

Syllabus

Political Parties and Interests Groups

Lecturer:

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Teaching Assistants:

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Consultations:

Monday and Wednesday
10 to 14

A) Description of the course

This is a XII weeks course, intended for the third year students in the BA program of the Political Science. The course is obligatory and provides the students with wide understanding of political parties and interests groups in Macedonia, South East Europe and the EU. The course is for advanced students in Political Science, therefore foreknowledge from the students will be expected mainly in the basic concepts of political sociology (taught in the second year), political organizations and interests representations (taught in the first year).

1. Aims of the course

This course aims more for providing the students with breadth, rather than with depth. The students will be acquainted with the basic elements, definitions, developments and theories of political parties and interests groups. The course aims to introduce the students to such issues in the context of Macedonia, South-East Europe and the EU. The course key concepts are the elements, developments and typology of political parties, party and election systems, as well as non-party interests representation. The wide coverage of the course will be achieved through a fast pace and strong student involvement in the seminar work, especially in the second half of the semester after the mid-term exam.

2. Teaching techniques

The course will be delivered through lectures and seminars. Different teaching techniques will be used: Power point presentations, group presentations and discussions. The seminars will be mostly student oriented interactive teaching methods and involve case studies, individual and group presentations, discussions, as well as feature documentaries. Student assignments will be given before each seminar.

The students need to obtain the book "Political Parties and Interests Groups" by Savo

Klimovski and Tanja Karakamiseva. Most of the obligatory readings come from this book, because it provides a rare resource on the main aspects of the course available in Macedonian language.

3. Expected learning outcomes

The students are expected to understand the basic elements, developments and typologies of the political parties. They should be able to differentiate the party and election systems and to recognize the relations and influence among them. The students are expected to recognize the different modes and techniques of non-party interests representations. The students are expected to understand the functioning of the political parties and interests groups in Macedonia, South-East Europe as well as in the EU. Due to its nature, this course expects modest development of new skills. However some personal as well as transferable skills will be upgraded. The students will be heavily exposed to team work and presentations, both individual and group ones. Seminars will be student oriented. Through the seminar assignments they will develop their analytical and research skills. Using case studies will allow for the practice of deconstruction, but will also provide practice for comparative analysis.

B) Grading policy (compatible with the Departmental standards)

| | | |
|--|-------|-----|
| Attendance | up to | 5% |
| 51%-60% attendance | | 1% |
| 61%-70% attendance | | 2% |
| 71%-80% attendance | | 3% |
| 81%-90% attendance | | 4% |
| 91%-100% attendance | | 5% |
| In class participation (presentations, research projects, seminar work etc) | | 15% |
| In class essay | | 10% |
| Mid-term exam | | 35% |
| Final exam | | 35% |
| Extra course work | up to | 5% |

In class essay can be taken once or twice during the semester, which will be announced at the beginning of the semester. However it can bring a maximum of 10% to the grade, if there are two essays each will bring 5%.

The students can request extra course work before the final grade is completed, where the lecturers decide on the tasks. Students having a minimum of 60% on all other bases are eligible to request extra course work. The lecturers must enter the extra course work and the assessment on it in the electronic file of the student. The students that will have a maximum points, on all basis (possible maximum of 105%), the extraordinary accomplishment will duly be noted in the diploma supplement of such students.

C) In class policies

1. Bringing food during class hours is strictly prohibited.
2. Cell phones, PDA's, beepers and other electronic communication devices can not be used during the class, and should at least be set not to make noises, if they are not totally turned off.
3. Attendance is mandatory. Without 51% attendance rate the student can not pass the exam and will have to take the same exam in the next year.

D) Expectations from the students

1. The students are expected to read the obligatory literature before coming in class. That is the main precondition for quality of lectures and discussions.
2. For a better and more thorough understanding of the reading material the students should pay due attention to the following:
 - What is the main argument in the text? What is the author aiming at and what is the main point? What is the theory if one exists in the text?
 - Make comparisons. To how many examples does the author points to? What is the purpose of the author when comparing the examples?
 - Factors and Variables. Which factors have the strongest influence on the argumentation of the author?
 - Look for mistakes in the author's logic of argumentation! Are the hypothesis valid in the given context.
 - Methodology. What is the author's methodology (statistical methods, descriptive explanations, historical analysis, content analysis, case studies ect)
 - Does the data support the author's arguments? Are there enough evidence to support the argumentation and do the evidence go in the same line with the arguments?
3. The students are expected to prepare their assignments for the seminars thoroughly. Case studies examples will be made available, however students are expected to research the topics outside the class as well.
4. The students should follow the party dynamics in the media and the public discourse in Macedonia, SEE and the EU. It will advance their learning and provide material for discussions and examples.

