



Political Science (MSc)

VU University Amsterdam - Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen - M Political Science - 2015-2016

The international, selective and research-oriented Master's programme in Political Science focuses on how processes of transnationalisation and globalisation affect politics, political institutions and public policy-making within, between, and across national states, as well as within the European Union and the global domain. As a consequence of these processes, the distinctions between the national and the international, the public and the private, and the state and the market become blurred. In the Master, these developments are studied from various theoretical perspectives, and with due attention to methodological training, within the programme's four specialisation tracks: *International relations & transnational governance*, *Comparative European politics*, *Policy & Politics* and *Global environmental governance*.

[Objective and attainment levels](#)

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Master's programme in Political Science, specialization Comparative European Politics

Programme components:

- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Comparative European Politics elective courses](#)
- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Comparative European Politics compulsory courses](#)

Master's in Political Science, specialization Comparative European Politics elective courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIGEG
Selected Issues: International Security	Period 2	6.0	S_SIIS
Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy	Period 2	6.0	S_SITPE

Master's in Political Science, specialization Comparative European Politics compulsory courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Year (September)	18.0	S_MTPs
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Period 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Period 2	6.0	S_SICPIB
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Period 1	6.0	S_TACEP
Theories and Approaches in International Relations	Period 1	6.0	S_TAIR

Workshop in Comparative Policy and Politics	Period 4	12.0	S_WCPP
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Master's programme in Political Science, specialization Global Environmental Governance

Programme components:

- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Global Environmental Governance elective course](#)
- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Global Environmental Governance compulsory courses](#)

Master's in Political Science, specialization Global Environmental Governance elective course

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Period 2	6.0	S_SICPIB
Selected Issues: International Security	Period 2	6.0	S_SIIS
Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy	Period 2	6.0	S_SITPE

Master's in Political Science, specialization Global Environmental Governance compulsory courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Year (September)	18.0	S_MTps
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Period 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIGEG
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Period 1	6.0	S_TACEP

Theories and Approaches in International Relations	Period 1	6.0	S_TAIR
Workshop in Global Environmental Governance	Period 4	12.0	S_WGEG

Master's programme in Political Science, specialization International Relations and Transnational Governance

Programme components:

- [Master's in Political Science, specialization International Relations and Transnational Governance elective courses](#)
- [Master's in Political Science, specialization International Relations and Transnational Governance compulsory courses](#)

Master's in Political Science, specialization International Relations and Transnational Governance elective courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Period 2	6.0	S_SICPIB
Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIGEG
Selected Issues: International Security	Period 2	6.0	S_SIIS

Master's in Political Science, specialization International Relations and Transnational Governance compulsory courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Year (September)	18.0	S_MTPs
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Period 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy	Period 2	6.0	S_SITPE

Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Period 1	6.0	S_TACEP
Theories and Approaches in International Relations	Period 1	6.0	S_TAIR
Workshop in International Relations	Period 4	12.0	S_WIR

Master's programme in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics

Programme components:

- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics elective courses 1](#)
- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics elective courses 2](#)
- [Master's in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics compulsory courses](#)

Master's in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics elective courses 1

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Governance of Security and Policing	Period 2	6.0	S_GSP
International Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_IG

Master's in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics elective courses 2

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Period 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Period 2	6.0	S_SICPIB

Master's in Political Science, specialization Policy and Politics compulsory courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Year (September)	18.0	S_MTPs

Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Period 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Period 1	6.0	S_TACEP
Theories of Governance	Period 1	6.0	S_TG
Workshop in Comparative Policy and Politics	Period 4	12.0	S_WCPP

Governance of Security and Policing

Course code	S_GSP ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. M.G.W. den Boer
Examinator	prof. dr. M.G.W. den Boer
Teaching staff	prof. dr. M.G.W. den Boer
Teaching method(s)	Lecture
Level	500

Course objective

In this course, students learn about the most important aspects of the governance of international security at the beginning of the 21st century. They will acquire knowledge of how security governance functions at the international level nowadays, how various levels interact and complement one another, and how this affects traditional notions of security and its governance. Particular attention will be given to international institutions in various contexts, including military interventions and international police cooperation. At the end of the course, students will have an overview of how international authorities and its agents address security challenges nowadays.

