

Introduction to Political Science

The introductory course offers students an overview of the subjects, concepts and methods of political science and surveys its status among the social sciences. The aim is to get a basic understanding of how political science may help to understand modern societies.

- 📖 Robert A Dahl (2000) *On Democracy*, Yale University Press
- 📖 Michael G. Roskin, Robert L. Cord, James A. Medeiros and Walter S. Jones (2014) *Political Science: An Introduction*, Global Edition, Pearson
- 📖 Claudia Chwalisz (2015) *The Populist Signal: Why Politics and Democracy Need to Change*, Policy Network
- 📖 Alan Ware (1996) *Political Parties and Party Systems*, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Iain Hampsher-Monk (1993) *A History of Modern Political Thought: Major Political Thinkers from Hobbes to Marx*, Wiley-Blackwell

Introduction to Law

The introductory course offers a comprehensive overview of law and the legal system. It covers topics such as the Constitution, legal personality, the operation of the court system, electoral law or the relationship between rights and duties in modern states. The course is designed to offer students a basic legal knowledge before specialized courses on various fields of legal studies.

- 📖 Jaap Hage and Bram Akkermans eds. (2014) *Introduction to Law*, Springer
- 📖 Tom Bingham (2011) *The Rule of Law*, Penguin
- 📖 Raymond Wacks (2008) *Law: A Very Short Introduction*, OUP Press.

Introduction to Economics I.

The main goal of this course is to introduce students to the general approach and the view of economic analysis. We cover the main microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts and variables and introduce the most simple economic models that are used to explain the relationships of those variables. We emphasize methodological issues, the role and rules of abstractions, simplifications, steps of building models and the significance of logical coherence. The course does not use advanced math, the aim is just to familiarize students with the economic content of the concepts, to prepare them for the higher technical tools they are to use at higher level Economics courses.

Main topics covered are as follows: comparative advantage, market demand, supply and equilibrium, market efficiency, costs and the supply, competition, basic macro indicators, economic growth, money and the banking system, aggregate demand and aggregate supply, basics of macroeconomic policy.

- 📖 Paul Krugman-Maurice Obstfeld: *International Economics, Theory and Policy*, Addison-Wesley-Longman
- 📖 Mankiw, N. Gregory (1997) *Principles of Economics*
- 📖 N. Gregory Mankiw: *Essentials of Economics*, 2009. South-Western

Introduction to Economics II.


The course aims at introducing students to the core concepts of economics and economic modelling. These are essential across the wider spectrum of the social sciences as well as in business and management. The first half of the course will address microeconomics while the second half will shift to macroeconomics.

- 📖 Paul Krugman-Maurice Obstfeld: *International Economics, Theory and Policy*, Addison-Wesley-Longman
- 📖 Mankiw, N. Gregory (1997) *Principles of Economics*
- 📖 N. Gregory Mankiw: *Essentials of Economics*, 2009. South-Western

Introduction to Constitutionalism





The course is an introduction to constitutionalism. It focuses on global constitutionalism and particularly on the Hungarian constitutional structure. The two most important topics of the course are the principles of constitutionalism and the functions of the state, including the institutional systems regarding the protection of fundamental human rights. The main goal is to show the place of the Hungarian constitutional structure in the system of constitutional models.

- 📖 Eric Barendt (1998) *An Introduction to Constitutional Law*, Clarendon
- 📖 Norman Dorsen et al. (2010) *Comparative Constitutionalism: Cases and Materials*, Thomson West
- 📖 Michel Rosenfeld, András Sajó (2012) *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Constitutional Law*, Oxford University Press

 Georg Nolte ed. (2005) European and US Constitutionalism, Cambridge

Comparative Politics

The course gives an introduction into the basic elements of political system (legislative and executive branches, political culture) and into those elementary theories, research trends and disciplines (transitology, theories of democracy, globalization) which provide the basic terminology and literature background for the students' further studies. In the second part of the semester, based on the above-mentioned, the course gives an insight into the basic patterns and elements of some remarkable countries (United Kingdom, Germany, France, United States of America).