E) Course content and obligatory reading

1. Introduction to political parties, I week

In this lecture the students will be presented with the basic definitions, organizational structures, party ideologies, party structures and internal relations (fractions and Parliamentary groups), party leaders and membership. Some of the authors that have elaborated on this issue are Maurice Duverger, Angel Panebianco and Max Weber. Students should make them self acquainted with their works.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 13-62

Recommended reading:

Dalton, R.J. and Wattenberg, M.P. (eds) (2002), *Parties without Partisans*, New York: Oxford University Press (selected chapters)

Smiljkovic, R., (1993), *Political Parties*, Belgrade: INP Knjizevne novine komerc, ch. 1 and 2

Mojanoski, C., (2004), "Chronicles of the Macedonian Democracy", Skopje: Kultura

Mojanoski, C., (1996), "Social and Political Profile of the Political Parties in Macedonia", Skopje: Liber, ch. 5

Karasimeonov, G. (2000), *Political Parties*, Sofia: GoreksPress, ch. 4

2. Comparative Development of Political Parties and Current State of Affairs , II week

In this lecture the students will be presented with the developments of political parties in England, France and Macedonia. Also the current state of parties in post-industrial societies will be presented as well.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 67-103

Recommended reading:

Dalton, R.J. and Wattenberg, M.P. (eds) (2002), *Parties without Partisans*, New York: Oxford University Press (selected chapters)

Tsatsos, D. Th., Venizelos, Ev., Contiades. X. I. (eds) (2004), *Political Parties in the 21st century*, Athens: Ant. N. Sakkoulas

Mojanoski, C., (2004), "Chronicles of the Macedonian Democracy", Skopje: Kultura

Mojanoski, C., (1996), "Social and Political Profile of the Political Parties in Macedonia", Skopje: Liber, ch. 2

Karasimeonov, G. (2000), *Political Parties*, Sofia: GoreksPress, ch. 2

3. Typology of Political Parties, III week

This lecture will introduce to the students the different criteria and classifications of political parties. It will mostly follow the models suggested by Maurice Duverger and Giovanni Sartori. The students will also be acquainted with the functions that the political parties have in the society and in politics.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 132-165 and 174-176

Recommended reading:

Dalton, R.J. and Wattenberg, M.P. (eds) (2002), *Parties without Partisans*, New York: Oxford

University Press (selected chapters)

Orlovic. S, (2002), *Political Parties and Power*, Belgrade: Cigoja Stampa, ch. 1

Smiljkovic, R., (1993), *Political Parties*, Belgrade: INP Knjizevne novine komerc, ch. 4

Karasimeonov, G. (2000), *Political Parties*, Sofia: GoreksPress, ch. 3

4. Party systems, IV week

In this lecture the students will be acquainted with the different criteria and typologies of party systems. Notable authors in this field, whose works should be consulted, include Giovanni Sartori, Maurice Duverger, Dietrich Nolenn, Seymour Lipset and Stein Rokann.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 177-200

Recommended reading:

Sartori, G. (2003), *Comparative Constitutional Engineering*, Belgrade: Filip Visnjic (selected chapters)

Karasimeonov, G. (2000), *Political Parties*, Sofia: GoreksPress, ch. 6

Lijphart, A. (2003), *Models of Democracy*, Podgorica: CID, ch. 5

Orlovic. S, (2002), *Political Parties and Power*, Belgrade: Cigoja Stampa, pp. 67-72

5. Political Parties in Macedonia, V week

In this seminar students will be introduced to the genesis, regulations and the party system in Macedonia. The seminar will explore the law for organizing political parties and will include case studies of different political parties. Open discussions will follow the students' presentations on tasks given by the lecturers.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp.103-106 and 166-174

Skaric, S., (2004), Political Parties and the Party System in Macedonia. In *Political Parties in the 21st century*, eds. Tsatsos, D. Th., Venizelos, Ev., Contiades. X. I, pp. 309-335, Athens: Ant. N. Sakkoulas

Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia, No 76/04, 27.10.2004, "Law on Political Parties"

Recommended reading:

Mojanoski, C., (2004), "Chronicles of the Macedonian Democracy", Skopje: Kultura

Mojanoski. C., (1996), "Social and Political Profile of the Political Parties in Macedonia", Skopje: Liber

Jovevska, A., Gaber, N. (2004) The Political Parties in Macedonia. In *Political Parties and the consolidation of Democracy in South Eastern Europe*, ed. Karasimeonov, G., Sofia: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia, No 76/04, 27.10.2004 "Financing of Political Parties"

6. Political Parties in Transitional Democracies, VI week

This seminar will introduce the student to the roles and specific characteristics of political parties in

transitional democracies. The seminar will be delivered through case studies of political parties in different countries in SEE, but also a documentary will be featured explaining the role of political parties in the vivid political developments and changes in Uruguay, a democracy in transition from South America.