Course content

This course (6 ECTS) tries to grasp the complexities of security governance beyond the nation-state in a world with global, regional, and transnational security challenges. Focusing on security issues in the rather narrow sense of military threats and criminal activities, the course will start with problematizing security and security governance. It will then introduce main concepts and institutions in the organization of security governance, and intensively deal with NATO, the European Union, and the United Nations' engagement in security management. This includes a perspective on international policing and its organizations/ regimes, such as Interpol, Europol, or Frontex, which will be investigated with attention to the different (legal) frameworks they operate in. Along these lines, modes and problems of inter-institutional cooperation will play a role, too, in order to get an idea of the complexity of organizing security between agents of different kind, on different levels, and with regard to a variety of issues. This class is not an International Relations theory class. Some knowledge on IR theories will have to be acquired but also be taught in class. A good introduction is the book by Scott Burchill, Andrew

Linklater et al. (2013). Theories of International Relations. 5th edition. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Form of tuition

Interactive lectures and other forms

Type of assessment

Assessment modalities will be announced in class, and possibly include a short essay.

Course reading

Various articles and/or books, to be announced on Blackboard. Maybe, a textbook will be introduced.

Target group

Master students Bestuurskunde & Politicologie.

Remarks

Please bear in mind that this seminar is in English. This means that passive and active command of the English language in reading, writing and speaking is required, particularly in view of the written exam.

International Governance

Course code	S_IG ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	S. Cankaya
Examinator	S. Cankaya
Teaching staff	H.L. Paanakker MSc, S. Cankaya, prof. dr. H.W. Overbeek
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Study Group

Course objective

This course aims to deepen students' understanding of selected topics within the study of international governance. Additionally, the course aims to enhance students' analytical skills by critically assessing the arguments put forward and/or research methods adopted in the assigned articles and research essays.

Course content

This course offers a broad introduction to the theory and practice of global governance. Many societal problems transcend the borders of the nation-state: economic developments and trade, crime, interstate conflicts, or climate change, to name just a few. To cope with these matters, states have partially delegated competencies upwards to supranational bodies. The number of supranational institutions, laws, rules and norms has, accordingly, tremendously increased over time, leaving us with a diverse and complex institutional landscape of global governance. How does this affect the distribution and harnessing of power and influence; who is pulling which strings? And with what repercussions for essential values of governance such as democratic legitimacy? Is global governance truly and evenly global, or are these

processes increasingly dividing the powerful and rich from the marginalized and poor? These and other questions will be discussed in this seminar. Via weekly discussions and students' own research on selected topics of global governance we take stock with contemporary global governance arrangements and practices and aim to provide a thorough understanding of the main actors and processes in designing and implementing global rules and discourse.

Form of tuition

Individually written essay, group case study report and compulsory attendance.

Type of assessment

individually written essay, group case study report, compulsory attendance

Course reading

Articles on selected topics of international governance (to be announced later through BlackBoard).

Target group

Master students and exchange students in Bestuurskunde (Dygo-track), and RESMA-track.

Master's Thesis in Political Science

Course code	S_MTPs ()
Period	Ac. Year (September)
Credits	18.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Examinator	J. van Nieuwamerongen
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Study Group, Practical
Level	600

Course objective

In the Master's Thesis the student can demonstrate his/her ability to undertake independent academic research.

Course content

The Master Thesis is an original individual piece of political science research with which the student concludes the Master program. The Thesis is to address a political science topic of the student's choice and is developed with supervision on an individual or small group tutorial basis. Normally, the thesis includes (at least) a thorough review of relevant literature, an explicit theoretical framework, a well-justified research design, an analysis of the findings, and a conclusion. Maximum length of the thesis is 15,000 words.