-  Almond – Dalton – Powell - Strom: Összehasonlító politológia. Osiris, Budapest, 2006.
-  Enyedi Zsolt - Körösfényi András: Pártok és pártrendszerek. Osiris, Budapest, 2005.
-  Sartori, Giovanni: Összehasonlító alkotmánymérnökség. A kormányzati rendszerek struktúrái, ösztönzői, teljesítményei. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2003.
-  Szűcs Jenő: Vázlat Európa három történelmi régiójáról. in: Történelmi Szemle, 1981/3. pp.313-359.

Awareness Training

The course is based on activities that raise students' awareness of social problems, from discrimination, to racism or sexual violence. The course has no specific reading list/literature assigned as it is organized in a training for-mat. Students' full participation is required.




Reading Academic Texts

The aim of the course is the familiarize students with academic texts and academic discussions. During the course increasingly difficult readings are handed out to students. Students have to read these and reflect on their content both orally and in writing. In addition to this students have to perform various tasks, from mini researches to presentations in order to get a grasp of academic life.

-  Anthony Weston (2000) A Rulebook for Arguments, Hackett
-  Martin Hollis (1994) The Philosophy of Social Science: An Introduction, Cambridge
-  specific texts for the particular classes are constantly updated

Academic Writing

The aim of this course is to sharpen students' academic writing skills and improve their capacities for critical thinking, formulating and developing arguments, making their case in a clear comprehensible manner. During the course students are taught how to write a focused paper, identify a central question and hypothesis, define their methodology and structure. Special attention is paid to best practices in observing rules of academic honesty.

-  Stephen Bailey (2014) Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students, Routledge
-  Trevor Day (2013) Success in Academic Writing, Palgrave
-  Umberto Eco (1977) How to Write a Thesis, MIT Press

Social Statistics

The aim of the course is to provide students with an introduction to the basics of empirical social research, the logic of quantitative research and statistical analysis, the system of the social indicators used in international research and main international data resources.

The main topics of the course are the following: creating hypothesis, problem of measuring causality, sampling, descriptive statistics, statistical estimations, social and economic indicators, international data resources, problem of international comparative data analysis, data validity and comparability. Students of the course will also practice simple data analysis on data connected to international studies.

Foreign language courses – Introduction to the vocabulary and concepts of the discipline

These courses introduce students to main problems of international relations by focusing on a particular region or problems of international relations. The objective of these courses is to offer students in depth knowledge in these topics and thereby highlight contradictions, trade-offs, dilemmas related to the topic, while also familiarize students to relevant theories and methods of the subject matter.

Readings for these classes change by semester. For a general background for making translations between languages they may rely on the portal: <https://www.ireon-portal.eu/>

History and Theory of International Society

The course focuses on the concept of international society, based on the theory of the English School of international relations. In the center of the English School's thinking is the assertion that through interactions between states shared norms and institutions evolve. The English school argues that in case states recognize that upholding these is their common interest we may talk not merely about a system, but a society between states. During the course students are introduced to the main concepts of the theory and the workings of various international societies starting from the Greek poleis, the Westphalia order or the China centered international society.

Globalisation – Information Society

The course represents a survey of phenomena and processes associated with the polyvalent term of globalization. Students are expected to thoroughly familiarize themselves with the contestations and dilemmas surrounding global trends. Furthermore the course looks into the (political, economic, cultural and social) dimensions of globalization. The course aims at the globalization debates and the way these try to interpret the link between information society, interconnectedness and globalization.

