

ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2019-2020

COURSE TITLE

Revolution, Democracy and Authoritarianism in the EU's Neighbourhood

SEMESTER

2

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

Thomas DEMMELHUBER & Kataryna WOLCZUK

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

Béranger DOMINICI

COURSE TYPE

Optional Specialist Course

MAJOR(S)

EUN, EHC

ECTS CREDITS

4

CONTACT HOURS

20

INDIVIDUAL STUDY TIME

80

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

1

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, the students will:

- be acquainted with the key actors of political change in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood and their respective roles in the processes of political transition;
- be able to provide competing theoretical and empirical based arguments on why authoritarianism and/or democracy took hold in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood countries.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

None.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lectures, discussions, and student presentations.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

- 50% Written exam (3 hours; closed-book exam; 2 long essay questions [4 pages per essay maximum]; 4 out of 8 short essay questions [1/2 page per question maximum]);
- 30% Group academic paper (3500 words minimum – 4000 words maximum; size of the groups will depend on the number of students selecting the course; the topics are going to be suggested by the professors);
- 20% Group oral presentation (15 minutes) on the main findings presented in the group paper (for the presentation students are expected to prepare a PowerPoint presentation)

Retake examinations, i.e. exams passed in the second examination session, will have the same format as those taken during the first exam session. The only exception concerns oral exams, which are replaced in the second exam session by written exams. When a student takes an examination during the second session, the final mark for the course is based solely on the result of the retake examination. No other element of evaluation which would have been taken into consideration in the calculation of the final mark during the first examination session will be considered in the second session. (art. 28 of the Specific Provisions).

COURSE CONTENTS

The EU's Southern Neighbourhood:

- Deconstruction of the Arab uprisings in view of different trajectories of political change, durability of political rule and state-collapse in the EU's Southern Neighborhood since 2011;
- Oscillating between various theoretical approaches in order to capture the pathways, obstacles and problems regarding political change after 2011.

The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood:

- Examine the divergent pathways of the post-Soviet states in terms of democratisation and autocratisation since early 2000s against the backdrop of common Soviet legacies;
- Identify and examine key structural factors as well as the role and strategy of domestic actors accounting for these diverse outcomes, including recurring societal mobilization;
- Consider the role of neo-patrimonialism and rent-extraction in autocratic regimes as well as their impact on democratisation - both as a stimulus for democratisation and obstacle in institutionalising democracy;
- Analyse in the role of external actors in terms of promoting and/or inhibiting democratisation and autocratisation.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

Readings (see course outline)