

ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF
COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Code	Course Title	Course Type	ECTS Credits	Prerequisite Information	Date of Preparation
PSPA 101	Introduction to Politics I	Compulsory	6	-	30.10.2025
Instructor of the Course & E-Mail Address	Asst. Prof. Ayşe Ayten BAKACAK & ayseytenbakacak@aybu.edu.tr				
Office Hours & Office Room	Monday, 12.00-14.00 / Thursday, 12.00-14.00, B370				
Course Content and Objectives	This course is an introductory course, which aims to introduce students to the main issues, concepts and methods of analysis in political science.				
Textbook(s)	Heywood, A. (2013). Politics. The Palgrave Macmillan. (4th edition) Heywood, A. (2021). Political Ideologies: An Introduction. Bloomsbury Publishing. (7th edition)				
Teaching Methods and Techniques	In this course, class discussions and presentations will be used as teaching methods.				
Course Learning Outcomes	1	To gain familiarity with the main concepts and theories of political science			
	2	To obtain methodical perspective in understanding the main concepts, topics and approaches in political science			
	3	To develop critical reading, discussion, analysis, and research skills			
	4	To get the ability to use the main tools and frameworks provided for looking at the controversies in social and political life from multiple angles			
Program Outcomes Contributed by the Course	Program Outcomes (PO)				
	PO 1	To be able to gain and utilize advanced conceptual, theoretical and empirical knowledge based on up to date academic resources in the discipline of International Relations and its sub-fields			
	PO 4	To be able to identify the fundamental problems in classical and contemporary international phenomena and provide critical interpretation using the theoretical bases of International Relations			
	PO 10	To be able to inform authorities and institutions in the area of international relations; to be able to transfer ideas and proposals supported by quantitative and qualitative data about the problems verbally			
	PO 11	To have social and scientific ethical values in the stages throughout the processes of collecting, interpreting, and presenting data in social sciences research in International Relations			
Contribution of the Course to Field Instruction	By the end of the course, the students are expected not only to understand the main concepts, topics and approaches in political science, but also to gain ability to question the world, and make intelligent inquiries into the controversies surrounding them using the analytical tools provided throughout the course. It does not aim to provide clear-cut solutions to such controversies, instead the students are to use the tools and frameworks provided and look at such issues from multiple angles.				

Topics Covered in the Course	1. Week	General introduction and review of the syllabus	
	2. Week	What is politics?	
	3. Week	Political Ideas and Ideologies	
	4. Week	Political Ideas and Ideologies	
	5. Week	Liberalism	
	6. Week	Conservatism	
	7. Week	Socialism	
	8. Week	Midterm Week	
	9. Week	Populism	
	10. Week	Other Ideologies: Anarchism, Fascism, Feminism	
	11. Week	Nations and Nationalism	
	12. Week	Politics and the State	
	13. Week	Politics and Society	
	14. Week	Politics and Identity	
	15. Week	Review of the course	
Course Evaluation Criteria	In-Term Studies	Quantity	Percentage %
	Mid-terms	1	% 40
	Quizzes	4	% 10
	Assignments	0	%
	Attendance		% 5
	Practice	0	%
	Project	0	%
	Final examination	1	% 45
	Total		100%
Disability Policy	<p>If you have a documented disability (e.g., visual, hearing, or physical impairment, etc.) that may influence your performance in this course, it is recommended to meet with the Engelsiz AYBU (https://aybu.edu.tr/engelsiz/content_list-327-yildirim-bevazit-universitesi-engelsiz-universite-birimi-yonergesi.html) to arrange for reasonable conditions (such as accommodation, etc.) to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. You may also contact the local authority of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. You should communicate your needs to the course instructor as soon as possible to ensure that any course needs concerning exams, lecture materials, etc. are met.</p>		