

General information	Subject Title, code and credit hours	CPSY 388, Political psychology, 6 AKTS	
	Department	Psychology	
	Program (bachelor’s and master’s degree)	Bachelor	
	Associated Term	2025 Fall	
	Instructor	Aliyeva Gulshan Aliesker	
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	Phone		
	Lecture room/Schedule	Neftchilar campus	
	Consultations	After classes	
Prerequisites	The subjects that contain the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to master the subject studied in the unit are: General Psychology, Social Psychology, Evolutionary psychology. The information gathered and the skills formed during the course are as follows: <div><div>1.</div><div>The student acquires knowledge and skills in the field of political psychology;</div></div> <div><div>2.</div><div>Acquired theoretical knowledge covers the psychological aspects of political process, the mental health aspects of the participating parties, especially group based political behavior, and the student learns to apply this knowledge from a theoretical and practical aspect;</div></div> <div><div>3.</div><div>The student learns special questionnaires in political psychology</div></div>		
Language	English		
Course	Mandatory		
References and sources	<div><div>➤</div><div>Huddy, L., Sears, D. O., Levy, J. S., &amp; Jerit, J. (2023). <i>The Oxford handbook of political psychology</i>. Oxford University Press.</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>The Cambridge Handbook of Political Psychology, Danny Osborne, February 2022.</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. “Introduction to political Psychology”. London,2004</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>Jost, J. T., &amp; Sidanius, J. (Eds.). (2004). <i>Political psychology: Key readings</i>. Psychology Press.</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>Houghton, D. P. (2014). <i>Political psychology: Situations, individuals, and cases</i>. Routledge.</div></div>		
Teaching methods	Lecture		+
	Group discussion		+
	Classroom activity		+
	Cases analyzing		+
Assessment	Components	Date	Percentage (%)
	Midterm exam	Week 8	30
	Participation	During semester	10
	Individual work	During semester	15
	Final exam	January	35
	Attendance	During semester	10
	Total		100
Participation	To be prepared to classes, be active during class, ask questions about the topic in discussions and make logical comments according to the topic. At this time, it is important to respect the opinions of other group members, not to divide their words, listen carefully, ask questions and make comments.		
Individual work and presentation	Presentations should be consistent with interactive learning methods and should be research-based. During the presentation, details such as conveying information, the content of the presentation, the organization of the presentation,		

	capturing the audience, referring to recent literature will be taken into consideration. Presentations can be presented as individual work.
<b>Course description</b>	<i>Introduction to Political Psychology</i> explores the many psychological patterns that influence individual political behavior. The authors introduce readers to a broad range of theories, concepts, and case studies of political activity, arguing that individuals are driven or motivated to act in accordance with personality characteristics, values, beliefs, and attachments to groups. The course explains many aspects of political behavior—whether seemingly pathological actions or normal decision-making practices, which sometimes work optimally, and sometimes fail. This course will cover a broad spectrum of the various areas that involve law and psychology. This course will focus on some interrogation techniques.
<b>Course objective</b>	This course will also briefly discuss political process and human behavior. The course will depict visual aids that may be graphic (gore, gruesome) in nature to demonstrate various crimes (i.e., rape, homicide, mutilation, and so forth) that a forensic psychologist/psychiatrist would encounter with their job function. During the course, we will discuss evolutionary basis of political ideology, the structure, prevalence and nature of mass belief systems, the psychology of public opinion, emotions and political process, diversity problem of political psychology and national identity, patriotism, and nationalism.
<b>Outcomes of the course</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand and identify the basis of political psychology</li> <li>2. Better understand the theoretical foundations of political psychology</li> <li>3. Increase awareness of approaches to political psychology</li> <li>4. Explain the origins and reasons psychology of public opinion</li> <li>5. Discuss the diversity problems in political psychology: demographic change, macro-diversity and intergroup attitudes, and gender problems in related fields.</li> <li>6. Better understand one's self and abilities to use skills to be an effective listener and observer of the political process and behavior</li> </ol>
<b>Rules and policy</b>	<p>Rules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each lesson requires a creative approach and activity.</li> <li>2. During the lesson, it is forbidden to disrupt the lesson process, make unethical actions, conduct inappropriate and unauthorized discussions, use a mobile phone, listening device and radio, and engage in other activities not related to that lesson.</li> <li>3. Attendance.</li> <li>4. Participation of students in all classes is important. If the student is unable to attend classes due to certain reasons (illness, family situation, etc.), then he should inform the dean of the faculty about this. A student who does not attend more than 25% of the total hours of study in the subject is not allowed to take the exam.</li> <li>5. Lateness to class and other class violations.</li> </ol>
<b>Marking criteria</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Individual Work Grading Criteria and Total Points</b></p> <p>Each student's individual presentation will be evaluated based on three main categories: <b>Organization</b>, <b>Content</b>, and <b>Presentation</b>. The maximum total for this component is <b>15 points</b>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Organization (5 points):</b> The presentation should be well-organized and appropriate for the topic and audience. Information must be presented in a logical sequence, and relevant references should be properly included.</li> <li>2. <b>Content (5 points):</b> The introduction must be engaging and effectively outline the</li> </ol>

