

“Babeş- Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca



ACADEMIC ENGLISH FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

Third Year – Spring Semester 2014

2014

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Course description:

The course aims to enable 3rd year students acquire proficiency academic and professional English in the field of Political Science and enable them to employ advanced specialised terminology. The use of English as a language of instruction, also to be employed in class debates and for evaluation, together with a corpus of materials to read and discuss in English will offer the students the opportunity to develop the knowledge of specialised English as well as enable them to access recent materials on their area of expertise. The students will be provided with a specialised terminology and enabled to use this in interactive class applications. The students will thus become familiarised – in a progressive manner, with the specific Political Sciences academic terminology, concepts and topics.

Course Requirements:

- Students should have a fairly good knowledge of general English.
- They should be prepared to attend at least 80% of the lessons and to participate actively in order to assimilate and employ the new terminology as well as practice their listening, speaking, reading and comprehension skills.
- **Final Grade:** 1. class contribution - attendance, participation, active engagement in debates, etc. - (20% of your final grade); 2. exam on one of the topics discussed (80%).

Compulsory reading materials (Course Material)

A course file will be provided before the beginning of the course, containing the necessary materials for each session (reading load and other materials, such as glossaries). Students will be expected to photocopy, prepare beforehand and use the materials during teaching hours.

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Course Structure:

Week 1: Introductory session - Course description: Topics, reading materials, assessment requirements.

Week 2: Concepts and Terminology - Academic English for Political Science.

Week 3: Case Study. Article Analysis.

- Kathleen Knight, "Transformations of the Concept of Ideology in the Twentieth Century", *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 100, No. 4, Thematic Issue on the Evolution of Political Science, in Recognition of the Centennial of the Review (Nov., 2006): 619-626.

Week 4: Politics and Culture: Contemporary Issues and Debates.

Week 5: Case Study. Article Analysis.

- Fătu-Tutoveanu, Andrada. "Soviet Cultural Colonialism: Culture and Political Domination in the late 1940s-early 1950s Romania." *Trames* 1 (2012): 77-93.

Week 6: Legitimising Discourse: Power Language, Political Myths and Symbols.

Week 7: Case Study. Text Analysis.

- Graeme J. Gill, *Symbols and Legitimacy in Soviet Politics*. Cambridge University Press, 2011 (fragment).

Week 8: National Identity: Conceptualising, Performing, Representing and Exhibiting National Identity.

Week 9: Case Study. Article Analysis.

- Lloyd Kramer, "Historical Narratives and the Meaning of Nationalism", *Journal of the History of Ideas*, Vol. 58, No. 3 (Jul., 1997): 525-554.

Week 10: 20th Century Ideologies & Propaganda: Prototypes and Stereotypes.

Week 11: Case Study. Text Analysis.

- David Brandenberger. *Propaganda State in Crisis: Soviet Ideology, Indoctrination, and Terror under Stalin, 1927-1941*. Yale University Press, 2012. (fragment)

Week 12: 'Performing Gender': Concepts and Contemporary Issues.

Week 13: Case Study. Article Analysis.

- Woodward, Kathleen M. "Performing Age, Performing Gender." *NWSA journal* 18.1 (2006): 162-189.

Week 14: Conclusions. Revision.

Evaluation