

**FACULTY OF SOCIETY AND SCIENCE
STUDY COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Course Title:	Political economy				
Course code (LAIS):	PolZ3001				
Study programme:	Communication and Public Relations/Media Studies and Journalism				
Level of Study programme:	<input type="checkbox"/>	1st level professional higher education			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional Bachelor			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	PhD level			
Type of Study programme:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Compulsory course (Part A)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization courses (Part B, compulsory)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization optional courses (Part B, optional)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective courses (Part C)			
Course Workload:	Credits	ECTS	Academic hours	Contact hours	Independent work hours
	4	6	160	64	96
Course Author/ Tutor:	Anna Broka				
	Guest lecturer, Mg. Int. Sc.pol.				
	e-mail: anna.broka@va.lv				
	Consultation: according to the schedule for each semester				
Study Form:	Full time studies				
Study year, semester:	Year 3, Semester 1				
Language:	Latvian				
Prerequisites for the Course:	No				
Course Summary:	<p>The aim of the study course is to get acquainted with the most important terms in political economy, theories and contemporary political and economic development processes in the local, regional and global context. When the word "politics" encounters with the word "economy", both indicate the struggle for freedom (individual vs. public), public order, justice, prosperity and democracy. In the course of political economy, you will learn how the power (state, individual societies) and prosperity are linked with development policies, as well as the ways in which markets and policies address the same problems that have already existed for centuries in the redistribution of resources. During the course you will acquire the knowledge and skills needed in order to analyse the most important political-economical processes on national, European and global level, and will be able to use the knowledge gained during the course in further studies, critically evaluating political and economic theories, processes and trends.</p>				
Assessment:	<p>Lectures, seminars, case studies; Literature studies, research (short essay), presentations, position paper, group discussions, etc.</p>				
Requirements for Credits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in lectures and seminars - Presentation of work - Written exams and passed exam 				
Abiding by the Academic Ethics	<p>Students must abide by the academic and research ethics, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences Ethics Regulations, incl.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - study papers must be independently developed; - the study work should reference all statements, ideas and data used that have been authored by someone else; - appropriate data acquisition methods should be used in the acquisition of data, the research ethics must be respected, empirical data must be collected independently and cannot be distorted or falsified; - the examination must be carried out by the student independently, without the use of supporting materials and/or consultations with other students, unless the lecturer states otherwise. 				

	In the event of non-compliance with the academic and research ethics, punishment is imposed in accordance with the ViA Ethics Regulations and the study course must be re-taken, unless the punishment is extramarital.	
Learning Outcomes; the evaluation methods and criteria	Learning Outcomes	The evaluation methods and criteria
	Knowledge	
	Theoretical and practical knowledge of policy and macroeconomic processes, mutual interaction	Position article, literature review and group discussions, exam
	Practical knowledge of national development processes (economic growth and recession)	Group work, presentations on a defined topic
	Knowledge of the involvement of international actors (countries, regions, multinational corporations, etc. in national development processes)	Case analysis, presentations of selected practical examples
	Research methods	Literature review using comparative policy research methods
	Skills	
	Analytical skills for assessment of economic and political processes in different time periods	Case study
	Critical skills	Discussions, presentations and literature studies
	Argumentation and communication	Diskusijas, prezentācijas un literatūras studijas
	Data analysis	Statistical data analysis, interpretation of important problems identified in macroeconomics (unemployment, ec. Decline, inflation etc.)
	Competency	
	Apply theoretical and analytical knowledge in practice	Case analysis, research
	Analyze identified problems in political economy in accordance with the development of the country	Case analysis, research
	Communicate precisely about existing policies and economic development issues	Case analysis, research
Course Compulsory literature:	<p>A.Smith, The Wealth of Nations, Book I.</p> <p>Friedman, Milton. 2002. The Relation between Economic Freedom and Political Freedom. Ch 1, In <i>Capitalism and Freedom</i>. 40th anniversary ed., Chicago: The University of Chicago press</p> <p>Samuelson, Paul A. and Nordhaus William D. 2010. Macroeconomics. 19th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill/Irwin.</p> <p>James P. Caporaso and David P. Levine. 1992. The Classical Approach. In <i>Theories of Political Economy</i>. New York: Cambridge University Press, Ch 2. 33-54pp.</p> <p>Miller, D. Theoretical Foundations of Market Socialism. In <i>Market, State, and Community</i>. Oxford: Clarendon Press, Ch 12.</p> <p>Lindbeck, A. 1998. New Keynesianism and Aggregate Economic Activity, in: <i>Economic Journal</i>, Vol. 108, Issue 446</p> <p>Hill, M. What is a welfare state? In <i>The Routledge Handbook of the Welfare State</i>, 2012, Ch.2, 11-19</p>	

