

POLITICS AND SOCIETY 2023-24

COURSE LEADER
DAVE DUKE

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. On the left side, there are several overlapping circular elements. A prominent one is a large circle with a scale around its perimeter, marked with numbers from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Other circles are partially visible, some with dashed lines and arrows, suggesting a technical or scientific theme.

POLITICS AND SOCIETY

“THE VALUE OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION IS NOT THE
LEARNING OF MANY FACTS BUT THE TRAINING OF THE
MIND TO THINK.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN

COURSE CONTENT

KEY AREAS

- politics in everyday life
- how societies and communities organize themselves
- how that organization affects individual behaviour
- key concepts such as justice, order, participation and power
- current domestic and foreign, economic, social and defence issues
- current political developments
- decision-making processes
- laws, and how and why people obey or disobey

CONTENT

TOPICAL

Current affairs and recent events are used to illustrate the key content. Naturally, these vary from year to year. In the last few years, we have covered these topics:

changing attitudes to gender and identity

personal, social and national security

liberal progressives Vs populism

inequality and its effects

technological developments and their

effect on politics

environment

climate change

cost of living crisis

fake news

the decline of Western democracy

salaries in sport

values

demographic changes

STUDENT DRIVEN CONTENT

- “Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets.” Leonardo da Vinci
- The main focus of the module is improving language skills: improving knowledge and ability to use grammatical structures; expansion of vocabulary and; improving confidence and fluency.
- However, the subject matter is driven by the interests and curiosity of the students themselves. In terms of content there is no single “right answer” and the subjects in the exams are developed during the course of the year.

AIMS OF THE MODULE

YOU WILL FINISH THE COURSE HAVING.

- thought critically
- described and explained verbally and in writing political and societal ideas and events
- debate and discussed a variety of complex topics
- presented your thoughts and ideas clearly in the form of a 15-minute presentation and argumentative texts
- read and understood topical texts concerning politics and current affairs
- made accurate notes as a basis for producing written summaries and criticism
- developed your listening skills using a variety of audio texts

METHODOLOGY

TO ACHIEVE THESE AIMS YOU WILL:

- read and listen to relevant source material, make notes on them and debate their contents
- write an ongoing portfolio with which you will improve your writing
- take part in regular debates and discussions on current affairs
- explain, describe, analyze, summarize, agree, disagree, create logical outlines and conclusions, formulate coherent arguments
- draw on knowledge gained in other faculties

PRACTICAL DETAILS

- Course Leader: Dave Duke
- Room 1122 Tel 3716 e-mail: duke@hsu-hh.de
- Politics and Society is a module aimed at students of all faculties.
- With this course you can attain 4 credit points towards your Bachelor, refresh your SLP or simply improve your English.
- The entry requirement is an SLP (HMLS) of 3332

COURSE LENGTH AND HOURS PER WEEK

- The course runs for 3 terms: autumn 2023, winter 2024 and spring 2024
- 90 minutes per week. Tuesday 08:00-09:30, Wednesday 08:00-09:30, Thursday 08:00-09:30. Plus assignments
- Any online work and materials will be on MS Teams and ILIAS
- Maximum number of students per class:14

CREDIT POINTS

HOW DO YOU GET YOUR CREDIT POINTS?

- Successfully complete a 15-minute oral exam consisting of a presentation and discussion
- Successfully complete a continually assessed writing portfolio compiled during the course
- You have 3 attempts in total to successfully complete the oral and writing exams (M3 and S3).
- Writing 1st attempt is a portfolio, 2nd and 3rd attempts are exams.

REGISTERING FOR CLASS

Register for the module on Campus Management

Questions concerning the deadline or CMS: contact either Dr. Novo in room 1124 or via e.mail at novo@hsu-hh.de or Frau Henning in room 1155 or via e-mail at melanie.henning@hsu-hh.de

Classes start in the week beginning Monday October 2, 2023.