Department of Political Science
Module 114: Term 1: Introduction to Political Science
Module Guide
2018

Part 1: Introduction to Political Science
Lecturer: Dr UL Adams-Jack (Room 639 in Arts and Social Sciences Building)
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Consultation hours are on SUNLearn. Please make an appointment via email.

<u>Lecture times:</u>
Group 1 (*Venue: Visual Arts 1024)*
Mondays 14:00; Tuesdays 11:00.

Group 2 (*Venue: RW Wilcocks 1001*)
Tuesday: 10:00; Thursdays: 15:00.

Department of Political Science Code of Conduct
*Please be aware that Stellenbosch University is not a distance-learning institution and class attendance is compulsory. Consult Part One: General of the University's Calendar for the necessary requirements in terms of requesting absence from classes. Besides the module content, important information including assignments, test and exam preparation is covered in the lectures. If you choose to not attend these classes (without requesting permission to do so) you accept the responsibility for and consequences of not knowing these important details. **In addition, please take note of the university rules regarding absence from class and assessments and the instructions regarding medical certificates (General, Calendar part 1: 2018: 125-126)***

MODULE AIMS
This first part of this module is an introduction to the academic discipline, Political Science. The aim of this first part of the module is to develop your understanding of the building blocks of the discipline. The building blocks include concepts, theories and models. Examining the meanings of various concepts is important because concepts are analytical tools that we use examine and interpret political behaviour, to unpack and evaluate the structure and functioning of modern political systems and to make sense of other political phenomena.

MODULE OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this module a student should be able to
- Identify definitions of political concepts
- Identify the central characteristics of, for example, various regimes, ideologies, government systems and democratic government institutions
- Understand South Africa's political history
- Account for South Africa's negotiated transition
- Discuss South African political issues within an informed context
- Evaluate South Africa's democratic institutions
- Critically evaluate South Africa's chances of achieving democratic consolidation
- Conduct research, analyse literature, synthesise literature and develop own arguments

IMPORTANT MODULE INFORMATION

The Introduction to Politics lectures are presented in the first term of the semester and the Introduction to South African Politics lectures are presented in the second term. Please check SUNLearn for a separate module outline for South African politics.

You are expected to attend all the lectures. Information about changes to our programme and more details about the assessments are provided during the lectures. **Please consult the lecture plan for information about what you need to prepare for each lecture**.

Lecture and Tutorial Groups: You have been divided into 2 lecture groups that suit your timetable. Each group will have two lectures per week. You have also been allocated to a tutorial group. It is imperative that you remain in your specific group.

Language: Stellenbosch University has a new language policy. It came into effect in January 2018. Each lecturer will discuss the language arrangements at the first lectures. If you need language related support please send an email to the relevant lecturer. At present we only have capacity to conduct tutorials in English and/or Afrikaans. [1]

SUNLearn is an electronic learning platform. This module has an electronic presence on SUNLearn. Please note that we do not provide all information related to the module on this page. Please consult MyMaties for details about examination times, dates and venues.

NB: Some of the academic terminology has been translated into Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa. The glossary may be accessed via http://www1.sun.ac.za/languagecentre-terminologies/

PRESCRIBED TEXTBOOK for Introduction to Political Science

Heywood, A. (2013) **Politics**. 4th edition. London: Palgrave.

ADVICE ON OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Internet

The Internet can be a useful research tool and a good source for additional information, if used correctly. I would encourage you to use the electronic highway to expand your knowledge of political affairs. However, please note that you may not use random internet sources for academic assignments. (**Do not use Wikipedia or similar sources unless a lecturer has explicitly stated that this will be allowed.**)

Library catalogue and databases

You have access to books and electronic versions of academic articles through the library's electronic databases. These are good sources of information for academic essays as they are based on scholarly research. We have arranged that Mrs Marleen Hendriks, our faculty librarian, presents a session to show you how to find good academic sources for your projects. Please check the lecture schedule for term two for information on when these sessions will take place. Mrs Hendricks has compiled a subject guide which you can access through the library website. The subject guide also provides guidance on finding sources of reliable information.

TUTORIALS

In addition to the lectures, you will need to attend the tutorials. Tutorials are small group classes, which focus on facilitating the development of your academic writing skills. The specific weeks when you will have tutorials are specified in the lecture plan.

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[1] Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences language plan:
http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/arts/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/english/faculty/arts/Documents/FASS%20LANGUAGE%20PLAN%202018%20LSW%20TAALPLAN%202018(finaal-final).pdf&action=default

Please remain in your assigned tutorial group. **Tutorial attendance is monitored. NB: department rule: 5% deduction from your predicate grade per tutorial missed.** If you should choose not to attend the tutorials, you could fail the module even before having an opportunity to write the examination. For example: if you obtain a predicate grade of 40%, but you did not attend one of your tutorials and we deduct 5% then you will have a predicate grade of 35% which means you will automatically fail the module.

