**Course Syllabus for**

**Political System of the European Union**

**I. Data on the course teachers:**

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| **Name and surname:**   * Tanja Karakamiseva-Jovanovska, * Karolina Ristova-Aasterud * Vasko Naumovskii | **Teaching and Academic Designations and Titles:**  - Full Professor;  - Associate Professor;  - Associate Professor; |

**II. Data on the teaching assistants and other lecturers:**

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| **Name and surname of the teaching assistant/s:**  **/** | **Teachig and Academic Designations and titles:**  / |
| **Other lectures and experts from the practice:** Upon invitation | |

**III. Basic information about the course programme and materials:**

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| **Course title:** Political System of the European Union | |
| **Course Code:** | **Number of credits earned**: 5 |
| **Number of course classes/hours: 36** | **Number of pages of obligatory course materials:**  **390** |
| **Year of Study**: undergraduate studies | **Semester of Study:** elective |

**IV. Course description and key words and terms:**

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| **Course description:** |
| The course gives an in-depth knowledge about the political dimension of the EU, especially focusing on the theories on European integration and the functioning of the political system of the EU, both on horizontal and vertical level (supranational and national level). The key emphasis is placed on the issue of internal organizational and political structure of the EU, especially analyzed from the aspect of its legislative, executive and judicial policies. Furthermore, the political parties and the party system of the EU are studied, as well as the issues of democracy in EU (direct and indirect democracy), elections and theories of elections in the EU, public opinion, political and ideological conflicts in the EU, interest groups and lobbying. The process and the policies of EU enlargement are also thematically covered, and the possible scenarios of future development of the EU as a polity are reviewed and discussed. |
| **Course materials key words and terms:** |
| European integration, European Parliament, Council of Ministers of the EU, The Commission of the EU, Court of Justice of the EU, EU Party System, European elections, interest groups in the EU, direct and indirect democracy in the EU, national governments in the EU, national parliaments in the EU |

**V. Course goals and results:**

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| **Course goals and results:** |
| **Course goals: The key goal is to give students an in-depth knowledge about the institutional and non-institutional political processes in the EU, especially:**   * Knowledge about the EU Policies; * Understanding the development of the political framework of the EU, as well as its political principles and practices; * Understanding the ways of EU institutional functioning; * In-depth knowledge of the decision-making process in the EU institutions; * Introductory knowledge of the theories on European Integration; * Overview and analysis of the functioning of the political parties,e political groups and the interest groups in the political system of the EU; * Overview and analysis of the electoral process and the European elections; * Introductory knowledge and study of the models of political behavior in the EU. |

**VI. Teaching methodology:**

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| **Методологија на предавање:** |
| The study material is lectured in the framework of 12 course weeks, with total of 36 class hours, which include classes of lecturing and moderated debates, case study analysis, and analysis of relevant EU policy and legal documents. Where applicable, documentary video projections and study visits to relevant (state) institutions will be included and organized. Upon availability, guest lectures and experts from the practice will be invited. Students’ final grade will be formed on the basis of both written exam and on designated research paper. The overall class participation of the student will influence the final grade only in a positive grading curve. |

