed by the lecturers, containing the most important publications on the topic. Students will have several weeks time to do this. The online discussion group will allow them to exchange thoughts about the texts. Based on a list of questions (questionnaire), set up by the lecturers and related to both scientific and social relevance, the students should apprehend the literature themselves (guided self-teaching), in order to discuss this in group afterwards. The basis for this conversation are the questions on the list, but during this discussion other aspects will be involved as well. In this way a scientifically well-founded oral discussion will be held. The supplied literature will thus not only be read by the students, but also analyzed, and reflected on critically. The goal is to evaluate the literature and indicate its scientific and social relevance.

This should allow the students to, already in the group conversation, come to a position as scientifically founded as possible concerning this topic.

The final piece will be established at the written exam, where the students will be asked to write a scientific essay based on one of two provided propositions that are related to the topics discussed in the lectures and discussions. During the year they will get a brief exposition on how to structure and substantiate a scientific essay.

The goal is to take part in scientific and social debate, based on scientific, balanced arguments.

Learning materials and price

Reader composed of the most important and relevant publications (articles and book chapters) concerning the treated topics.

Slides from lectures will be put at the students' disposal.

Notes from classes.

Estimated price: 25 euros

References

See reader and Minerva.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support by Minerva and by e-mail, with lecturer(s). Personal consultation during office hours and by appointment.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Open book examination, assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Open book examination, assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment, simulation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Students cannot withdraw from non-periodic evaluation. This concerns at least one intensive group discussion for each topic and the submission of a completed questionnaire for each text read.

In order to pass for 'Capita selecta' the student must participate in periodic (PE) as well

as the non-periodical evaluation (NPE). Students who withdraw from one or more parts of the NPE are not passed NPE and therefore can not pass the course. Since there is no second chance for the NPE, they may likewise does not pass the second session. In both cases, the student retains the right to participate in the periodical examinations. The examination for these students will be capped in the first and second session on 9/20.

Calculation of the examination mark

Non-periodic evaluation (group discussion and apprehension of literature): 40% (20% group discussion and 20% completed questionnaire)

Periodic evaluation (essay): 60%