			<p>problem, establishing a clear framework for the rest of the presentation. The content should be accurate, relevant, and aligned with the overall purpose. A clear and well-structured conclusion summarizing the research is expected.</p> <p>3. <b>Presentation (5 points):</b> The presenter should maintain appropriate eye contact with the audience and use natural gestures and movement. The voice must be clear and audible, with good language skills and correct pronunciation. Visual aids should be well-prepared, informative, and not distracting. The presentation should fall within the assigned time limit, and the overall delivery must be effective and engaging.</p>
			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Class Participation (10 Points of Final Grade)</b></p> <p>Class participation is an essential part of the course. Students are expected to come to class well-prepared, having completed the assigned readings and ready to engage in meaningful discussions. Participation accounts for <b>10 points</b> of the final grade and will be evaluated based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>9–10 Points:</b> Demonstrates excellent preparation by analyzing readings deeply and connecting them to class discussions. Offers thoughtful analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of ideas. Contributes significantly to discussions by building arguments, responding thoughtfully to peers, and suggesting alternative approaches relevant to the local context. Shows consistent and highly active involvement.</li> <li>• <b>7–8 Points:</b> Shows good preparation, demonstrates a clear understanding of the readings, and offers interpretations beyond basic facts. Contributes regularly to discussions, responds to others, poses thoughtful questions, and sometimes offers alternative views. Demonstrates consistent involvement throughout the course.</li> <li>• <b>5–6 Points:</b> Demonstrates an adequate level of preparation, showing understanding of basic facts but with little analysis. Contribution to discussions is moderate and not particularly reflective. Participates occasionally without being prompted.</li> <li>• <b>1–4 Points:</b> Student is present but contributes little or not at all. May be passive or minimally engaged, but not disruptive.</li> <li>• <b>0 Points:</b> Student is frequently absent or their behavior disrupts the class. This includes being consistently late, leaving the room multiple times during class, using phones or devices for non-class-related activities, or violating agreed-upon participation norms.</li> </ul>
<b>Schedule</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Textbook</b>	
1.	Introduction to political psychology.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors,	

	What is political psychology? Foundation of political psychology.	Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 1-13 The Cambridge Handbook of Political Psychology. Pp/3-21
2.	Personality and politics. Theories and approaches to studying personality.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 13-34
3.	Cognition, social identity, emotions and attitudes in political psychology.  Information process, social identity.  Political decision-making process.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 37-59  The Oxford handbook of political psychology Chapter 5.
4.	Cognition, social identity, emotions and attitudes in political psychology.  Emotions and political psychology	The Oxford handbook of political psychology Chapter 6. page 165-174
5.	The political psychology of groups. The definition of the groups. Group structure, formation and development.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 63-70
6.	The political psychology of groups. Influence in group. Social facilitation and inhibition	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 70-78
7.	The political psychology of groups. Group decision making process. Conflict in groups.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 78-94
8.	<b>Midterm exam</b>	
9.	The political psychology gender, race and ethnicity	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 153-170
10.	The political psychology gender, race and ethnicity Ethnic conflict, resolving racial and ethnic conflicts.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 170-187
11.	The political psychology of nationalism. Case illustration of nationalism	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 191-217
12.	The political psychology of nationalism. Cause of nationalistic behavior. Conflict solution.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004

		Pp. 217-221
13.	Voting, role of the media and tolerance in political psychology. Belief, value and ideology.	Marta Cottam, Beth Uhler, Elena Mastrors, Thomas Preston. "Introduction to political Psychology". London,2004 Pp. 125-149
14.	Reflection session	
<b>Final Exam</b>		