

“BABEȘ-BOLYAI” UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences

Political Science Department – Romanian, Hungarian and English Line of Studies

Academic Year – 2014-2015

ACADEMIC ENGLISH FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

3rd Year – Spring Semester 2015(Semester: VIII)

Credits: 3

Instructor: Andrada Pintilescu, PhD, Lecturer

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course aims to enable 3rd year students to acquire proficiency in 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 an 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.

II. KEY CONCEPTS

Ideology, globalisation, identity and politics, media culture, power, politics and culture, political myths and symbols, nation, nationalism, historical narratives, “performing gender”, feminism.

III. CLASS SCHEDULE

Location and timing of courses: Tuesdays, 14-16, II/1 (FSPAC)

IV. CONTACT

E-mail: andrada.pintilescu@gmail.com

Office hours: Fridays, 12:00, Horea 7, Room 10

V. PREREQUISITES:

Students should have a fairly good knowledge of general English.

VI. RECOMMENDED READINGS:

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.

- Andreescu, Gabriel, and Liviu Andreescu. "Church and State in Post-Communist Romania: Priorities on the Research Agenda." *Journal for the Study of Religions & Ideologies* 8.24 (2009).
- Arnold, Gordon B., *Conspiracy Theory in the American Imagination*. In *Conspiracy Theory in Film, Television and Politics*, 2008.
- Hodgkin, Katharine, and Susannah Radstone, eds. *Contested pasts: The politics of memory*. Routledge, 2003.
- Kind-Kovács, Friederike. "Memories of ethnic cleansing and the local Iron Curtain in the Czech–German borderlands." *Nationalities Papers* 42.2 (2014): 199-222.
- Oates-Indruchová, Libora, and Muriel Blaive. "Border communities: microstudies on everyday life, politics and memory in European Societies from 1945 to the present." *Nationalities Papers* 42.2 (2014): 195-198.
- Todorova, Maria. *Imagining the Balkans*. Oxford University Press, 1997 (Introduction *Balkanism and Orientalism: Are They Different Categories?*)

• Further Reading (Optional)

Castells, Manuel (2008). *The Power of Identity*, London: Blackwell.

Du Gay, Paul, Jessica Evans, Peter Redman (Eds.) (2000): *Identity: A Reader*, Sage Publications.

During, Simon (2006) *Cultural studies: a critical introduction*, Routledge, 2006.

Edensor, Tim (2002), *National Identity. Popular Culture and Everyday Life*, Berg, Oxford. New York.

Lord, Karen (2008). 'Implicit Religion: A Contemporary Theory for the Relationships between Religion, State, and Society', *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, 23: 1, 33-46.

Niezen, Ronald (2004), *A world beyond difference : cultural identity in the age of globalization*, Blackwell.

Rudnick, Lois P., Judith E. Smith, and Rachel Lee Rubin (Eds.) (2006). *American Identities. An Introductory Textbook* Blackwell.

Ryan, Michael (With Brett Ingram and Hanna Musiol) (2010). *Cultural Studies. A Practical Introduction*. A John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Publication, Blackwell Publishing.

Weedon, Chris. (2004). *Identity and Culture*, Open University Press.

VII. COURSE STRUCTURE:

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

2. Concepts and Terminology - Academic English for Political Science (VI). Conspiracy Myths, Conspiracy Theories.

Arnold, Gordon B., *Conspiracy Theory in the American Imagination*. In *Conspiracy Theory in Film, Television and Politics*, 2008.

3. Nationalism, Ethnicity. Border Communities: Politics and Memory in Post-War Europe.

4. Case Study. Article Analysis:

Oates-Indruchová, Libora, and Muriel Blaive. "Border communities: microstudies on everyday life, politics and memory in European Societies from 1945 to the present." *Nationalities Papers* 42.2 (2014): 195-198.

Kind-Kovács, Friederike. "Memories of ethnic cleansing and the local Iron Curtain in the Czech–German borderlands." *Nationalities Papers* 42.2 (2014): 199-222.

5. Politics and Memory in Post-War Europe (II)

6. Case Study. Text analysis: Hodgkin, Katharine, and Susannah Radstone, eds. *Contested pasts: The politics of memory*. Routledge, 2003.

7. Religion and Politics. Focus: Eastern Europe and Religion, Post-Communist Perspectives.

8. Case Study. Text analysis:

Andreescu, Gabriel, and Liviu Andreescu. "Church and State in Post-Communist Romania: Priorities on the Research Agenda." *Journal for the Study of Religions & Ideologies* 8.24 (2009).

9. Politics and Identity Constructions, Visual Representations and Stereotypes.

10. Case Study. Article Analysis:

Todorova, Maria. *Imagining the Balkans*. Oxford University Press, 1997 (Introduction *Balkanism and Orientalism: Are They Different Categories?*)

11. Media and Politics. Political Campaigns.

12. Conclusions. Revision. Concluding discussions. Evaluation of the course

VIII. COURSE REQUIREMENTS, EVALUATION:

The students 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%).

IX. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Academic dishonesty – plagiarism, cheating, fabrication or multiple submission – will not be tolerated. Punishment will be in accordance with the department's rules. For details, see <http://fspac.ubbcluj.ro/resurse/formulare-regulamente/reguli-etice-sideontologice/>.