**VII. Detail structure of the course syllabus:**

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| **Course week no. 1** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Defining the Political System of the EU; Development of the Political System of the EU** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Академик Владо Камбовски, проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, д-р Вероника Ефремова, учебник „Право на ЕУ-од Париз до Лисабон“, Винсент графика, Скопје, 2012 година, (стр.41-136)**  **2. К. Ристова-Астеруд, „Основни теоретско-нормативни модели за ЕУ, во Националните парламенти и прашањата за суверенитетот и демократијата во полисот на ЕУ“, (стр. 117-123)**  **3. Васко Наумовски, *Европски интеграции (теории и институционализација)* (Скопје: Пакунг, 2009), (стр. 15.22)** |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** The introductory lecture is dedicated to the issue of defining the political system of the EU as well as to an overview of its historical development. In addition, special attention is given to the key theories of the European integration. | |
| **Course week no. 2** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **The Institutions and the Functioning of the Political System of the EU (political processes, political control and political accountability, process of decision-making)** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Академик В.Камбовски, проф. д-р Т.Каракамишева-Јовановска и д-р В. Ефремова, учебник, „Право на ЕУ-од Париз до Лисабон“, (стр. 137-209)** |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** In this thematic unit the functioning of the political system of the EU is studied , with special attention given on the organization and the structure of the EU, the issue of political accountability of the EU institutions, the process of decision-making in the EU. | |
| **Course week no. 3** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**   * **Legislative Policies of the Council of the EU** * **Legislative Policies of the European Parliament** * **Legislative Negotiations between the Council and the European Parliament** * **Participation of the National Parliaments in the EU legislative process** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Академик В.Камбовски, проф. д-р Т.Каракамишева-Јовановска и д-р В. Ефремова, исто, (стр.137-175)**  **2. К. Ристова-Астеруд, „Учество на националните парламенти во европскиот легислативен процес“, исто, (стр.46- 52** |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** The lecture is focused on the legislative policies of the EU, especially studied through the legislative processes in the key legislative factors on the supranational level in the EU, i.e. the Council and the European Parliament. The legislative negotiations between these two institutions is analyzed as well as the role of the national parliaments in the EU legislative process (transposition of the EU legislation in the national legal orders and the protection of the principle of subsidiarity in marking the legislative border between the supranational and the national EU levels). | |
| **Course week no. 4** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Executive Policies of the EU**   * **Theories of EU executive power, delegation and discretion** * **The executive power in the Council of the EU and in the EU member states** * **The executive power in the European Commission** * **Parliamentary control of the executive power in the EU** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Проф. д-р Т. Каракамишева, „Извршните политики во политичкиот систем на Европската унија“, Годишник на ПФ „Јустинијан Први“ , Скопје, 2006, (стр. 779-792);**  **2. К. Ристова-Астеруд, „Парламентарна контрола над владините активности во европските прашања“, исто, (стр. 52-68** |
| **Detail Description of the study unit:**  This study unit explores .the key theories about the executive power in the EU, the delegation and the discretion of power in the EU, the features of the executive power of the Council of the EU and of the national governments of the EU member states, as well as the executive power of the European Commission. In addition, special focus is placed on the democratic parliamentary control over the executive power of the EU i.e. the control by the European Parliament and the national parliaments (mechanisms, procedures and processes). | |
| **Course week no. 5** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Judicial Policies of the EU** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Академик В.Камбовски, проф. д-р Т.Каракамишева-Јовановска и д-р В. Ефремова, учебник, „Право на ЕУ-од Париз до Лисабон“, *(*стр.213-237)** |
| **Detail description of the study unit:**  This week’s lecture will provide a comprehensive analysis of three principal issues connected to the judicial policies in the EU:   * How much politics is there in the judicial decisions of the Court of Justice of the EU? * How much politics is there in the decisions of the Court of First Instance of the EU?   The study process involves analysis of court cases and decisions from the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the EU. | |
| **Course week no. 6** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Political Parties in the EU (party organization, party ideology and party activities in the EU, political groups in the European Parliament, party system of the EU)** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска,„Политичките партии во институционалната арена на Европската унија", Стручно списание Правник, Скопје, март, 2008 година**  **2. Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, “Paying for the European Parliament Votes: European Political Parties and the New EU Campaign Funding for the June 2009 Electons”, Зборник на трудови во чест на проф. д-р Тодор Рушков, Правен факултет „Јустинијан Први“, Универзитет „Св. Кирил и Методиј“, Скопје, 2009 година**  **3. Авторизирани предавања од проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска** |
