

Identification	Subject	PSIR 360: Political Theories and Ideologies 3KU / 6ECTS credits 15 Weeks, 60 hours	
	Department	Political Science & Philosophy	
	Program (Undergraduate, Graduate)	Undergraduate	
	Term	Fall 2026	
	Instructor	Assoc. Prof. Orkhan Valiyev	
	Email:	ovaliyev@khazar.org	
	Classroom/hours	Neftchilar campus, Room: 203N; 15:20; 17:00	
Prerequisites	N/A		
Language	English		
Compulsory/Elective	Compulsory		
Textbooks and course materials	Core readings: ● Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political theory: An introduction</i>. 4th edition.Bloomsbury Publishing. ● Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideologies</i>. 7th edition.Bloomsbury Publishing. Supplementary sources : ● Brennan, J. (2016). <i>Political philosophy: An introduction</i>. Cato Institute. ● Kymlicka, W. (2002). <i>Contemporary political philosophy: Anintroduction</i>. Oxford University Press. ● Goodin, R. E., Pettit, P., & Pogge, T. W. (Eds.). (2007). <i>A companion tocontemporary political philosophy</i> (Vol. 105). John Wiley & Sons. <i>The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> https://plato.stanford.edu/		
Course description	In this course, we will become acquainted with the basic concepts of political theory and ideologies. We will discuss central topics such as justice, state, law, rights, freedom, etc., as well as ideologies such as utilitarianism, liberalism, Marxism, nationalism, and communitarianism.		
Course objectives	The main aim of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to moral and political philosophy, i.e. to familiarize students with the ● basic concepts and theories of ethics and political philosophy.		
Learning Outcomes	By the end of the course students should be able to: ● Demonstrate an effective use of political concepts; ● Raise questions concerning the meaning of political and ideological concepts; ● Apply critical reasoning and analytical thinking to a broad range of political and ideological issues, as well as attempt to think systematically of them; ● Reflect on the more fundamental questions that emerge in a variety of political and ideological cases;		
Teaching methods	Quiz	x	
	Group discussion	x	

	Lecture		x
Evaluation Criteria	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	TBA	30
	Quiz 1	5	10
	Quiz 2	13	10
	Class Attendance & Active Participation	During the semester	20
	Final Exam	TBA	30
	Total		100
Class Policy	You are expected to: - attend classes on a regular basis as the classes are conducted in a combined lecture/seminar format where students should <u>play an active part</u>. - read the assigned and suggested readings before you come to class - engage actively in classroom discussions - offer thoughtful and informed classroom presentations and written work - submit all your assignments on time - follow assignments closely and carefully. Class attendance: Students are required to comply with the attendance policy of Khazar University. Full-time students are expected to attend all classes unless they are sick or have the permission of the instructor (<i>approved absence</i>). A student must submit an absence request in anticipation of an absence from the course. In case he/she fails to do so, his absence will be considered unapproved. Specifically, to be eligible for taking exams, students must not miss more than <u>25%</u> of class hours (<i>unapproved absences</i>). Otherwise, the student can take the exam only with the approval of the School Dean. Continuing unapproved absences or lack of participation may lead to withdrawal from the course. Course assessment is conducted through active participation, case study discussions, quizzes, and written midterm and final examinations. <u>Active Participation & Case-Study Discussions:</u> Students following this course are not simply expected to listen and memorize the lectures but to study the reading materials well; engage in discussions; and be able to demonstrate and debate his/her viewpoints. <u>Quiz:</u> 20 multiple-choice questions on topics taught during the semester <u>Mid-term & Final Exams:</u> The mid-term and final exams will consist of open-ended questions that assess students' understanding of the topics covered throughout the semester, including the articles assigned for discussions.		

Academic misconduct

Academic honesty plays an essential part in maintaining the integrity of Khazar University. Students are expected to recognize and uphold high intellectual and academic integrity standards. The following acts are examples of academic dishonesty and, therefore are strictly forbidden and will, if proven, be penalized:

- plagiarism,
- cheating,
- unauthorized collaboration,
- falsification,
- multiple submissions.

