



Syllabus

Academic Year	2023/2024
Program	Politics: Philosophy and Economics
Course	History of Political Institutions
Term	I semester
Year	3
SSD	SPS/03 - Storia delle istituzioni politiche
Credits	6

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS	<p>The course aims at making the students familiar with many concepts crucial for the Western political systems and with the features of the main Western institutional settings and models, their historical developments and theoretical premises. By studying the historical cases of Western political institutions, their intellectual foundation and historical evolution the course aims at helping the students gain a deeper understanding of contemporary politics. Overall, by studying the historical cases of Western political institutions, their intellectual foundation and their historical evolution the course will help the students gain a deeper understanding of European politics.</p>
INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES	<p>Knowledge and understanding: Knowledge and understanding of the political institutions periodizations and concepts.</p> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding: Applying historical knowledge and understanding in giving presentations and class discussion.</p> <p>Making judgements: Making judgements in class debate and presentations.</p> <p>Communications Skills: Communications of views and interpretations of historical facts.</p> <p>Learning skills: Ability to read historical documents; analysis of political institutions; political doctrines.</p>
Pre-requisites	None.



Course content	The course analyses the birth and development of the modern State, both from a historical perspective and a theoretical perspective. The first part of the course deals with the main issues related to the origins and developments of the modern and contemporary political institutions. The second part of the course concentrates on the history of the political evolutions in the UK, the US, France, and Italy, from the ancien régime to WWI. The third part of the course focuses on political institutions of the Italian Republic as well as on the institutions of the US. The course develops an in-depth analysis of connections and mutual moulding between institutions, political actors and cultural transformations.
Reference Books	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Martin van Creveld, <i>The rise and decline of the State</i>, Cambridge University Press (Chapters: 3, 4, 6). - Martin Clark, <i>Modern Italy, 1871 to the Present</i>, Pearson Education, 2008 - Additional materials distributed during the course classes • NB Class notes are part and parcel of the course work.
Teaching Methods	The main part of the course will consist in lectures. During the second part, students will be asked to give class presentations and to discuss them in groups.
Assessment	The assessment method is: presentations 30%; oral exam 70% (on the two textbooks and lessons' notes). For the ones who are not able to deliver the presentation (Erasmus students or absent) the exam will be on the two textbooks + Tocqueville's <i>Ancient Regime and the Revolution</i> .