Obligatory reading:

Karasimeonov, G. (ed) (2004), *Political Parties and the consolidation of Democracy in South Eastern Europe*, Sofia: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Feature Documentary: **Tupamaros 1997** (Directors: Rainer Hoffmann and Heidi Specogna. Plot: Pepe Mujica, now a member of the Uruguayan parliament, and others of the Tupamaros recount the history of this urban guerrilla group: their use of armed intervention and illegal acts--even kidnapping and murder, their imprisonment and escapes, and their transition to a legal political party.)

Recommended reading:

White, S. Batt, J. Lewis. P.G. (eds) (2003), *Developments in Central and East European Politics*, Hampshire and New York: Palgrave (selected chapters)

Kesselman, M. et al (eds) (2006), *European Politics in Transition*, New York: Houghton Mifflin Company (selected chapters)

Beichelt, T., (2005) *The European Union After the Eastern Enlargement*, Skopje: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, pp. 74-101

Goati, V. (2005), *Political Parties in Serbia*, Belgrade: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

MID-TERM EXAM.

7. Political Parties in the EU, VII week

In this seminar through case studies and presentations the students will be acquainted with the supranational party system in the EU, the party federations active in Europe, and to some extent to the Parliamentary groups in the European Parliament.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 281-296

Recommended reading:

Hix, S. Lord, C. (1997), *Political parties in the European Union*, New York: Palgrave

Bell, D. Lord, C. (eds) (1998), *Transnational Parties in the European Union*, Aldershot: Ashgate

Kreppel, A. (2002), *The European Parliament and Supranational Party System*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

8. Election Models, VIII week

In this lecture the students will be acquainted with the elements and the typologies of elections models. The implications of the different elections model on the political system will be elaborated and a specific focus will be given to the relations between the political parties and the party systems with the election models.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 239-275

Recommended reading:

Nolen, D., Kasapovik, M. (1997) *Election systems in Eastern Europe*, Skopje: Friedrich Ebert

Stiftung

Sartori, G. (2003), *Comparative Constitutional Engineering*, Belgrade: Filip Visnjic (selected chapters)

Lijphart, A. (2003), *Models of Democracy*, Podgorica: CID, ch. 8

Smiljkovic, R., (1993), *Political Parties*, Belgrade: INP Knjizevne novine komerc, ch. 6

9. Elections in Macedonia, IX week

In this seminar the student will get knowledge and information of the different type of elections models used in Macedonia, and specific focus will be given to the parliamentary elections. The seminar will go through the relevant legislation, and students will present the set up and outcomes of different elections models.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 106-131

Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia, No 40, 31.03.2006 "Elections Legislation"

Recommended reading:

Skaric, S. (2005), *Democratic Elections in Macedonia, 1991 - 2002*, Berlin: WZB (edition Sigma: Founding Elections in Eastern Europe)

Mojanoski, C., (2004), "Chronicles of the Macedonian Democracy", Skopje: Kultura Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research (ISPJR) (1999), *Parliamentary Elections in Macedonia*, Skopje: ISPJR

_____, (1997), *Parliamentary Elections in 1994 and Local Elections in 1996 in Macedonia*, Skopje: ISPJR

_____, (1991), *The First Parliamentary Elections in Macedonia*, Skopje: ISPJR

10. Interest Groups, X week

In this lecture the students will be introduced to the concepts of interests, interests representation and advocacy in a liberal democracy. The different models applying to local, national and supranational level will be explored.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 327-339

Lijphart, A. (2003), *Models of Democracy*, Podgorica: CID, pp. 191-201

Recommended reading:

Ivanov, Gj. (1994), *Civil Society: Old issues, new contradictions*, Skopje: STEP

Cigler, A.J., Loomis, B.A., (eds) (2002), *Interests Group Politics*, Washington: CQ Press

Keane, J. (2003), *Global Civil Society*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

11. Interest Groups in Macedonia and in SEE, XI week

Through the seminar the students will be acquainted with the framework and functioning of the civil society organizations in Macedonia. The role and position of interests groups in SEE will be dealt through case studies and presentations, which will be followed with an open discussion.

