

COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Contemporary party systems	ŠIPA3126

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinators: Mažvydas Jastramskis	Institute of International Relations and Political Science

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
First cycle	Elective

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Seminars, self study	6 semester	Lithuanian

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: None	Additional requirements (if any): None

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed

The purpose of this course is to provide students with knowledge about contemporary party systems, their relationship with other important aspects of democratic political system and research methods applied in this area of political science. In addition, the course aims to develop skills and abilities necessary for independent analysis of political party systems in Europe and around the world.

This course aims to develop subject specific competences, such as the ability to define contemporary party systems, ability to list research methods applied in this area of political science, capacity to analyze the relationship between the democracy and party systems; also, generic competences: ability to analyze and present findings in written and verbal form, ability to respond promptly and comprehensively to questions raised by colleagues or professors.

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Will be able to apply research instruments of party systems independently	Face-to-face lectures, discussions	Assessment of work during seminars
Will be able to understand and interpret the main problems of contemporary party systems	Independent reading, exam	Assessment of exam
Will be able to analyze the relationship between the democracy and party systems	Research methods (texts analysis, preparation for presentation)	Assessment of presentation

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours				Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Introduction. Party „non-systems“. What phenomena can be considered as party systems?			2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Omar Sanchez, “Party Non-Systems: A Conceptual Innovation”. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 15., No.4, 2009, 487–520.
2. Theory of Lipset and Rokann today: frozen party systems have defrosted?			2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Peter Mair, “The Freezing Hypothesis”. Kn. L. Karvonen and S.Kuhnle (eds.) <i>Party Systems and Voter Alignments Revisited</i> . London and New York:

					Routledge, 2001, 24-41.
3. Social cleavages and party system		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Mattei Dogan, „Class, religion, party: Triple decline of electoral cleavages in Western Europe“. In Karvonen, L. and S. Kuhnle (eds.) <i>Party Systems and Voter Alignments Revisited</i> . London and New York: Routledge, 2001, 91-110.
4. Typology of party systems: theoretical model of G. Sartori today		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Giovanni Sartori, „A Typology of Party Systems“. Kn. Peter Mair (ed.), <i>The West European Party System</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990, 316-350
5. Model of contemporary party: what after the „cartel“ party?		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Peter Mair, <i>Party System Change: Approaches and Interpretations</i> . Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1997, 93-119. Klaus Detterbeck, „Cartel Parties in Western Europe?“. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 11, No. 2, 2005, 171-191.
6. Relationship between the electoral systems and party systems (1)		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Rein Taagepera, <i>Predicting Party Sizes: The Logic of Simple Electoral Systems</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007, p. 13-46. Arend Lijphart, <i>Electoral Systems and Party Systems: A Study of Twenty-Seven Democracies 1945-1990</i> . New York: Oxford University Press, 1994.
7. Relationship between the electoral systems and party systems (2)		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Rein Taagepera, <i>Predicting Party Sizes: The Logic of Simple Electoral Systems</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007, p. 101-114. Adriano Pappalardo, „Electoral Systems, Party Systems: Lijphart and Beyond“. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 13, No. 6, 2007, 721-740.
8. Party systems stability and consolidation of democracy: case of Africa		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Carrie Manning, „Assessing African Party Systems after the Third Wave“. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 11. No.6, 2005, 707–727. Michelle Kuenzi and Gina Lambright, „Party Systems and Democratic Consolidation in Africa’s Electoral Regimes“. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 11. No.4, 2005, 423–446
9. Evolution of party system under the context of presidentialism: lessons from Latin America		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Karen L. Remmer, „The Politics of Institutional Change: Electoral Reform in Latin America, 1978-2002“. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 14. No.1, 2008, 5-30. Roberts, Kenneth M. and Erik Wibbels, „Party Systems and Electoral Volatility in Latin America: A Test of Economic, Institutional, and Structural Explanations“. <i>The American Political Science Review</i> , Vol. 93, No. 3, 1999, 575-590.
10. Party competition structures and their significance in contemporary Western Europe		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Peter Mair, <i>Party System Change: Approaches and Interpretations</i> . Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1997, 199-203. Peter Mair, „Electoral Volatility and the Dutch Party System: A Comparative Perspective“. <i>Acta Politica</i> , 2008, 43, p. 235–253
11. Concept of anti-system party		2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Giovanni

