

## COURSE OUTLINE

### (1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES		
ACADEMIC UNIT	DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	KOMK-245	SEMESTER	SUMMER
COURSE TITLE	Introduction to the Sociology of Political Parties		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Lectures and video presentations		3	5
Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	Specialised knowledge		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	NONE		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	Greek		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES (independent study of the English literature and relevant essay)		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	<a href="https://elearn.uoc.gr/course/view.php?id=1371">https://elearn.uoc.gr/course/view.php?id=1371</a>		

### (2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### Learning outcomes

*The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.*

*Consult Appendix A*

- *Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area*
- *Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B*
- *Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes*

During the 13 lectures of the term, we focus our interest on the definition of the “political party” concept, the origins, organization and administration of political parties, ideology and propaganda, age and the extent of party institutionalization, functions and party dimensions, but also the reasons why political parties are in a state of crisis during the last 20 or so years. An analytical timetable concerning the lectures with their respective topics can be found in the course's website.

When students will have completed their study, they should have reached a position whereby:

1. They will be able to give the exact definition of the concept “political party” and differentiate between this and other related organizations.
2. They will have acquired a good knowledge of the most salient characteristics of political parties and also their development during earlier but also recent years.
3. Most important, they will be in a position to correlate concrete, socio-economic development stages to the emergence and domination of respective party political organization forms.

4. Last, they will be able to deepen, analyze and present the current debate concerning today's crisis of the political parties, both in Greece and internationally, and also to formulate hypotheses with respect to their future course.

#### **General Competences**

*Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?*

<i>Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology</i>	<i>Project planning and management</i>
<i>Adapting to new situations</i>	<i>Respect for difference and multiculturalism</i>
<i>Decision-making</i>	<i>Respect for the natural environment</i>
<i>Working independently</i>	<i>Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues</i>
<i>Team work</i>	<i>Criticism and self-criticism</i>
<i>Working in an international environment</i>	<i>Production of free, creative and inductive thinking</i>
<i>Working in an interdisciplinary environment</i>	<i>.....</i>
<i>Production of new research ideas</i>	<i>Others...</i>
	<i>.....</i>

1. Successful completion of the subject entails that students will be in a position to find, analyze and reconstruct data and information, being able to distinguish the important from the unimportant and go to the heart of the arguments.
2. Respect for difference and multiculturalism, as political parties support and propagate different ideologies, methods and "weltanschauung".
3. Enhancement of critical ability and self-criticism.

### **(3) SYLLABUS**

1. General introduction, course and examination organization.
2. Political Party: concepts and definition.
3. The origins of political parties: parliamentary, non-parliamentary, parties originating from the "center"/"periphery".
4. Organization and social appeal: personalistic parties, mass parties and catch-all parties (I).
5. Organization and social appeal: personalistic parties, mass parties and catch-all parties (II).
6. Management: centralized/decentralized, parties with factions.
7. Joining a party: parties of direct/indirect accession, identification parties and parties of (rational) choice.
8. The party ideology and the right-left axis.
9. The degree and factors of party institutionalization.
10. Party strategy and propaganda.
11. Functional approach: political identification, setting and balancing of interests, protest accommodation.
12. Determinant social confrontation: a) cultural cleavage (state-church), b) economic cleavage (property-poverty), c) "particularities" (center-periphery), and d) the countryside world.
13. Review of the main issues, preparation for the exams.

**(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION**

<b>DELIVERY</b> <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i>	Face-to-face in class	
<b>USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY</b> <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i>	Use of ICT in teaching  Slides and video demonstrations, course notes and other educational material relevant to the course can be accessed through the E-learn online platform	
<b>TEACHING METHODS</b> <i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i> <i>Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i>  <i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Semester workload</b>
	Lectures aiming at activating students for course participation	70
	Independent study of relevant literature	40
	Project essay writing	15
<b>STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION</b> <i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i>  <i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i>  <i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i>	Course total <b>125</b>	
	Students who do not follow the lectures consistently will rely (for their grade) exclusively on their performance in the final written examination. Those who follow the lectures at a more regular basis may opt for an additional written essay (of approx. 2,500 words $\pm$ 10%). Their final grade will be 70% their grade in the final written examination and 30% their performance in the written essay.	

**(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<p><b>- Suggested bibliography:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. von Beyme, K. (1985), <i>Political Parties in Western Democracies</i>, Gower, England.</li> <li>2. Michels, R. (1915), <i>Political Parties: A Sociological Study of the Oligarchical Tendencies of Modern Democracy</i>, London: Harrold and Sons.</li> <li>3. Featherstone, K. and Katsoudas, D. (1987) (eds), <i>Political Change in Greece: Before and After the Colonels</i>, New York: St. Martin's Press.</li> <li>4. Clogg, R. (1987), <i>Parties and Elections in Greece: The Search for Legitimacy</i>, London: C. Hurst &amp; Company.</li> <li>5. Mouzelis, N. P. (1978), <i>Modern Greece: Facets of Underdevelopment</i>, London: Macmillan.</li> <li>6. Sartori, G. (1976), <i>Parties and Party Systems</i>, New York: Harper and Row.</li> </ol> <p><b>- Related academic journals:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Party Politics</i>.</li> <li>2. <i>South European Society and Politics</i>.</li> <li>3. <i>Politics and Society</i>.</li> </ol>
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