

POLITICAL ECONOMY

Course code	<i>POL138</i>
Compulsory in programs	<i>Economics and Politics</i>
Level of studies	<i>Undergraduate</i>
Number of credits	<i>6 ECTS: 48 contact hours + 2 midterm hrs. + 2 hrs for final exam.</i>
Course coordinator	<i>Dr. Vincentas Vobolevičius, vinvob@ism.lt</i>
Prerequisites	<i>None</i>
Language of instruction	<i>English</i>

AIM OF THE COURSE

At the end of the course students will have learned two things: 1) key theories of economic growth and their track record in the policy world; 2) effects that political institutions have on politicians' implementation of economists' recommendations. A combination of these perspectives will endow students with a more sophisticated understanding of the reason why economic growth has been elusive outside a handful of countries (to borrow a phrase from the course textbook) and of the challenges as well opportunities that lie ahead.

MAPPING OF COURSE LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES (OBJECTIVES) WITH DEGREE LEVEL LEARNING OBJECTIVES (See Annex), ASSESMENT AND TEACHING METHODS

Course level learning outcomes (objectives)	Degree learning objectives (# of LO)	Assessment methods	Teaching methods
CLO1. Analyze key theories on Economic Growth, list their assumptions, empirical predictions and real-world effects;	ELO 1.1. ELO 1.2. ELO 2.1	Midterm exam & seminar grade	Lectures, readings & debates
CLO2. Model consequences of political institutions (electoral systems and governing rules) as agendasetting tools of economic policy	ELO 1.1. ELO 1.2.	Midterm exam & seminar grade	Lectures, readings & debates
CLO3. Identify consequences of social conditions (corruption, income inequality, demographic transition) for economic growth	ELO 1.1. ELO 1.2.	Final exam & seminar grade	Lectures, readings & debates
CLO4. Identify patterns and consequences of economic policies (foreign aid, domestic aid to industries, anti-corruption measures, income redistribution, etc.)	ELO 1.1. ELO 1.2. ELO 2.1.	Final exam & seminar grade	Lectures, readings & debates
CLO5. Work in groups, facing time constraints.	ELO 4.1.	Seminar grade	Seminar debates
CLO6. Present and defend discussion results in a seminar setting.	ELO 4.1. ELO 4.2.	Seminar grade	Seminar debates

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

The ISM University of Management and Economics Code of Ethics, including cheating and plagiarism are fully applicable and will be strictly enforced in the course. Academic dishonesty, and cheating can and will lead to a report to the ISM Committee of Ethics. Regarding remote learning, ISM reminds students that they are expected to adhere and maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting

Week	Topics	Class Hours	Assignments
1	Economic growth in theory & in practice A concise review of the modern track record of thinking about and pursuing economic growth	4	Popov, 2011 Rodrik, 2004
2	Seminar discussions	4	
3	Political institutions & their economic effects A review of political institutions, with a focus on how they influence on foreign aid and industrial policy	4	Bueno de Mesquita, 2009 McGillivray, 2004
4	Seminar discussions	4	
5	Labor supply & demographic trends An introduction to the demographic transition and its implications for growth, as well as policy responses	4	Busemeyer & Goerres, 2009 TBA
6	Seminar discussions	4	

7	Income inequality & redistribution Effects of income inequality on growth, and politics behind income redistribution	4	Iversen and Soskice, 2008 Ehrhart, 2009
8	Seminar discussions	4	
9	Environmental impact & sustainability of growth A link between economic growth and environmental degradation. Politics of environmental stringency	4	Cusack et. al., 2007 Finnegan, 2019
10	Seminar discussions	4	
11	Types of corruption & attempts to control them Different types of corruption and their economic effects. Politics of anticorruption policies.	4	Bowles, 2009 Chang & Golden, 2007
12	Seminar discussions	4	
	TOTAL IN-CLASS HOURS	48	
	FINAL EXAM	2	
	Consultations	2	

FINAL GRADE COMPOSITION

Type of assessment	Weight
Components of the final grade:	
Seminar discussions	20%
Midterm examination	40%
Final examination	40%
TOTAL	100%
Components by type	
- Individual work	80%
- Group work	20%
TOTAL	100%

DESCRIPTION AND GRADING CRITERIA OF EACH ASSIGNMENT

Midterm exam will consist of open short-answer questions. It will take place during the midterm session and will comprise 40% of the final grade. The midterm will be based on topics 1-6.

The final will consist of open short-answer questions. It will take place during the finals' session and will comprise 40% of the final 3 grade. The midterm will be based on topics 7-12.

Seminar discussions will address all topics covered in class. These activities will take place every second week, following the introduction of new material in the previous week. Seminar discussions will comprise 20% of the final grade.

Assessment requirements, procedures, and other important regulations may be communicated verbally during lectures. Failure to attend a lecture where such information is provided does not exempt the student from the responsibility to comply with these requirements.

RETAKE POLICY

In case of a negative final grade, students can sit for a retake exam. Such an exam will cover all course material. The weight of a retake is 80%. Seminar participation grade is not subject to retake, but its evaluation (if positive) will count towards the final grade with the retake exam.