today: shape without content?						Capoccia, "Anti-System Parties: A Conceptual Reassessment". <i>Journal of Theoretical Politics</i> , Vol. 14, No. 9, 2002, 9-35. Pippa Norris, „Radical right: Voters and Parties in the Electoral market“. Cambridge: Cambridge university press, 2005, 35-51
12. Party systems in Central and Eastern Europe			2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Marek Rybar, „Old Parties and New: Changing Patterns of Party Politics in Slovakia“. Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i> . Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing -Limited, 2006, 147-176. Petr Kopecky, „The Rise of the Power Monopoly: Political Parties in Czech Republic“. Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i> . Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2006, 125-146.
13. Lithuanian party system (1). Could the stabilization be expected?			2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Ainė Ramonaitė, „The Development of the Lithuanian Party System: From Stability to Perturbation“. Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i> . Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2006, 69-90
14. Lithuanian party system (2). Constitutional engineering as a method of addressing the problems of party system			2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Rein Taagepera, <i>Predicting Party Sizes: The Logic of Simple Electoral Systems</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007, p. 187-200 Emmanuelle Auriol, Robert J. Gary-Bobo, „On the optimal number of representatives“. Toulouse School of Economics, 2010.
15. EU: emerging pan-European party system?			2	2	5	Compulsory reading and analysis of: Gail McElroy and Kenneth Benoit, „Party Groups and Policy Positions in the European Parliament“. <i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 13, No. 1, 2007, 5-28
Presentation		2		2	8	Preparation for the presentation
Exam					15	Preparation for the exam
Total		2	30	32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Evaluation of work during the seminars	20%	Throughout the semester	Active participation in seminars (5%), Essential and relevant comments (5%), Ability to refer to assigned academic literature (5%), Critical thinking and ponderable argumentation (5%)
Exam	40%	During session time	Comprehensiveness of the answers (15 %) Ability to base the answers on the academic literature that was provided throughout the course (10%) Critical thinking (10%) Style: clearness, consistency, academic vocabulary (5%)
Presentation	40%	End of semester	Ability to employ theories and methods discussed throughout the course (10%), Depth of analysis of the topic (15%); Ability to present results in an appropriate coherent form and to respond to colleagues comments efficiently (15%)

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
Sanchez, Omar	2009	“Party Non-Systems: A Conceptual Innovation”.	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 15., No.4	
Mair, Peter	2001	“The Freezing Hypothesis”	Kn. L. Karvonen and S.Kuhnle (eds.) <i>Party Systems and Voter Alignments Revisited</i> .	London and New York: Routledge
Dogan, Mattei	2001	„Class, religion, party: Triple decline of electoral cleavages in Western Europe“	In Karvonen, L. and S. Kuhnle (eds.) <i>Party Systems and Voter Alignments Revisited</i> .	London and New York: Routledge
Sartori, Giovanni	1990	“A Typology of Party Systems”	Kn. Peter Mair (ed.), <i>The West European Party System</i>	Oxford: Oxford University Press
Mair, Peter	1997	<i>Party System Change: Approaches and Interpretations</i>		Oxford: Clarendon Press
Detterbeck, Klaus	2005	„Cartel Parties in Western Europe?“.	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 11, No. 2	
Taagepera, Rein	2007	<i>Predicting Party Sizes: The Logic of Simple Electoral Systems</i> .		Oxford: Oxford University Press
Lijphart, Arend	1994	<i>Electoral Systems and Party Systems: A Study of Twenty-Seven Democracies 1945-1990</i> .		New York: Oxford University Press
Pappalardo, Adriano	2007	„Electoral Systems, Party Systems: Lijphart and Beyond”	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 13, No. 6	
Manning, Carrie	2005	„Assessing African Party Systems after the Third Wave“.	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 11. No.6	
Kuenzi, Michelle and Gina Lambright,	2005	“Party Systems and Democratic Consolidation in Africa’s Electoral Regimes”.	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 11. No.4	
Remmer, Karen L.	2008	“The Politics of Institutional Change: Electoral Reform in Latin America, 1978-2002”	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 14. No.1	
Roberts, Kenneth M. and Erik Wibbels,	1999	„Party Systems and Electoral Volatility in Latin America: A Test of Economic, Institutional, and Structural Explanations“.	<i>The American Political Science Review</i> , Vol. 93, No. 3	
Mair, Peter	1997	<i>Party System Change: Approaches and Interpretations</i>		Oxford: Clarendon Press
Mair, Peter	2008	“Electoral Volatility and the Dutch Party System: A Comparative Perspective”	<i>Acta Politica</i>	
Capoccia, Giovanni	2002	Anti-System Parties: A Conceptual Reassessment	<i>Journal of Theoretical Politics</i> , Vol. 14, No. 9,	
Norris, Pippa	2005	„Radical right: Voters and Parties in the Electoral market“		Cambridge: Cambridge university press
Rybar, Marek	2006	„Old Parties and New: Changing Patterns of Party Politics in Slovakia“	Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i>	Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing - Limited
Kopecky, Petr	2006	„The Rise of the Power Monopoly: Political Parties in Czech Republic“	Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i>	Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited

Ramonaitė, Ainė	2006	„The Development of the Lithuanian Party System: From Stability to Perturbation“.	Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i> .	Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited
Auriol, Emmanuelle, Robert J. Gary-Bobo,	2010	„On the optimal number of representatives“.		Toulouse School of Economics
McElroy, Gail and Kenneth Benoit,	2007	„Party Groups and Policy Positions in the European Parliament“	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol 13, No. 1	
Optional reading				
Szczerbiak, Aleks	2006	„Power without Love: Patterns of Party Politics in Post-1989 Poland“, p. 91-124.	Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i>	Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited
Enyedi, Zsolt	2006	„The Survival of the Fittest : Party System Concentration in Hungary“, p. 177-202	Kn. Susanne Jungerstam-Mulders (ed.), <i>Post-Communist EU Member States: Parties and Party Systems</i> .	Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited
Dunphy, Richard and Tim Bale,	2007	„Red Flag Still Flying? Explaining AKEL – Cyprus’s Communist Anomaly“, p.287-304.	<i>Party Politics</i> , Vol. 13, No.3	