

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Political Sociology: Democracy and Globalisation (K001108)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 30.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 2) Dutch lecture 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Van Rossem, Ronan PS04 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

[Master of Science in Sociology](#) crdts 5 offering A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Position of the course

The course is part of the module Political Sociology within the Master program in Sociology. The course aims to provide a framework for the sociological analysis of political structures with a focus mainly on macro-and meso-sociological approaches. The course contributes to competences in sociology (M.1.1, M.1.2, M.1.3, M.1.4, M.1.5), scientific competences (M.2.2) and social competences (M.5.1, M.5.2, M.5.3, M.5.4).

Contents

This course starts of from the students' knowledge of sociological theory and organisational sociology. In a first section the field of political sociology is situated within sociology and linked to the major theoretical approaches within the sociology. In the lectures following topics will be addressed: - The concept of power - The nature of the modern state, its development and the effects of globalization - Processes of democratization - The role of political parties in modern democracies - Cleavages and political conflict in modern democracies - The role of intermediate structures - The rise of (sub-)nationalism This course consists of lectures and discussion lessons. For the discussion lessons the students are split in different groups. On the basis of a number of text, they are asked to prepare a short classical presentation, and to prepare a number of topics for discussion. In the discussion lesson they present and guide a classical discussion. The teacher gives feedback on the preparation and during the discussion lesson.

Initial competences

Bachelor in sociology or equivalent

Final competences

To have insight into the development and functioning of modern political structures, being able to situate these in the social context and to point out the relation with processes of social change.

To be able to integrate theories and findings regarding political structures and processes in an overarching model of explanation.

To have insight into the macro, meso and micro level consequences of political developments.

To be able to critically interpret the results of political sociological research.

To be able to apply in a concrete manner all knowledge acquired in the course to the interpretation of social phenomena observed in everyday reality.

To be able to formulate a sociological critical view on problems related to politics, both in discussion with experts and in the face of society as a whole.

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

Lecture

Learning materials and price

Reader (the materials are updated every year)

References

Course content-related study coaching

Slides and hand-outs of lectures are available through Minerva.

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Take-home assignment in which students have to demonstrate both their understanding of the course materials and their ability to use these to support their own argumentation regarding a specific case.

For non-Dutch speaking students the notes about the literature are compulsory

Calculation of the examination mark

Assignment: 80%

Notes: 20%