- 📖 Manfred B. Steger: Globalization: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford University Press, 2003.
- 📖 David Held and Anthony McGrew: Globalization / Anti-Globalization: Beyond the Great Divide. Polity press, 2007.
- 📖 Frank Webster (2014) Theories of the Information Society (International Library of Sociology), Routledge
- 📖 Manuel Castells (2009) The Rise of the Network Society: Information Age: Economy, Society, and Culture v. 1, Wiley-Blackwell

Theories of International Relations

The course is intended to provide an overview of the most important contemporary strands in international relations theory, ensuring that the diverse answers and reflections of the different schools of thought in international relations on the same problems are in a dialogue with each other. The structure of the course follows the conventions of international relations. It introduces the four "main debates?", as well as mainstream and critical IR theories. The course also aims at introducing the tools and technical vocabulary of modern social sciences and international relations for the critical examination of core definitions and processes.

- 📖 Chris Brown: Understanding International Relations, Palgrave, 2001.
- 📖 Scott Burchill et al. (2005) Theories of International Relations, Palgrave
- 📖 Cynthia Weber (2004) International Relations Theory: A Critical Introduction, Taylor & Francis

Security Studies

This is an introductory course to security studies. It aims at familiarizing students with the basics of security problems that are at the core of the international conflict. The course reflects on problems how threats are constructed and perceived and in what ways actors can resolve or mitigate security problems. Along classical problems and approaches to security students will also learn about critical theories and concepts of security studies.

- 📖 Alan Collins ed. (2007) Contemporary Security Studies, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Paul Williams ed.(2008) Security Studies: An Introduction, Routledge
- 📖 Columba Peoples and Nick Vaughan- Williams (2014) Critical Security Studies: An Introduction, Routledge

Foreign Policy Analysis

The aim of this introductory course is to familiarize students with the essential practical characteristics of international relations, both in historical perspective and in connection with contemporary events. The course is centered around four issue areas. First, it deals with the introduction of the main theoretical approaches and concepts of foreign policy, including FPA. The second part aims for the understanding of the historical perspectives provided by the analysis of the Cold War and the post-Cold War periods. The third part focuses on certain contemporary events, highlighting the role of the main actors, including great and emerging powers. The fourth part deals with the main directions of Hungarian foreign policy.

- 📖 Horváth Jenő – Paragi Beáta – Csicsmann László (2014): Nemzetközi kapcsolatok története (1941-1991). Antall József Tudásközpont, Budapest.

Introduction to International Law

The course introduces students to the basic principles and institutions that govern public international law, including the subjects, the sources and the functioning of international law, international human rights protection, the universalism – cultural relativism debate, the functioning of the international institutions and the monitoring mechanisms of the United Nations. The course includes lectures on specific and important topics, such as the universal and European framework for the protection of human rights (except the European Convention on Human Rights, which is covered by another course), lectures on humanitarian intervention, international protection of minorities, international humanitarian, refugee and environmental legislation.

- 📖 Ian Brownlie (1998) *Principles of Public International Law*, Oxford UP
- 📖 Malcolm N. Shaw (2003) *International Law*, Cambridge
- 📖 Henry J. Steiner and Philip Alston (1996) *International Human Rights in Context*, Clarendon, Oxford

European Law and Law Harmonisation

The course offers students extensive knowledge in the divergent fields of European law by showing how harmonisation works within the European Union. It examines the difference between harmonisation and standardisation, and explains the methods of positive and negative harmonisation.

- 📖 Paul Craig and Gráinne de Búrca (2015) *EU Law: Text, Cases, and Materials*, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Catherine Barnard and Steve Peers (2014) *European Union Law*, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Simon Hix and Bjørn Høyland (2011) *The political system of the European Union*, Palgrave

International Economy

The aim of the course is to provide an introduction into the theory of international trade and trade policy using examples and event studies. During the course the main theoretical models of international trade are studied to understand why is it beneficial to trade and what patterns can we expect. The emphasis lies is on getting the intuitions, understand the examples and graphs. We restrict the use of the mathematical tools.

