***Introduction to Political Science***

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

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| **Name and surname:**Karolina Ristova – AasterudIrena Rajcinovska Pandeva | **Teaching and Academic Designations and Titles:**Associate Professor, Master in International and Comparative Law, Master in Political Science, Doctorate in Law;Docent/ Assistant Professor,Master in Political Science (International Politics), Doctorate in Political Science |

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

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

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

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| **Course title:** Introduction to Political Science |
| **Course Code:**  | **Number of credits earned:** 7 |
| **Number of course classes/hours:** 48 | **Number of pages of obligatory course materials:** 390 |
| **Year of Study**:first | **Semester of Study:** first |

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

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| **Course description:** |
| The course in the Introduction to Political Science gives basic knowledge on the terms, categories, institutes and concepts of the political sciences and studies in politics. The thematic issues are dealt with primarily in the context of the contemporary politics (national, comparative and international). |
| **Course materials key words and terms:** |
|  Politics, Subjects and Objects of Politics, Power, Political Power, Political Elites, Political Leadership, Political Culture, Political Parties, Political Ideology, Interest Groups, Mass Media, Public Relations.  |

**V. Course goals and results:**

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| **Course goals and results:** |
| * **Course goals: Introduction to Political Science as a course gives the students in journalism (political journalism) and in public relations (in politics) basic and introductory knowledge about the key definitions, categories, concepts and institutions of politics, especially about those that would be of most interest and applicability in their future profession as well which are part of the general political culture. In addition, the thematic units that are studied during the course represent solid preparation and introduction in the other courses in their studies which are of political science nature or have interdisciplinary connection to it.**
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**VI. Teaching methodology:**

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| Introduction to Politics is taught in 48 course hours in 12 weeks. On a weekly basis, it consists of 2 course hours of lectures and 2 course hour of debate in which students develop an interactive debate and should demonstrate their critical abilities and observations on the thematic units of study, as well as the ability to connect the theoretical categories and concepts with the reality of the contemporary national, comparative and international politics. During the course of the lectures, audio-visual materials may be used, as well as expert guest be invited. Special attention will be given on the media coverage of politics and the issues of public relations in connection to politics, especially in the context of the political life in RM.  |