Tutors are available to help you. They have their own office (Room 656) and consulting hours (**See 114 SUNLearn**). If you need help, send the tutor a list of specific issues that you are struggling with, by e-mail, at least one day prior to your arranged meeting date. Keep in mind that re-reading the chapter and developing a visual representation of the material (a mind map) can help you to improve your understanding of the material.

ASSESSMENT
Assessment for Part 1 of the module: tutorial assignments, one early assessment test and a semester test.
Assessment for Part 2 of the module: one essay and an examination.

Early Assessment: one online test. You will have a set time period within which to complete the test. **NB**: To obtain the 10% (see predicate grade composition) you need to pass the test with a score of 100%. **If you score less than 100% for the test, you will receive 0%.**

NB: THE EARLY ASSESSMENT TEST IS AN INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE. DO NOT TRY TO PREVIEW A TEST. THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIDER A PREVIEWED TEST AS COMPLETED EVEN IF YOU HAVE NOT ANSWERED ANY QUESTIONS.

NB: ANSWER THE TEST IN EITHER ENGLISH OR IN AFRIKAANS PLEASE.

Essay
Identify which **ideology/ ideologies** serve as the intellectual foundation of (choose **TWO** of the following political parties): the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP), the African National Congress (ANC), the Democratic Alliance (DA) and/ or the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF)? Your essay must identify the ideology/ideologies associated with each political party and provide evidence (use for example party policy papers and/or manifestos) to support your claim.

Essay requirements:
- You must use at least **6 sources** including the two prescribed textbooks. For a discussion on the ideologies see Heywood chapter two and the additional prescribed readings in the module outline. For a discussion on the political parties see De Jager chapter seven. **No Wikipedia sources.**
- Length: +/- 5 typed pages of content (a bibliography must also be included)

Submission requirements for essays:
- Submit your essay **twice on 18 April 2018:**
  - Submit an **electronic copy** through **Turnitin (114 SUNLearn)**.
  - Submit a **paper version** at the **tutors' office** (**Room 656**).
- **Attach a signed plagiarism declaration** to the paper copy of the essay. For a copy of the plagiarism declaration see 114 SUNLearn page.
- **Penalties for plagiarism**: Turnitin %: 24- 29 (-5%); 30-39 (-10%); Above 39% (0 + disciplinary procedures)
- **You must sign the class list at the tutors' office when you submit your essay.**
- **Rules regarding the late submission of assignments:** penalty of 5% per day which includes each day of the weekend. Essays will not be accepted if they are more than 3 days late and no valid excuse is presented to the lecturer.

Semester test: 22/03/2018 (Check SUNLearn closer to the time for information about the venue and time of the semester test and for information about the deferred test)

NB: Please check MyMaties for information on examination venues, times and final grades.

COMPOSITION OF THE GRADES

Predicate grade = Tutorial activities (10%) + Early Assessment Test (10%) + Semester test (40%) + Essay (40%)

NB: You need a minimum predicate grade of 40% to qualify to write the examination.

Final grade = Predicate grade (40%) + Exam grade (60%)

LECTURE PLAN
Week 1: 05/02/2018 - 09/02/2018
Lecture 1: Introduction to the module
Lecture 2: Research training

Week 2: 12/02/2018-16/02/2018
Lecture 1: Chapter 1: The meanings of politics and approaches to studying politics
Lecture 2: Chapters 3 and 12: The difference between state, government and political regimes

Week 3: 19/02/2018-23/02/2018 (Tutorial 1)
Lecture 1: Chapter 2: Ideas that inspire action: Political Ideologies
Lecture 2: Ideas that inspire action: Political Ideologies
Reading: (Search in the Jstor database)
- Opeyemi, OLA (1979) Pan Africanism: an ideology of development. *Présence Africaine*. No. 112 pp.65-95.
- Martin, G. (1982) Africa and the ideology of Eurafrica: Neo Colonialism or Pan Africanism? *The Journal of Modern African Studies.* Vol.20 (2) pp.221-238.

Week 4: 26/02/2018-02/03/2018 (Tutorial 2)
Lecture 1: Chapter 4: The meanings of democracy
Lecture 2: Chapter 9: The different meanings of representation, the functions of elections and some general explanations for voting behaviour

Week 5: 05/03/2018-09/03/2018 (Tutorial 3)
Lecture 1: Chapter 10: The role of political parties in politics
Lecture 2: Chapters 13 and 14: Governing institutions: The composition and functions of the Executive and the Legislature

Week 6: 12/03/2018-16/03/2018 (Tutorial 4)
Lecture 1: Chapter 15: Governing institutions: The composition and functions of a Constitution and a Judiciary
Lecture 2: Chapter 17: Different forms of the organisation of government systems

Week 7: 19/03/20-23/03/2018
Lecture 1: Chapter 16: Examining government decisions and actions: Public Policy and the Bureaucracy
Lecture 2: Review Session

We will announce changes to the module programme during the lectures.