

<b>Identification</b>	<b>Subject (code, title, credits)</b>	<b>PSIR 110: Introduction to Political Science</b> 3 Khazar credits 15 Weeks, 60 hours
	<b>Department</b>	<b>Political Science and Philosophy</b>
	<b>Program (undergraduate, graduate)</b>	Undergraduate
	<b>Term</b>	Fall 2024
	<b>Instructor</b>	Kamran Shirinzade
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	<b>Classroom/hours</b>	Neftçilər, 41 Mahsati str.,
	<b>Office hours</b>	by appointment
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None	
<b>Language</b>	English	
<b>Compulsory/Elective</b>	Required	
<b>Required textbooks and course materials</b>	<p><b>Core textbooks:</b> Andrew Heywood. <i>Politics</i>. Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.</p> <p><b>Supplementary textbook:</b> Rod Hague, Martin Harrop. <i>Political Science A Comparative Introduction</i> 8th edition. Red Globe Press, 2017.</p>	
<b>Course outline</b>	<p>Beyond preparing you for your profession, a central goal of higher education is to assist you in understanding the world in which you live and to help you navigate it effectively. One way in which to do this is to master different “ways of knowing.” The primary learning objective of “Introduction to Politics” is to introduce you to the social science way of knowing or how individual choices and/or evolving social institutions affect human decision-making. Since “Introduction to Politics” is offered by the department of Political Science the course content and the social science methodologies discussed will be those relevant to understanding politics, political institutions, and political behavior. That being said, upon successful completion of this course you will have a sound understanding of the social science way of knowing--more broadly understood--and how to apply the knowledge you have gained and the skills you have developed to contemporary social issues.</p>	
<b>Course objectives</b>	<p>The learning objectives for this semester are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will develop an understanding of core political science concepts and theories within multiple disciplinary subfields.</li> <li>● Students will critically analyze contemporary problems in the countries under consideration in light of the conceptual frameworks presented in class.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will demonstrate critical reading and thinking skills, including the ability to evaluate and form an argument.</li> <li>• Students will express their ideas in writing, including the ability to conduct research and marshal evidence relevant to their research topic.</li> <li>• Students will engage respectfully and in weekly discussion sections and effectively present their ideas orally.</li> <li>• Students will demonstrate an understanding of important social and ethical questions through the lens of politics, allowing them to engage more in their communities.</li> </ul>		
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>At the end of the semester, students who successfully completed the course are expected to:</p> <p><i>a) Compare and contrast the goals of political theories and ideologies.</i></p> <p><i>b) Interpret and describe political cases within different regions and periods of history,</i></p> <p><i>c) Develop their own analyses and visualizations to understand social science phenomena.</i></p>		
<b>Teaching methods</b>	<b>Lecture</b>		X
	<b>Group discussion</b>		X
	<b>Experiential exercise</b>		X
	<b>Case analysis</b>		X
	<b>Simulation</b>		X
	<b>Course paper</b>		
	<b>Others</b> (internet resources, Handouts and supplementary materials)		
<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Methods</b>	<b>Date/deadlines</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
	<b>Midterm Exam</b>		<b>25</b>
	<b>Class attendance</b>		<b>5</b>
	<b>Active participation</b>		<b>10</b>
	<b>Assignments</b>		<b>20</b>
	<b>Final Exam</b>		<b>40</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>
<b>Policy</b>	<p><b><u>Assignments:</u></b> Two assignments will be held throughout the semester. The assignments will be prepared based on the materials taught during the previous lectures. The idea behind the assignments is to make sure that students have successfully grasped the main points covered in the materials.</p> <p><b><u>Active participation:</u></b> Students are expected to attend each class meeting and be an active participant. Active participation involves engaging in class discussion, as well as participating in interactive class exercises.</p>		

**Midterm:** Exam will include the topics covered till the exam date. On the exam date the class will not be held.

**Final:** Final exam will be comprehensive in nature and will be held at the end of semester.

All exams will be in written and subject to time change.

***Make-up Exam Policy:***

There are no previously scheduled make-up exams. Students missing both midterm and final exam will automatically be failed, even though they possess a valid excuse. Students missing either midterm or final exam and possess a valid excuse meeting University set standards will be required to take another exam where the questions will completely be different. Same applies for the quizzes. I strongly recommend students to take the exams on scheduled time.

**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 (*approved absence*).

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 25% of class hours (*unapproved absences*). 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.

**Academic misconduct**

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

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

***On plagiarism:***

Plagiarism is unethical and an offence 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.

**Rules of Professional Conduct**

		The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the 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.	
<b>Tentative Schedule</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Date/Day (tentative)</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Textbook/Assignments</b>
1	19.09.2024	What is Politics?	(Chapter 1)
2	26.09.2024	Governments Systems and Regimes	(Chapter 2)
3	03.10.2024	Political Ideologies	(Chapter 3)
4	10.10.2024	The State	(Chapter 4)
5	17.10.2024	Global Politics	(Chapter 5)
6	24.10.2024	Subnational Politics	(Chapter 6)
7		Midterm Exam	
8	07.11.2024	Representation, Elections and Voting	(Chapter 7)
9	14.11.2024	Parties and Party Systems	(Chapter 8)
10	21.11.2024	Groups, Interests and Movements	(Chapter 9)
11	28.11.2024	Democracy	(Chapter 10)
12	05.12.2024	Political Executives	(Chapter 11)
13	12.12.2024	Bureaucracies	(Chapter 12)
14	19.12.2024	Militaries and Police Forces	(Chapter 19)
15	26.12.2024	Policy Process and System Performance	(Chapter 20)
		<b>Final Exam</b>	

Additional readings and assignments will be provided by the instructor for this course. *If necessary, some minor modifications may be made to this syllabus by the instructor.*