Form of tuition

Tutorial and individual supervision

Type of assessment

Entry requirements

Students must have successfully passed all four courses taught in Periods 1 and 2 (24 EC) before they are eligible for thesis supervision.

Target group

Students in the MSc Political Science

Remarks

- Students who have not passed the courses of period 1 and 2 will be allowed conditionally to receive supervision if they have fully participated in those courses but have not yet received passing grades.
- All theses that are passed will be made publicly available through the VU University Library. In cases where there are grounds to keep the thesis confidential, a request to that effect has to be made procedure to the Examination Board at the start of the thesis (See the relevant provisions in the FSW Master's Thesis Regulations).

Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design

Course code	S_PPRPD ()
Period	Period 3
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Examinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Teaching staff	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Teaching method(s)	Study Group
Level	500

Course objective

After completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Critically reflect upon the methodological choices involved in social science research and to justify their own choices, linking the levels of epistemology, methodology and techniques;
2. Apply suitable research techniques to the analysis of political phenomena and formulate a research design;
3. Justify methodological choices in setting up a research design;
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of various research traditions in the social and political sciences (e.g., positivist and critical approaches) and the ways these conceive of the relation of theory and empirical observations.

Course content

This course aims to provide a common frame of reference for students to develop the design of their thesis. Specifically, it aims to get students thinking about the set-up of their Master thesis in terms of the formulation of its research question, hypotheses, design and the philosophy of political science that is implied in it. Before each class, students are expected to have studied the readings and to submit a small assignment in which they apply the readings to the topic of their Master thesis. These mini-assignments are to constitute the building blocks of the final paper: a research design. Students who fail

to submit their mini-assignments in time will instead have to write a 500 words max. reading reflection of the readings for that class.

Form of tuition

Lectures with group work. Two three-hour sessions for four weeks.

Type of assessment

Class participation and small assignments (together 33%) and final paper (67%).

Course reading

To be announced

Target group

Students in the MSc Political Science

Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance

Course code	S_SIEUMG ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Examinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Teaching staff	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Teaching method(s)	Study Group

Course content

This course reviews recent political science insights in a number of selected issues concerning the governing of the European Union. Besides examining political dynamics at the supranational level, the course gives particular attention to the interplay between supranational and national decision-making. Topics that are addressed include issues like the EU's democratic deficit; European socio-economic governance; and the EU's foreign and security policy in a changing world order.

Type of assessment

Written assignment (70%) + class participation (30%)

Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour

Course code	S_SICPIB ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Examinator	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Teaching staff	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Teaching method(s)	Study Group

Course objective

- To promote knowledge of various key issues and theories in Comparative Politics;
- To master approaches and related methods of Comparative Politics;
- To develop students' academic writing skills.

Course content

Political institutions, such as political parties and welfare states, shape and are shaped by political behavior, like political values and public opinion. This course examines comparatively a number of key political institutions and types of political behavior. The focus lies particularly on (1) seminal and current theories of political institutions, behavior and their interaction and (2) the approaches and methods to research political institutions and behavior comparatively. Note that these methods are not necessarily statistical.

Form of tuition

Seminar

Type of assessment

Written assignment(s) + class participation

Course reading

To be announced

Target group

MSc students Political Science

Remarks

This course is compulsory for students in the track Comparative European Politics and optional for students in the other Master tracks.

Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance

Course code	S_SIGEG ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Examinator	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Teaching staff	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Teaching method(s)	Study Group
Level	500

Course objective

- To increase students' knowledge of major empirical developments in Global Environmental Governance;
- To train students in identifying the policy relevance of the results of political research as well as detecting pitfalls and shortcomings;
- To invite reflection on the policy relevance and strategic consequences of research;
- To develop students' academic writing skills.

