Syllabus

INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECONOMY - 56410

Last update 23-10-2013

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Political Science

Academic year: 2

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Ronen Mandelkern

Coordinator Email: ronen.mandelkern@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, by appointment

Teaching Staff:
Ronen Mandelkern
Course/Module description:
This is a comparative political economy course that focuses on the analytical perspectives offered by political science and political sociology to the study of the interface of the economic and political spheres. Within it we will discuss central concepts in the field (such as: capitalism, welfare state, globalization, macroeconomic policy, unemployment, inequality), and in the historical and contemporary developments that have been occurring in the capitalist industrialized world and in Israel (such as: the origins of capitalism, forms of statist intervention in the economy, the development of the welfare state, transformations in economic inequality patterns).

Course/Module aims:
The course has two interrelated aims:
1. To provide basic knowledge regarding central political-economic concepts and phenomena, with an emphasis on their historical and contemporary articulations.
2. To provide acquaintance and basic usage capabilities with the theoretical tools offered by different approaches in the field for the analysis of these concepts and phenomena.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1. To characterize and define the main concepts and phenomena discussed in the class and in the reading materials, such as: capitalist regime, welfare state, globalization, economic liberalization.
2. To discuss explanations offered by various approaches to the fundamental questions in political economy.

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture and class discussion based on the reading materials.

Course/Module Content:
1st semester:
Introduction to comparative political economy.
Capitalism as a political-economic phenomenon.
The political-economy of state intervention in the economy.
Political economy in the age of globalization.
Israel: a century of political economy.
2nd semester:
The welfare state.
Inequality and class structure.
The political economy of the global economic crisis.

Required Reading:
Additional Reading Material:


Additional Reading Material:


**Course/Module evaluation:**
- End of year written/oral examination 100 %
- Presentation 0 %
- Participation in Tutorials 0 %
- Project work 0 %
- Assignments 0 %
- Reports 0 %
- Research project 0 %
- Quizzes 0 %
- Other 0 %

**Additional information:**
Some of the reading materials in Hebrew are also available in English - please consult the teacher.