



Political Science (MSc)

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen - M Political Science - 2014-2015

The international, selective and research-oriented Master's programme in Political Science focuses on how processes of transnationalisation and globalisation affect politics, political institutions and public policy-making within, between, and across national states, as well as within the European Union and the global domain. As a consequence of these processes, the distinctions between the national and the international, the public and the private, and the state and the market become blurred. In the Master, these developments are studied from various theoretical perspectives, and with due attention to methodological training, within the programme's four specialisation tracks: *International relations & transnational governance*, *Comparative European politics*, *Policy & Politics* and *Global environmental governance*.

[Objective and attainment levels](#)

[Year schedule](#)

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Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Comparative European Politics

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Comparative European Politics keuzevakken](#)
- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Comparative European Politics verplichte vakken](#)

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Comparative European Politics keuzevakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIGEG
Selected Issues: International Security	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIIS
Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy	Periode 2	6.0	S_SITPE

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Comparative European Politics verplichte vakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Jaar (september)	18.0	S_MTPs
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Periode 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Periode 2	6.0	S_SICPIB
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Periode 1	6.0	S_TACEP
Theories and Approaches in International Relations	Periode 1	6.0	S_TAIR
Workshop in Comparative Policy and Politics	Periode 4	12.0	S_WCPP

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Global Environmental Governance

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Global Environmental Governance keuzevakken](#)
- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Global Environmental Governance verplichte vakken](#)

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Global Environmental Governance keuzevakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Periode 2	6.0	S_SICPIB
Selected Issues: International Security	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIIS
Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy	Periode 2	6.0	S_SITPE

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Global Environmental Governance verplichte vakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Jaar (september)	18.0	S_MTps
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Periode 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIGEG
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Periode 1	6.0	S_TACEP
Theories and Approaches in International Relations	Periode 1	6.0	S_TAIR
Workshop in Global Environmental Governance	Periode 4	12.0	S_WGEG

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting International Relations and Transnational Governance

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting International Relations and Transnational Governance keuzevakken](#)
- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting International Relations and Transnational Governance verplichte vakken](#)

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting International Relations and Transnational Governance keuzevakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Periode 2	6.0	S_SICPIB
Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIGEG
Selected Issues: International Security	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIIS

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting International Relations and Transnational Governance verplichte vakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Jaar (september)	18.0	S_MTps
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Periode 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy	Periode 2	6.0	S_SITPE
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Periode 1	6.0	S_TACEP
Theories and Approaches in International Relations	Periode 1	6.0	S_TAIR

Workshop in International Relations	Periode 4	12.0	S_WIR
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Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics keuzevakken 1](#)
- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics keuzevakken 2](#)
- [Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics verplichte vakken](#)

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics keuzevakken 1

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Governance of Security and Policing	Periode 2	6.0	S_GSP
International Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_IG

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics keuzevakken 2

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance	Periode 2	6.0	S_SIEUMG
Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour	Periode 2	6.0	S_SICPIB

Master Political Science, afstudeerrichting Policy and Politics verplichte vakken

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Master's Thesis in Political Science	Ac. Jaar (september)	18.0	S_MTPs
Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design	Periode 3	6.0	S_PPRPD
Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics	Periode 1	6.0	S_TACEP

Theories of Public Administration and Governance	Periode 1	6.0	S_TPA
Workshop in Comparative Policy and Politics	Periode 4	12.0	S_WCPP

Governance of Security and Policing

Vakcode	S_GSP ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	dr. F. Ostermann
Examinator	dr. F. Ostermann
Docent(en)	dr. F. Ostermann, prof. dr. M.G.W. den Boer
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	500

Doel vak

In this course, students learn about the most important aspects of security governance at the beginning of the 21st century. They will acquire knowledge of how security governance functions at various levels and how various levels interact and complement one another. At the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive overview of how public authorities address security challenges nowadays.

Inhoud vak

The course offers a mix of interactive lectures and guest lectures by academic and non-academic experts. The themes for this course are organized around different levels at which security networks are administered – local, national, international, and transnational. Among others, this course will address issues of local security, national police, cybersecurity and international peace operations.

Onderwijsvorm

Interactive lectures

Toetsvorm

Assessment is based on an essay.

Literatuur

Various articles and/or books, to be announced on Blackboard.

Doelgroep

Master students Bestuurskunde & Politicologie.

Overige informatie

Please bear in mind that this seminar is in English. This means that passive and active command of the English language in reading, writing and speaking is required, particularly in view of the written exam.

International Governance

Vakcode	S_IG ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	H.L. Paanakker MSc
Examinator	H.L. Paanakker MSc
Docent(en)	H.L. Paanakker MSc
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege, Werkgroep

Doel vak

This course aims to deepen students' understanding of selected topics within the study of international governance. Additionally, the course aims to enhance students' analytical skills by critically assessing the arguments put forward and/or research methods adopted in the assigned articles and research essays.