Course content

This course introduces students to the current state of research within the field of global environmental governance. Global environmental change is one of the great challenges humankind is facing today. Humans now influence almost all biological and physical systems of the planet. Scientists today see mounting evidence that the entire earth system now operates well outside the normal state exhibited over the past 500,000 years, and that human activity is generating change that extends well beyond natural variability – in some cases, alarmingly so – and at rates that continue to accelerate. The perennial question from a social science perspective is how to organize the co-evolution of societies and their surrounding environment, in other words, how to develop effective and equitable governance solutions for today's global problems.

This course builds on Theories and Approaches: International Relations and Political Concepts and Processes by teaching students how to apply core concepts of political science to substantial issues in international studies. At the same time, students will be made aware of the current state of research within the field of global environmental governance. This knowledge will be useful in the upcoming workshop later in the program.

Governance refers to the phenomenon that many public functions increasingly seem to be assumed and carried out by actors other than the government actors of the nation-state. In particular, the course further investigates three profound transformation in global environmental governance: (1) the increasing diversity of agency (i.e. the observation that authority to govern is vested not only in governments and public actors but in a host of non-state actors as well); (2) the institutionalization of novel governance mechanisms and instruments beyond international agreements (e.g. private certification schemes in global forest politics); and (3), the increased fragmentation of global environmental governance into a number of functionally interlinked but increasingly conflictive policy domains (e.g. the potential overlap between climate change and biodiversity governance). For each type of empirical transformation discussed above, a selection of important examples will be analyzed. Students are encouraged to make their own contributions in the form of one essay that presents original research and one class presentation that critically discusses a concrete empirical example of global environmental governance.

Form of tuition

Seminar

Type of assessment

Written assignment (50%) + class participation (10%) + group presentation (40%)

Course reading

We will use the following text book: Biermann, Frank, and Philipp Pattberg, editors (2012): *Global Environmental Governance Reconsidered*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

A reading list will be made available via Blackboard.

Target group

MSc students Political Science

Remarks

This course is compulsory for students in the track Global Environmental Governance and optional for students in the other Master tracks.

Selected Issues: International Security

Course code	S_SIIS ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Examinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Teaching staff	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Teaching method(s)	Study Group

Course objective

- Familiarise students with topical research in international security and to get a practical sense of the insights and challenges involved;
- Increase students' understanding of the structures, actors and processes regarding contemporary international and global security;
- Enhance students' critical understanding of the potential and limits of competing approaches to international security;
- Stimulate active class participation;
- Enhance students' academic writing skills.

Course content

International Security is a core and still evolving sub-field of International Relations. While traditionally focused on the security of states and on the concern with national security as a source of international conflict, recently, and in the context of globalization, the field has moved beyond this state-centric focus. On the one hand non-state actors and transnational (economic, social and environmental) processes can be seen as affecting national security. On the other hand, it is argued that the concept of security itself must be broadened beyond that of states to include for example human, societal, environmental and energy security. However, also in 'global security' as a more encompassing term, states and their strategies, continue to play a critical role. From this perspective we will critically evaluate both more traditional and newer approaches to international security and examine how they are applied to various contemporary issues. Special attention will be paid to so-called critical approaches, in particular those who seek to relate issues and dynamics of international security to the unequal power structures of the global political economy. From this perspective we may 'deconstruct' national and other actors' strategies for security by analysing the social forces involved in shaping these strategies and hence the social purpose (beyond the official justifications given) that they may serve. From this perspective we will amongst others review the politics of America's national security discourse and related foreign policy; the rise of East Asia and possible security implications; the geopolitics of the growing competition for energy sources and the relationship between security and development.

Form of tuition

Seminar

Type of assessment

Class Participation and written assignment(s). All parts must be passed.

Course reading

To be announced on blackboard.