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

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| **Course week no. 1** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit**: Introductory lecture about Politics as an object of study, introduction to the methodology of study and the thematic issues that will be covered in the lectures. | **Obligatory course materials:** - Andrew Heywood, Politics, Palgrave, 2nd Edition, 2002, pp. 3-23. |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** In the framework of the first week of lectures, the students are introduced to the main topics and issues of the course in Politics. The debate is focused on the relevance of the basic knowledge of the definitions, concepts, institutes and phenomenon of politics for their future academic education, as well as their future profession.  |
| **Course week no. 2** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit:** Overview of Politics and the Ideas about Politics | **Obliga*tory course materials:****-* George H. Sabine, Thomas L. Thorson, A History of Political theory, 4th edition, Harcort Brace College Publishers, 1973, pp. 35-38, 45-46, 49-54, 57-59, 76-77, 84-87, 95-96, 110-117, 183-187, 236-239, 311-313, 315-318, 320-330, 422-427, 484-487, 529-530, 539-544. |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** In the framework ofthis thematic unit the development of the ideas of politics is covered, as well understanding of the historical contexts in which these ideas had occurred. The focus is mostly on Europe (Ancient Greece and Rome, Middle Ages and thebeginnings of Modernity). Most attention is paid to the political thought of Plato, Aristotle, Saint Augustus, T. Aquinas, T. Hobbes, J. Locke, Bodin, Montesquieu, and Rousseau. The political thought of N. Machiavelli as the founder of the modern political thought and political sciences is debated, with special attention of its relevance in modern politics, as well the proper understanding of machiavelism in modern political context.  |
| **Course week no. 3** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit:**  **Governments, Systems and Regimes** | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 25-41.
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| **Detail description of the study unit:** The focus of this unit is based on the traditional classification of political systems including classical typologies and the three world typology as well as the regimes of the modern world (western polyarchies, new democracies, east-Asian regimes, Islamic regimes and military regimes). |
| **Course week no. 4** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit:** The State. | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 85-102.
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| **Detail Description of the study unit:** This thematic unit deals with the definition, concepts and features of the state. It includes a debate on the role of the state, rival theories of the state and a “hollow” state. |
| **Course week no. 5** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit:** Democracy (Definition and Contemporary Models) | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 67-77.
 |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** The lecture aims to give knowledge about the wide spread system of governance in contemporary politics– democracy (definitions, the central issue what consists the demos, political majority, political minority, different forms of democracy, such as liberal democracy, totalitarian democracy, radical democracy, plebiscitary democracy, etc.). Special attention is given on the issue of direct and indirect democracy. In the framework of the debate class hours, the debate from week 4 continues.  |
| **Course week no. 6** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit: Study unit:** Political Elites, Political Leadership and Political Executives | **Obligatory course materials:** * A. Heywood, id. pp. 77-85, 333-357.
 |
| **Detail description of the study unit:** The thematic unit covers the concept and the phenomenology of the political elites and the political leadership, the different theoretical approaches towards the elites and the leadership in politics, especially in the context of the contemporary politics. In addition, an overview is made on the issue of political executives, which is a closely related topic to the one of political leadership. The debate class hours are dedicated to the issue of governance of the state and policy creation-comparative European view.  |
| **Course week no. 7** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit:** Political Parties, Interest Groups and Political Movements | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 247-290.
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| **Detailed description of the study unit**In this thematic unit the focus is placed on defining the political parties, their main types, the main types of party systems, as well as interest groups and political movements. The debate class hours are dedicated on illustrative examples and relevant issues in contemporary party life in Europe, especially on the EU level.  |
| **Course week no. 8** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| Political Ideologies | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 41-67.
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| **Detailed description of the study unit:** In the framework of this lecture, political ideologies are defined, as well their main features, functions and current issues (end of ideology?). Special overview is made on the main and most influential ideological directions, historically and contemporarily (liberalism, conservativism, Marxism, social democracy, socialism, fascism, anarchism, feminism, environmentalism, religious fundamentalism, etc.). The debate class hours are focused on the ideological debate in the context of the European politics, especially on the line European left- European right.  |
| **Course week no. 9** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit:** Political Culture, Communication and Legitimacy | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 199-221.
 |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** . The lecture defines political culture, political socialization, political participation and political process, and explains their main features. In covering the political culture, special attention is given to the types of political culture, and their influence in shaping the political socialization, the forms of political (non) participation and on the political processes. The political processes are also analyzed in the context of political representation, elections and voting. The latter is also the focus of the debate class hour in the contemporary European context.  |
| **Course week no. 10** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit: Nations and nationalism** | **Obligatory course materials:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 105-124.
 |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** This thematic unit covers the definition, the phenomenology, understanding and varieties of views on nations and nationalisms. In studying the varieties of nationalisms a special emphasis will be put on liberal nationalism, conservative nationalism, expansionist nationalism and anticolonial nationalism. It deals with the phenomenon of nationalism especially concerning with its emergence and growth as well as with its political forms that can be assumed and the articulation of causes. The unit is also concerned with multiculturalism and the nation state.  |
| **Course week no. 11** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit: Global and sub-national politics**  | **задолжителна литература:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 125-175.
 |
| **Detailed description of the study unit:** This unit offers an introductory overview is given to the concepts of global, national and sub-national politics (what is global politics, what are the main approaches to global politics, the process of globalization and its influences on global politics, the process of regionalization – EU, the concept of “world government”). In addition, the level of politics on national level are presented, with overview of the features of unitarism and federalism, centralization and de-centralization. The debate hours are dedicated on the EU as a factor and player in global politics and on the main issues of European foreign policy.  |
| **Course week no. 12** | **Number of course hours: 4** |
| **Study unit: Policy-making process** | **задолжителна литература:*** A. Heywood, id. pp. 399-418.
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| **Detailed description of the study unit:** The last week of class hours is dedicated on the policy-making process, the main theories for decision-making in politics, as well as the phases of the process of decision-making and decision-implementation.  |

**VIII. Activities involving other institutions**

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| **Study visits to outside institutions** |
| N/A |

**IX. Course materials and literature**

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| **Obligatory course materials:**  |
| 1. Andrew Heywood, Politics, second edition, Palgrave, New York, 2002 (selected pages). 2. George H. Sabine and Thomas L. Thorson, A History of Political theory, 4th edition, Harcort Brace College Publishers, 1973 (selected pages). |
| **Further study material:** |
| Only upon request for further study interest, including:1. Plato, Republic
2. Aristotle, Politics
3. N. Machiavelli, The Prince
4. John Galbraith, Anatomy of Power
5. Gustav Le Bonne, Psychology of the Crowd
6. Rousseau, Social Contract
7. Hobbes, Leviathan
8. Locke, Two Treaties of Government
9. E. Gellner, Nations and nationalism
10. E. Hobsbawm, Nations and nationalism
11. F. Zakaria, The Future of freedom
12. S. Huntington, Clash of Civilisations and other.
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