| **Detail description of the study unit:**  The lecture focuses on the study of the political party’ life in the EU, including the organizational structure of the political parties in the EU, the organization and the functioning of the political groups in the European parliament. In addition, special attention will be given to the party interaction and dynamics with the political party’ life and political parties on national level. | |
| **Course week no. 7** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Introduction to the debate on democracy and the democratic deficit in the EU; models of democracy in the EU; direct and indirect (representative) democracy in the EU; European elections** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „Каква демократија и е потребна на ЕУ?“, Стручно списание „Правник“, февруари, 2008**  **2. Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „За неколку политички аспекти на Европската унија - кој, колку, како и што добива?”, Зборник на трудови за проф. д-р Томислав Чокревски, Правен факултет „Јустинијан Први", 2008**  **3. К. Ристова-Астеруд, Дебатата за европски demos или европски demoi и концептуализирањето на полисот на ЕУ, Зборник на Правен факултет 2011, стр.729-746;** |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:**  In this thematic unit the students are firstly introduced to the issue of democracy in the EU, the differentiation and the debate over the democratic constituent of the EU (European demos and/or European demoi). The basic legal framework of the EU democracy, including the principles of representative and participatory democracy, as well as the basic forms of democracy in the EU are also reviewed. Then, the indirect, representative democracy in the EU is studied, especially the European elections (theories on the elections, models of electoral behavior). Finally, the issue of the democratic deficit in the EU is debated, as well as the issue of the (low) voter’s turnout for the elections for the European Parliament, with special focus on the perspectives of any future viable electoral reforms in the EU. | |
| **Course week no. 8** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Forms of direct democracy in the EU** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Simon Hix, “The Political System of the EU”, Palgrave, 1999, (стр.180-186)**  **2. Авторизирани предавања од проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска** |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** The thematic focus of this week’ lecture is placed on the forms of direct democracy in the EU, especially on the issue whether EU is prepared to embrace the direct democracy, such as the European Citizens’ Initiative and the referendum. The direct democracy in the EU is discussed in the context of resolving the problem of democratic deficit in the EU. | |
| **Course week no. 9** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **EU Elections**   * **Theories on EU elections** * **Models of Electoral Behavior** * **Elections for European Parliament** * **Electoral Reform in the EU** | **Obligatory course materials:**  **1. Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „Европскиот парламент и изборите-униформна европска изборна постапка-за или против“**  **2. Авторизирани предавања од проф. др Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска** |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** The lecture gives anIn-depth analysis of the electoral process in the EU, most notably the development of the electoral process ever since the first European elections for the European Parliament to the electoral behavior of the political parties in the EU. | |
| **Course week no. 10** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Interest Groups in the EU** | **задолжителна литература:**  **1. Проф. д-р Саво Климовски, Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „Политички партии и интересовни групи“, Скопје, 2004 година** |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** The study unit covers the issue of the development of the interest groups in the EU, with special focus on the role and the activities of the business groups in the EU, the unions, social movements and the organizations of the territorial interests in the framework of the political system of the EU. In the debate class hours the lobbying in the European Parliament and in the European Commission will be debated on the basis of current case –studies and media illustrations. | |
| **Course week no. 11** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Public Opinion in the EU** | **задолжителна литература:**  **1. Simon Hix, “The Political System of the EU”, Palgrave, 1999, (стр.133-164)**  **2. Материјали за работата на Евробарометарот** |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:**  The lecture focuses on identifying the main features , institutional and non-institutional factors that are shaping the public opinion in the EU and towards the EU, including the role of the mass media. Special overview is made on the (institutional) relation of the EU itself in measuring and following the public opinion and its influence in shaping the EU policies, especially the rules, policies and the mechanisms for providing transparency in the EU decision-making and activities. In the framework of the debate hour, the key perceptions about the EU in the public opinion will be discussed. | |
| **Course week no. 12** | **Number of course hours: 3** |
| **Study unit:**  **Enlargement Policies of the EU** | **задолжителна литература:**  **1. Академик В.Камбовски, проф. д-р Т.Каракамишева-Јовановска и д-р В. Ефремова, учебник, „Право на ЕУ-од Париз до Лисабон“, *(*стр.657-679)** |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** The last class hours are dedicated to the enlargement policies of the EU, especially analyzed through its previous rounds/waves of enlargement with new member states. Special attention is paid to the membership negotiations (models and processes). The debate hour is focused on the discussion of the public opinion ( in the EU) towards the future enlargement and the future EU policies towards the enlargement with new member states. | |