- 📖 Paul Krugman-Maurice Obstfeld: *International Economics, Theory and Policy*, Addison-Wesley-Longman
- 📖 Mankiw, N. Gregory (1997) *Principles of Economics*
- 📖 N. Gregory Mankiw: *Essentials of Economics*, 2009. South-Western

Theories of Money and Monetary Policy

The course aims at the macroeconomic modelling of open economies. After discussing some core concepts (balance of payments, exchange rates, parity) it reviews the basic models of different exchange rate schemes. Monetary theory and policy 2 in the second semester then proceeds to some specific questions in international macroeconomic coordination, such as the problem of monetary unions. The emphasis will be put on examples, intuition and graphic analysis with the use of mathematics being kept low.

- 📖 Paul Krugman-Maurice Obstfeld: *International Economics*
- 📖 Major – Szabó-Bakos – Szilágyi: *International Economics*, Panem kiadó, 2004, 6-7.
- 📖 Mankiw, N. Gregory (1997) *Principles of Economics*

Human Rights seminar

The course will discuss the foundational theories of human rights and their main criticisms, and the justifications for limitations by analysing academic essays and actual judicial cases. It will pay particular attention to so-called classical "hard cases", but also to actual human rights issues like e.g. the possibilities and human rights limits of counterterrorism, or to what extent harm caused by private persons, including firms can be meaningfully discussed within the human rights framework, and the wider context of human rights and globalization.

- 📖 Ian Loveland (2015) *Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, and Human Rights: A Critical Introduction*, OUP

Citizenship, Nationalism

The course introduces students to problems and various theories of citizenship, nationalism and ethnic conflict. It pays due attention to political representation, questions of accommodation, state neutrality, critical theories, types of minorities and their protection under international and national laws.

- 📖 Rogers Brubaker (2004) *Ethnicity without Groups*, Harvard UP, Cambridge
- 📖 Kis János (1995) *Beyond the Nation State*, in: *Social Research* 63, 1 (1995): 224–237.

- 📖 Will Kymlicka (2001) *Politics in the Vernacular: Nationalism, Multiculturalism and Citizenship*, Oxford UP, New York
- 📖 Charles Taylor (1994) *The Politics of Recognition*, in *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*, Princeton UP, Princeton
- 📖 Will Kymlicka (2007) *Multicultural Odysseys*, Oxford UP, New York

Migration

The aim of the course is to give students an introduction into the background of international migration. The course tries to highlight the most important theories of migration as well as the theories on integration and it also explains the legal aspects and main institutions of migration. Moreover, it covers some of the main decisions of the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights. Finally, it explains the background of international and European refugee law.

- 📖 Khalid Koser: *International Migration: A Very Short Introduction*. OUP 2016.
- 📖 *EU Immigration and Asylum Law (Text and Commentary): Second Revised Edition* (Eds. Steve Peers, Elspeth Guild, Diego Acosta Arcaza, Kees Groenendijk and Violeta Moreno-Lax). Brill, 2012.

The History of European Integration

The aim of the course is to deepen students' knowledge about the European project and to help them grasp European integration as a political problem. The course introduces students to main theories of integration, alternative explanations for the underlying causes of integration and also the main challenges the EU had to face throughout the decades from enlargements through the economic crisis or the democratic deficit of its decision making.

- 📖 Antje Wiener and Thomas Diez (2009) *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Chris J. Bickerton (2012) *European Integration: From Nation-States to Member States*, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Mark Gilbert (2011) *European Integration: A Concise History*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers
- 📖 Andrew Glencross (2014) *Politics of European Integration: Political Union or a House Divided?*, Wiley-Blackwell

Decision-Making in the European Union

The course delivers an overview of the main institutions, actors, and formal and informal procedures of the European Union's decision-making and legislative system, and of related interest representation mechanisms and practices. Beyond theory, it gives an insight into the daily practice of EU policy-making.

