

POLITICS AND SOCIETY

COURSE LEADER
DAVE DUKE

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. On the left side, there are several overlapping circular elements. A prominent one is a large circle with a scale around its perimeter, marked with numbers from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Other circles include solid lines, dashed lines, and arrows, some pointing clockwise and some counter-clockwise, creating a sense of motion and complexity.

POLITICS AND SOCIETY

“ One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors. ” Plato

COURSE CONTENT

KEY AREAS

- the main focus is on current affairs - both political and social
- at the moment these include: conflicts around the world; the upcoming American election; populism and tensions surrounding migration; the cost of living; rise of India and Africa and; whether Harry Kane can finally win something.
- we also look at how societies and communities organize themselves and how that affects individual behaviour
- key concepts such as justice, order, participation and power
- political decision-making processes
- laws, and how and why people obey or disobey

CONTENT

TOPICAL

Current affairs and recent events are used to illustrate the key content. Naturally, these vary from year to year. In the last few years, we have covered these topics:

changing attitudes to identity

personal, social and national security

liberal progressives Vs populism

inequality and its effects

technological developments and

especially their effect on politics

environmental issues

the economy

fake news

the battle to defend democracy

salaries in sport

social values and justice

demographic changes

changing work practices

STUDENT DRIVEN CONTENT

- Naturally , the course content is designed to improve language skills: i.e knowledge of and the ability to use grammatical structures; a wider range of vocabulary and; how to improve confidence and fluency.
- Moreover, the subject matter is driven by the curiosity and input of the students themselves. Since there can be no single “right answer” the subjects in the exams reflect student interest and active participation not what I think you should know. As King Lear once said 'Nothing will come of nothing'

AIMS OF THE MODULE

- to encourage critical thinking
- to develop an ability to describe and explain verbally and in writing political and societal ideas and events
- to enable debate of complex topics
- to help students present their thoughts and ideas clearly in the form of a 15-minute presentation and argumentative texts
- to read and understand topical texts concerning politics and current affairs
- to make accurate notes as a basis for producing written summaries and criticism
- to read news and political output critically

METHODOLOGY

TO ACHIEVE THESE AIMS YOU WILL:

- read and listen to relevant source material, make notes on them and debate their contents
- write an ongoing portfolio with which you will improve your writing
- take part in regular debates and discussions on current affairs
- explain, describe, analyze, summarize, agree, disagree, create logical outlines and conclusions, formulate coherent arguments
- draw on knowledge gained in other faculties

PRACTICAL DETAILS

- Course Leader: Dave Duke
- Room 1122 Tel 3716 e-mail: duke@hsu-hh.de
- Politics and Society is a module aimed at students of all faculties.
- With this course you can attain 4 credit points towards your Bachelor, refresh your SLP or simply improve your English.
- The entry requirement is an SLP (HMLS) of 3332

COURSE LENGTH AND HOURS PER WEEK

- The course runs for 3 terms: autumn, winter and spring
- 90 minutes per week.
- Any materials will be made available on MS Teams
- Maximum number of students per class:16

CREDIT POINTS

HOW DO YOU GET YOUR CREDIT POINTS?

- Successfully complete a 15-minute oral exam consisting of a presentation and discussion
- Successfully complete a continually assessed writing portfolio compiled during the course
- You have 3 attempts in total to successfully complete the oral and writing obligations (M3 and S3).
- Writing 1st attempt is a portfolio, 2nd and 3rd attempts are exams.

REGISTERING FOR CLASS

Register for the module on Campus Management

Questions concerning the deadline or CMS: contact either Dr. Novo in room 1124 or via e.mail at novo@hsu-hh.de or Frau Henning in room 1155 or via e-mail at melanie.henning@hsu-hh.de