Target group

Students of Master Political Science

Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy

Course code	S_SITPE ()
Period	Period 2
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	dr. N.A. de Graaff
Examinator	dr. N.A. de Graaff
Teaching staff	dr. N.A. de Graaff
Teaching method(s)	Study Group
Level	500

Course objective

- To increase students' knowledge of major empirical developments in transnational political economy;
- To stimulate critical theoretical and normative reflection on research results;
- To train students in identifying the policy relevance of the results of political research as well as detecting pitfalls and shortcomings;
- To advance students' understanding of the epistemological issues involved in International Relations (pertaining to both theory and method) and thereby rendering them capable of developing sound research designs;
- To enhance students' abilities in academic writing and reporting on research as well as providing structured feedback.
- To enhance students' skills in leading and structuring a discussion, debating, collecting relevant literature, present key findings and set up and conduct group work.

Course content

This course deals with a key field of International Relations (IR). Traditionally, the field of IR was subdivided in the fields of international security and international political economy. As a consequence of major transformations of the international system (end of the Cold War, globalization, the rise of new great powers, climate change), the boundaries between these subfields have blurred. In this course the focus is on transnational political economy. We will deal with the general framework through which transnational affairs are dealt with (e.g. international regimes, global governance), and with a number of specific issues (e.g. rise of China and emerging markets, international finance, energy and environmental security) partly depending on students' inputs. In each case, students are challenged to explore the ways in which the boundaries between economic and politics in a transnational setting are transcended; seemingly "economic" issues are actually highly political in nature and are often the cause of

conflict and struggle (sometimes violent) between and within states.

Form of tuition

Interactive seminars

Type of assessment

Participation (40%), written assignments (60%, of which final paper 40%, which must be graded with at least a 5.5 to pass)

Course reading

State-of-the-art articles and book chapters (via Blackboard).

Target group

Course is open only to students in the MSc Political Science, MSR students and the LL.M Law and Politics of International Security programmes; other students need special permission.

Remarks

This course is compulsory for students in the track International Relations and Transnational Governance and optional for students in one of the other Master tracks.

Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics

Course code	S_TACEP ()
Period	Period 1
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	dr. P.J.M. Pennings
Examinator	dr. P.J.M. Pennings
Teaching staff	dr. P.J.M. Pennings
Teaching method(s)	Study Group, Lecture
Level	400

Course objective

This course is meant to introduce the students to the contemporary state of the art in comparative political science.

Course content

Based on the Handbook of Comparative Politics (edited by Daniele Caramani) a large number of topics in the comparative politics of European and OECD democracies will be discussed representing the various approaches to comparative political science as well as its methods and use of different types of data. In addition the student will be made familiar with how to employ theory in different research designs, including assignments. The course will be concluded by the student by developing a research design which is his/her final paper.

Form of tuition

Seminar: Instruction - Discussion - Assignments

Type of assessment

In addition to a final paper there will be one written assignment. The two papers and active participation (by writing and presenting a

peer review of a draft assignment of a fellow student) are part of the final grading.

Course reading

D. Caramani: Comparative Politics. Oxford: OUP [latest Edition].

Target group

Students of MSc Political Science.

Remarks

Lectures will be once a week (3 hours tuition).

Theories and Approaches in International Relations

Course code	S_TAIR ()
Period	Period 1
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Examinator	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Teaching staff	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Teaching method(s)	Study Group, Lecture
Level	400

Course objective

Objectives and learning goals:

- To provide students with an overview of the theoretical foundations of IR, thus enabling them to analyse concrete historical developments from various theoretical perspectives;
- To teach students to critically reflect upon the meta-theoretical foundations - and their methodological and normative implications – of (social science) theory (increasing their reflexive knowledge of both the main traditions and of paradigmatic change);
- To familiarize students with the critical assessment of political science literature, in particular by placing it within a historical context and by reflecting upon both the social constitution of theory as well as its socially constitutive effects.