On plagiarism:

Plagiarism is unethical and an offense under the University regulations. Please familiarize yourself with the regulations relating to plagiarism and cheating in examinations.

Plagiarism is copying other people's work without proper attribution. The students committing plagiarism and the students providing materials for plagiarizing will automatically receive a zero (0) for the assignment. Students must always indicate that they used someone else's words and ideas if they have done so, by using quotation marks and mentioning the source in the text or a footnote. A bibliography must also follow after the end of your essays.

AI Policy

This policy governs the responsible use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) in coursework and research. It applies to undergraduate students and academic researchers, ensuring transparency, integrity, and accountability.

GAI may support learning and research by helping organize ideas, checking grammar, or assisting with planning. However, it must never replace original analysis, creativity, or independent thinking. All uses of GAI must be disclosed clearly in assignments, projects, theses, and publications. Example: "ChatGPT (OpenAI, 2025) was used for language editing. All ideas and conclusions are my own."

Students may use GAI only as a supportive tool, with a maximum of twenty-five percent of text-based assignments. Its use is strictly prohibited in exams, quizzes, and graded in-class assessments. Researchers may use GAI for structuring, editing, and idea generation, but not for writing entire papers, fabricating references, or producing false data. Accuracy must always be verified.

Violations include hidden or unauthorized use, failure to disclose, plagiarism, or data falsification. Penalties may involve warnings, resubmission, grade reduction, or disciplinary action. Instructors and supervisors must specify permitted levels of GAI use in syllabi or research guidelines.

GAI is allowed only as a supportive tool. Students remain fully responsible for the originality, accuracy, and integrity of their work.

Rules of Professional Conduct

The students shall behave in a way to creates a favorable academic and professional environment during class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited. Classroom behavior that seriously interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the

		ability of other students to benefit from the course program will not be tolerated. When a student’s behavior in a class is so seriously disruptive as to compel immediate action, the instructor has the authority to remove a student from the class on an interim basis, pending an informal hearing on the behavior.	
Tentative Schedule			
Week	Date/Day (tentative)	Topics	Textbook/Assignments
1	18.09.2026	Introduction: What is political theory? Understanding Political Ideologies	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 1-13; Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: An Introduction</i> . pp. 1-19.
2	25.09.2026	Human Nature, the Individual and Society	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 13-47.
3	02.10.2026	Politics, Government, and the State	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 47-81.
4	09.10.2026	Sovereignty, the Nation and Transnationalism	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 81-109.
5	16.10.2026	Democracy and Representation Quiz 1	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 142-174. https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/democracy/
6	23.10.2026	Rights, Obligations and Citizenship	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 206-237.
7	30.10.2026	Mid-term Exam	<i>The date of the Mid-term Exam will be communicated to students well in advance by the Dean's Office</i>
8	13.11.2026	Freedom, Toleration and Identity	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political Theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 237-268.
9	20.11.2026	Property, the Market, and Planning	Heywood, A. (2015). <i>Political theory: An Introduction</i> . pp. 297-324.
10	27.11.2026	Liberalism	Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: AnIntroduction</i> . pp. 19-49.

11	04.12.2026	Socialism and Anarchism	Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: An Introduction</i> . pp. 75-124
12	11.12.2026	Nationalism	Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: An Introduction</i> . pp. 124-148. https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/nationalism/
13	18.12.2026	Fascism and Populism Quiz 2	Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: An Introduction</i> . pp. 148-186.
14		Feminism and Ecologism	Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: An Introduction</i> . pp. 186-225.
15	25.12.2026	Multiculturalism Why Political Ideologies Matters	Heywood, A. (2021). <i>Political Ideology: An Introduction</i> . pp. 225-245; 266-272. https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/multiculturalism/
		Final exam	<i>The date of the Final Exam will be communicated to students well in advance by the Dean's Office.</i>

If necessary, some minor modifications may be made to this syllabus by the instructor.