Obligatory reading:

Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia, No 31/98, 02.07.1998, "Law on associations of citizens and foundations"

Center for Constitutional Law (CECL) (2004), *Report on the Civil Society in SEE*, Athens: CECL

Recommended reading:

Davitkovski, B., Gaber, N. (2002), *The Civic Organizations in Macedonia*, Skopje: Kultura

Ivanov, G., Taleski, D. (2004), The Civil Society in Macedonia. In *Report on the Civil Society in SEE*, Athens: CECL

Tsatsos, D. Th., Venizelos, Ev., Contiades. X. I. (eds) (2004), *Political Parties in the 21st century*, Athens: Ant. N. Sakkoulas, pp. 113-169

Kesselman, M. et al (eds) (2006), *European Politics in Transition*, New York: Houghton Mifflin Company (selected chapters)

12. Interest Groups in the EU, XII week

In this seminar the students will learn about the different interest group organizations active in the EU, advocating local, national or business interests. Case studies of the different models will be observed and the a model of advocacy most frequently used in the EU will be presented.

Obligatory reading:

Klimovski, S. and Karakamiseva, T., (2006), *Political Parties and Interests Groups*, Skopje: Kultura pp. 339-365

Recommended reading:

Interests representation in the EU (book)

Warntjen, A., Wonka, A. (2003), *Governance in Europe: The Role of Interests Groups*, Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft

Michalowitz, I. (2006), *EU Lobbying: Principals, Agents and Target Strategic Interests Intermediation in EU Policy-making*, Berlin: Deutches Institut fur Public Affairs

FINAL EXAM.

F) Additional academic resources

1. Books

Michles, S., Lipset, M., (1968) *Political Parties: A Sociological Study of the Oligarchial Tendencies of Modern Democracy*, New York: Macmillan Publishing

Diamond, L., Gunther, R., (eds) (2001) *Political Parties and Democracy*, Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press

Ware, A. (1995), *Political Party and Party Systems*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Oxford University (group of authors) (2001), *Democratic Consolidation in Eastern Europe*, Oxford University Press

Lodge, J. (ed) (2005), *The 2004 elections to the European Parliament*, New York: Palgrave

Schmitt, H. Thomassen, J. (eds) (1999), *Political representation and legitimacy in the European Union*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Thomson, S., John, S., Mitchell, G.J., (2007) *Public Affairs in Practice*, Cornwall: MPG Books

Hrebendar, R. et al (1999), *Political Parties, Interests Groups and Political Campaigns*, Boulder: Westview Press

2. Journal articles

Bergman, T. Müller, W. Kaare, S. (2005), Comparative Parliamentary Democracy: a project report in *European Political Science* 4:2005

Hoffman, A. (2005), Political Parties, electoral systems and democracy: A cross-national analysis in *European Journal of Political Research* 44: 231 - 242, 2005

Lipsmeyer, C. Nordstrom, T. (2003), East versus West: comparing political attitudes and welfare preferences across European societies in *Journal of European Public Policy* 10:3 June 2003: 339-364

Müller, W. (2000), Political Parties in parliamentary democracies: Making delegation and accountability work in *European Journal of Political Research* 37: 309 - 333, 2000

Warwick, P (2000), Policy horizons in West Parliamentary systems in *European Journal of Political Research* 38: 37 - 61, 2000

Hix, S. (2004), Possibilities for European Parties: 2004 and beyond, European Policy Center, <www.theepc.be>

Barry, M. (2004), MEPs, The European Parliament and Public Opinion, *European Movement Policy Papers*, <www.euromove.org.uk>

3. Internet resources

General

Political Resources on the Net

<<http://www.politicalresources.net/>>

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Political Party

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_party>

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Interest Group

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interest_groups>

Macedonia

Socialdemocratic Union in Macedonia (SDSM)

<www.sdsm.org.mk>

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)

<www.ldp.org.mk>

VMRO-DPMNE

<www.vmro-dpmne.org.mk>

Democratic Union for Integration (DUI)
<www.bdi.org.mk>

Democratic Party of Albanians (DPA)
<www.pdsh.org>

Chamber of Commerce of Macedonia
<<http://www.mchamber.org.mk>>

Union of chamber of commerce in Macedonia
<www.sojuzkomori.org.mk>

American Chamber of Commerce in Macedonia
<<http://www.amcham.com.mk>>

European Union

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
<<http://alde.euoparl.eu.int/Content/Default.asp?>>

European United Left Nordic Green Left
<<http://www2.euoparl.eu.int/gue/showPage.jsp>>

European Parliament
<http://www.euoparl.eu.int/home/default_en.htm>

The Greens - European Free Alliance
<<http://www.greens-efa.org/>>

Union for Europe of the Nations
<<http://www.uengroup.org/home.html>>

European Peoples Party
<<http://www.epp-ed.org/home/en/default.asp>>

European Socialist Party
<<http://www.socialistgroup.org/>>