Course content

Whereas IR traditionally (and narrowly) defined deals almost exclusively with relations between states, the 'discipline' has moved much beyond such a narrow state-centrism in order to embrace a much broader conception of world politics in which there is attention to both state and non-state actors and both interstate and other global social structures. This broader conception of world politics is point of departure for this introductory course and is in fact taken one step further by departing from the notion that contemporary world politics is of a fundamentally transnational nature. Thus, politics is not just between states but also the political struggle between various transnational interest groups, movements and social forces. Although there is no world polity, there is a European polity, and internationally there are numerous international organizations that constitute institutionalized structures of global governance. Policy, finally, is not just produced by states as foreign policy, but also by

the aforementioned international organizations and by the EU. A second characteristic is that although we consider IR as a mature sub-discipline of political science which is grounded in various approaches and methods of general political science (and therefore clearly linked to the other stream of the MSc in Political Science), we also recognize the contributions from other disciplines (including philosophy, economics, sociology, anthropology, and law) to the field and stress the importance of interdisciplinary research. This course is structured as a historical overview of the development of the discipline, placed in a wider historical context of 'real-world' developments in the global system - stressing the obvious links between those developments and the development of theory - as well as in a wider social science context, trying to see how IR theory developed in relation to other disciplines and to wider debates within the social sciences. Next to the historical context considerable attention is given to the meta-theoretical assumptions (and methodological implications thereof) underlying various approaches and theories as we believe that these are key to understanding the major debates, and that - for their own research - it is important that students critically reflect upon those assumptions.

Form of tuition

Seminar. Building on prior knowledge of students (i.e., students from our Bachelor's programme are assumed to have basic knowledge of the IR and European integration literature used in the bachelor, and students coming from outside to have an equivalent knowledge), students will work through the literature in tutorial form. The total amount of reading will be about 80 pages per session.

Type of assessment

Participation, including three pieces of homework (30%) and one final essay (70%).

Course reading

The course is based on Scott Burchill et al (2013). Theories of International Relations, 5th ed. London: Palgrave (to be bought). A reader will be made available.

Target group

MSc Political Science students.

Theories of Governance

Course code	S_TG ()
Period	Period 1
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	H.L. Paanakker MSc
Examinator	prof. dr. L.W.J.C. Huberts
Teaching staff	prof. dr. L.W.J.C. Huberts, H.L. Paanakker MSc
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Study-group
Level	500

Workshop in Comparative Policy and Politics

Course code	S_WCPP ()
Period	Period 4
Credits	12.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Examinator	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Teaching staff	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Teaching method(s)	Study Group
Level	600

Course objective

- To train students in critically evaluating political science research, in particular in the area of Comparative European Politics;
- To guide students in the process of designing theory-guided research projects, alone or in working groups;
- To train students in selecting and applying the appropriate methods and techniques of data collection and analysis to carry out research projects;
- To enhance the abilities of students in academic writing and reporting on research for discussion;
- To invite critical theoretical and normative reflection on the research results;
- To train students to work in small research teams.

Course content

The workshop will focus on the theme of The EU and the Welfare State: Friends of Foes? Special attention will be given to the comparative policy and politics of "structural reform" in labour markets and welfare provision in the shadow of the global financial crisis and intensified European economic integration. The course aims to provide students with knowledge of the basic institutions underlying modern European welfare states and labour markets, explaining their variation, laced with an in-depth understanding of the impact of European (economic) integration on the functioning of national welfare states in hard times. In addition, this course aims at teaching students the skills of comparative cross-national and European political analysis and reform process tracing, and to apply theoretical concepts and methods of institutional policy analysis to instances of national reform and to the (changing) role of economic and social policy coordination at the EU level since the onslaught, especially, of the sovereign debt crisis of 2010. The main aim of the workshop is to train students 'on the spot' by letting them critically evaluate the research of others (looking at contrasting examples of research); to develop, in the same critical vein, a theory-guided research design jointly with fellow students; and to carry out (part of) that research also in small groups as well as individually. Students can build upon this in developing a design for their own Master's Thesis.