	<p>Wahl, A. 2011. <i>The rise and fall of the Welfare State</i>. Pluto Press. Ch. 6.</p> <p>Saull, Richard. 2012. <i>Rethinking Hegemony: Uneven Development, Historical Blocs, and the World Economic Crisis</i>. <i>International Studies Quarterly</i>, 56, 323-338</p> <p>Stiglitz, Joseph E. 2007. <i>Making Globalization Work</i>.</p> <p>Centeno Miguel A. and Cohen, Joseph N. 2010. Living with Limits. In <i>Global Capitalism. A Sociological Perspective</i>. UK: Polity Press. Ch 7</p>
Course additional literature:	<p>Cockshott, P., Cottrell A., Michaelson, G. 1993. Testing Marx: Some new results from UK data. <i>Capital & Class Spring 1995 vol. 19 no. 1, pp. 103-130</i>.</p> <p>Thomas William Heyck, <i>Welfare, Affluence, and Consensus 1945-1970. Ch.11., in The Peoples of the British Isles. A New History</i>, Lyceum books inc.</p> <p>Panagiotopoulos, P. Towards Unions 2.0: rethinking the audience of social media engagement in New Technology, work and employment 27 (3), 2012</p> <p>Krugman, Paul. 2009. <i>The road to global economic recovery</i>, EconPapers</p> <p>Stiglitz, Joseph E. and Charlton, Andrew. 2005. <i>Fair trade for all. How trade can promote development</i>. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press</p> <p>Additional literature is available in moodle.va.lv or in academic databases.</p>
Course confirmation date:	December 11, 2019.
Date of course description update:	

Study Course Plan:

Date	Theme	Academic hours		Study Form/ Organization of independent work of students and task description
		Contact hours	Independent work hours	
<i>The date is specified before the implementation of the course</i>	Introduction to Political Economy and Macroeconomics: conceptual and analytical issues	5	8	<p>Key questions: Why is the economy political? How is individual freedom manifested?</p> <p>Working in groups: market, planned and mixed economy (What? How? And Who?); Society's Technological Opportunities - PES.</p>
	The most important macroeconomic indicators: national economic systems, their functioning, monetary and fiscal policy	5	8	<p>Group work - country by country): Country's 'visible' hand, market, money, capital (resources), including labor</p>



				Prepare a position article about a specific problem until 26.02. (submit in electronic format moodle.va.lv)
	The most important macroeconomic indicators: demand, supply, price, consumption and savings	6	8	Individual presentations: (a) Prepare a supply-demand presentation for a particular product / service determining the value of the product and analyzing the offer on the relevant market. (b) Role Play: Budgeting - Consumer Basket Analysis (how much is spent, accrued in a specific household form)
	The most important macroeconomic indicators: monetary and fiscal policy, inflation, debt, open economy	5	8	Quiz game Group Presentation: Present a case where state action is demonstrated using fiscal and / or monetary policy instruments
	Intermediate exam	6	8	Written exams on key macroeconomic issues
	Theories of classical political economy	5	8	Discussion in groups. Essay Presentation (s): Are we "mad" with economic growth? Consumer Society Challenges in X Country Towards Prosperity: X State Challenges Today and in the Near Future (2020-)
	Theories: Marxism, Socialism, Social Democracy	5	8	Discussion in groups. Group presentations: (a) Unemployment problems in country X during the period in question, what



				<p>were the tools / solutions chosen by the state to reduce unemployment. Did they succeed?</p> <p>(b) Tax policy in country X - what tax reforms / policies have affected the labor market, how exactly?</p>
	Theories: economic liberalism, social democracy and the Third Way	6	8	<p>Discussion in groups. Essay Presentation (s):</p> <p>The Role of Information, Technology and Innovative Resources in Economic Development in X Country</p>
	Theories: economic liberalism, social democracy and the Third Way	6	8	<p>Public-private partnership in a circular economy, shared economy, etc. alternative forms of economic development</p>
	The welfare state and its challenges in the EU	5	8	<p>Discussion in groups. Essay Presentations (s): BREXIT ... what's next?</p> <p>Labour Unions</p>
	Globalization and Regionalization: Developed and Developing Countries	5	8	<p>Essay Presentation (s):</p> <p>Elasticity and European Union (EU) trade unions - their role in EU countries</p> <p>Delayed presentations Essay Presentation (s):</p> <p>Towards Globalization Against Economic Nationalization: Examples</p>

				Populism in the post-crisis (2007-2008) period: socio-economic consequences or Domino effect?
	Final Exam	5	8	Written exam
	Hours total:	64	96	