**VIII. Activities involving other institutions**

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| **Study visits to outside institutions** |
| - Study visits to the EU Delegation in the RM, embassies of EU Member States (presiding with the EU), etc. |

**IX. Course materials and literature**

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| **Obligatory course materials:** |
| 1. **The Political System of the European Union, Palgrave, 1999,** (селектирани страници **Учебник -Академик Владо Камбовски, проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска и д-р Вероника Ефремова, „Право на ЕУ-од Париз до Лисабон“, Винсент Графика, Скопје, 2012 година (селектирани страници);** 2. **Учебник, проф. д-р Саво Климовски, проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „Политички партии и интересовни групи“, Скопје, 2004 година, (селектирани страници),** 3. **Проф. д-р Т. Каракамишева, „Извршните политики во политичкиот систем на Европската унија“, Годишник на ПФ „Јустинијан Први“ , Скопје, 2006, (стр. 779-792);** 4. **Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска,„Политичките партии во институционалната арена на Европската унија", Стручно списание Правник, Скопје, март, 2008 година** 5. **Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, “Paying for the European Parliament Votes: European Political Parties and the New EU Campaign Funding for the June 2009 Electons”, Зборник на трудови во чест на проф. д-р Тодор Рушков, Правен факултет „Јустинијан Први“, Универзитет „Св. Кирил и Методиј“, Скопје, 2009 година** 6. **Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „Каква демократија и е потребна на ЕУ?“, Стручно списание „Правник“, февруари, 2008** 7. **Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „За неколку политички аспекти на Европската унија - кој, колку, како и што добива?”, Зборник на трудови за проф. д-р Томислав Чокревски, Правен факултет „Јустинијан Први", 2008** 8. **Проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска, „Европскиот парламент и изборите-униформна европска изборна постапка-за или против“** 9. **Авторизирани предавања од проф. д-р Тања Каракамишева-Јовановска** 10. **Каролина Ристова-Астеруд, Националните парламенти и прашањата на суверенитетот и демократијата во полисот на Европската унија (докторска дисертација), Архива на Правен факултет „Јустинијан Први“, Скопје 2010 (селектирани страници);** 11. **Каролина Ристова-Астеруд, Дебатата за европски demos или европски demoi и концептуализирањето на полисот на ЕУ, Зборник на Правен факултет „ Јустинијан Први“ во Скопје,2011, стр. 729-746;**   **Simon Hix,**) |
| **Further study material:** |
| Upon request of students:  1. John Peterson and Elizabeth Bomberg, Decision-making in the European Union, Palgrave, 1999,  2. Kristen Lampe, Human Rights in the Context of EU Foreign Policy and Enlargement, Nomos, 2005,  3. J. Greenwood, Representing Interest in the European Union, Macmillan, London, 1997,  4. Hix, S, and Lord, C., Political Parties in the European Union, Macmillan, London, 1997,  5. S. Mazey and J. Richardson, Lobbying in the European Community, Oxford, University Press, 1993,  6. Јоргос Василиу, Приказна за проширувањето, ЕУ од петнаесет до дваесет и пет земји, Графостил, Скопје, 2009 година  7. Каролина Ристова-Астеруд, *Положба и функции на националните парламенти во Европската унија – препораки за евроинтеграција на Собранието на РМ,* Прогрес Институт, Скопје, 2011;  8. Васко Наумовски, *Европски интеграции (теории и институционализација)* (Скопје: Пакунг, 2009). |