Form of tuition

Tutorial. Students will work in small groups, and report on their work both orally and in writing.

Type of assessment

Individual assignments and group work as well as in-class participation.

Course reading

Hemerijck, A., *Changing Welfare States*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

Martin, M. and J.-E. Dolvik, *European Social Models Crises and Reforms*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015.

Additional readings to be announced in due course (on Blackboard).

Target group

Students in the MSc Political Science, Tracks Comparative European Politics and Policy and Politics.

Workshop in Global Environmental Governance

Course code	S_WGEG ()
Period	Period 4
Credits	12.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Examinator	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg
Teaching staff	prof. dr. P.H. Pattberg, dr. A. Mert
Teaching method(s)	Study Group
Level	600

Course objective

To train students in critically evaluating political science research, in particular in the area of global environmental governance; To guide students in the process of designing theory-guided research projects, alone or in working groups; To train students in selecting and applying the appropriate methods and techniques of data collection and analysis to carry out research projects; To enhance the abilities of students in academic writing and reporting on research for discussion; To invite critical theoretical and normative reflection on the research results; To train students to work in small research teams.

Course content

In this workshop, students will be divided in working groups that focus on different themes relating to international (environmental) relations and global environmental governance, ranging from the effectiveness of different global governance architectures to questions of accountability, legitimacy, and justice. The workshop will build on introductory lectures; joint discussion sessions on key readings in international relations and global environmental governance; individual and team research that leads to review essays and to a longer essay (in the style of a journal article) on one of the themes; and class presentations and discussions of research findings. Students will be asked to critically evaluate the research of others (looking at contrasting examples of research); to develop own theory-guided or policy-oriented research designs jointly with fellow students in the area of global environmental governance; and to carry out that research in small groups as well as individually. Students can build upon this in

developing a design for their Master's Thesis.

Form of tuition

Tutorial. Students will work in small groups, and report on their work both orally and in writing.

Type of assessment

Individual assignments and group work well as in-class participation.

Course reading

Selected articles and books

Entry requirements

Participation in Selected Issues in Global Environmental Governance (S_SIGEG) is required.

Target group

MSc students in political science and international relations.

Workshop in International Relations

Course code	S_WIR ()
Period	Period 4
Credits	12.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coordinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Examinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Teaching staff	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Teaching method(s)	Study Group
Level	600

Course objective

- To train students in critically evaluating political science research, in particular in the area of international relations and transnational governance;
- To guide students in the process of designing theory-guided or policy-oriented research projects, alone or in working groups;
- To train students in selecting and applying the appropriate methods and techniques of data collection and analysis to carry out research projects;
- To enhance the abilities of students in academic writing and reporting on research for discussion;
- To invite critical theoretical and normative reflection on the research results;
- To train students to work in small research teams.

Course content

On the basis of a collective thematic focus the workshop aims to train students in doing political science themselves within the field of International Relations and Transnational Governance. This course starts by critically examining; - as a class, and in small groups; - some key issues – on the basis of selected readings – within the overarching theme, thus seeking to acquire in depth knowledge and understanding of existing research in this area, and then, in the final weeks, proceeds

by applying that knowledge by designing and carrying out small research projects. This way, substantive knowledge is deepened while at the same time the focus is on training students 'on the spot'; further developing students' (research) skills and competences within the setting of a research practical. The main aim of the workshop is thus to train students in the practice of political science research, familiarizing students with the different meta- theoretical and methodological issues and problems involved, such as: research design; choice of research methods; data collection and empirical analysis; causality, inference and interpretation.

Form of tuition

Seminar

Type of assessment

Class Participation and Written Assignment(s). All Parts must be passed.

Course reading

To be announced on blackboard

Target group

Students MSc Political Science, Track International Relations