- 📖 Hix, Simon - Høyland, Bjørn: *The Political System of the European Union*. 3rd ed. Basingstoke, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011
- 📖 Lelieveldt, Herman - Princen, Sebastiaan: *The Politics of the European Union*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: University Press, 2015
- 📖 Olsen, Jonathan - McCormick, John: *The European Union. Politics and Policies*. 6th ed. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2017

Policies of the European Union

The aim of the course is to look into the various policy areas of the European Union. Beside the legal background, the course tries to introduce students in the sociological and economic background of EU policies as well. In the course, among other fields, we overview the mechanism of the single market, the common commercial policy, justice and home affairs (JHA), competition policy as well as some sectoral policies of the EU. The course examines how modes and mechanisms of European Union policy-making affect member states and how common policies are implemented at the national level.

- 📖 Helen Wallace, Mark A. Pollack, Alasdair R. Young and William Wallace eds. (2014) *Policy-Making in the European Union*, Oxford University Press
- 📖 Laurie Buonanno and Neill Nugent (2013) *Policies and Policy Processes of the European Union*, Palgrave
- 📖 Amy Verdun and Alfred Tóvias (2013) *Mapping European Economic Integration*, Palgrave

Policy Areas of the European Union

The course is aimed at the deepening of the knowledge of students who are already familiar with the big picture about the various policy areas of the European Union. The seminars center around a certain policy area

of the EU, analysing its historical and institutional roots, main documents, present state and future perspectives, with the introduction of the related theoretical background and practical issues.

📖 Kengyel Ákos: Az Európai Unió közös politikái. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2010.

📖 Kende Tamás – Szűcs Tamás: Bevezetés az Európai Unió politikáiba. Complex Kiadó, Budapest, 2015.

International Relations seminar

This seminar is linked to the „Theories of International Relations” lectures. As a reading seminar, it aims to offer students a more in-depth view of the applications of IR theories, and to train them in the critical reading of academic texts. The course is organized around key questions of the field, such as the state, the system, security, change, sovereignty, norms or legality. Similarly to the lectures, the course relies on empirical and theoretical questions for a comparative introduction of IR approaches, shedding light on their key questions, basic assumptions, terminology, and preferred methods. Readings will be selected from key texts of the academic literature, thereby complementing the textbooks used in the lectures.

📖 Romsics Gergely: A lehetetlen művészete: A klasszikus realizmus tragikus politika-felfogása. Budapest, Osiris, megjelenés alatt [2008].

📖 Kiss J László: Változó utak a külpolitika elméletében és elemzésében, Budapest: Osiris Kiadó, 450 p.

📖 Romsics Gergely: „A nemzetközi rendszer Irak után: régi hegemon, új hegemónikus rend” in: Külügyi Szemle, 2007/2-3.

📖 Egedy Gergely: Bevezetés a nemzetközi kapcsolatok elméletébe. Budapest, HVG-Orac, 2007.

📖 Scott Burchill et al.: Theories of International Relations. Palgrave, 2005.3

📖 Cynthia Weber: International Relations Theory. A Critical Introduction. Taylor & Francis, 2004.3

📖 Chris Brown: Understanding International Relations. Palgrave, 2001.2

Foreign Policy and Security Issues seminar

The class is a seminar accompanying the lectures “Security Studies” and “Foreign Policy Analysis”. Complying with the requirements of discussion-oriented seminars, students are expected to prepare for the weekly sessions and do all assignments in order to be able to take part actively in the discussions. The aim is to help students to develop analytical skills in analysing and understanding political problems of the times. The reading list changes every semester in order to provide students the most up-to-date materials to work with.

📖 The basic reading is identical to the reading list of “Security Studies” and “Foreign Policy Analysis”.

📖 Weekly reading assignments and tasks are introduced at the first class of the semester.

Mandatory elective regional and thematic courses

These courses introduce students to main problems of international relations by focusing on a particular region or problems of international relations. The objective of these courses is to offer students in depth knowledge in these topics and thereby highlight contradictions, trade-offs, dilemmas related to the topic, while also familiarize students to relevant theories and methods of the subject matter.