Inhoud vak

This course offers a broad introduction to the theory and practice of global governance. Many societal problems transcend the borders of the nation-state: economic developments and trade, crime, interstate conflicts, or climate change, to name just a few. To cope with these matters, states have partially delegated competencies upwards to supranational bodies. The number of supranational institutions, laws, rules and norms has, accordingly, tremendously increased over time, leaving us with a diverse and complex institutional landscape of global governance. How does this affect the distribution and harnessing of power and influence; who is pulling which strings? And with what repercussions for essential values of governance such as democratic legitimacy? Is global governance truly and evenly global, or are these processes increasingly dividing the powerful and rich from the marginalized and poor? These and other questions will be discussed in this seminar. Via weekly discussions and students' own research on selected topics of global governance we take stock with contemporary global governance arrangements and practices and aim to provide a thorough understanding of the main actors and processes in designing and implementing global rules and discourse.

Onderwijsvorm

Individually written essay, group case study report and compulsory attendance.

Toetsvorm

individually written essay, group case study report, compulsory attendance

Literatuur

Articles on selected topics of international governance (to be announced later through BlackBoard).

Doelgroep

Master students and exchange students in Bestuurskunde (Dygo-track), and RESMA-track.

Master's Thesis in Political Science

Vakcode	S_MTPs ()
Periode	Ac. Jaar (september)
Credits	18.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Examinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege, Werkgroep, Practicum
Niveau	600

Doel vak

In the Master's Thesis the student can demonstrate his/her ability to undertake independent academic research.

Inhoud vak

The Master Thesis is an original individual piece of political science research with which the student concludes the Master program. The Thesis is to address a political science topic of the student's choice and is developed with supervision on an individual or small group tutorial basis. Normally, the thesis includes (at least) a thorough review of relevant literature, an explicit theoretical framework, a well-justified research design, an analysis of the findings, and a conclusion. Maximum length of the thesis is 15,000 words.

Onderwijsvorm

Tutorial and individual supervision

Toetsvorm

Master's Thesis

Vereiste voorkennis

Students must have successfully passed all four courses taught in Periods 1 and 2 (24 EC) before they are eligible for thesis supervision.

Doelgroep

Students in the MSc Political Science

Overige informatie

- Students who have not passed the courses of period 1 and 2 will be allowed conditionally to receive supervision if they have fully participated in those courses but have not yet received passing grades.
- All theses that are passed will be made publicly available through the VU University Library. In cases where there are grounds to keep the thesis confidential, a request to that effect has to be made procedure to the Examination Board at the start of the thesis (See the relevant provisions in the FSW Master's Thesis Regulations).

Political and Policy Research: Philosophy and Design

Vakcode	S_PPRPD ()
Periode	Periode 3
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen

Examinator	prof. dr. B. Vis
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep
Niveau	500

Doel vak

After completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Critically reflect upon the methodological choices involved in social science research and to justify their own choices, linking the levels of epistemology, methodology and techniques;
2. Apply suitable research techniques to the analysis of political phenomena and formulate a research design;
3. Justify methodological choices in setting up a research design;
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of various research traditions in the social and political sciences (e.g., positivist and critical approaches) and the ideas about the relation of theory and empirical observations.

Inhoud vak

Lectures with group work. Before class, students are expected to have studied the readings and to submit a small assignment in which they apply the readings to the topic of their Master thesis. These mini-assignments are to constitute the building blocks of the final paper: a research design. Students who fail to submit their mini-assignments in time will instead have to write a 500 words max. reading reflection of the readings for that class.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures with group work. Two three-hour sessions for four weeks.

Toetsvorm

Class participation, written assignments and final paper

Literatuur

To be announced

Doelgroep

Students in the MSc Political Science

Selected Issues in European Politics and Multilevel Governance

Vakcode	S_SIEUMG ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Examinator	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Docent(en)	prof. dr. B.J.J. Crum
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep

Doel vak

- To familiarise students with topical debates on the political system of the European Union;
- To provide insight in recent research on EU policies, the way that

- they are adopted and the effects that they have;
- To enhance students critical understanding of the potential and limits of various recent approaches to the new European governance;
 - To demonstrate the potential of cross-fertilisation across the traditional divide between comparative politics and IR;
 - To stimulate active class participation;
 - To enhance students' academic writing skills.

Inhoud vak

This course reviews recent political science achievements on a number of selected issues concerning the governing of the European Union. With due attention to both the national, the European and the transnational dimension, we zoom in on topics like the EU's democratic deficit; European socio-economic governance; and the EU's foreign and security policy in a changing world order.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar

Toetsvorm

Written assignment (75%) + class participation (25%)

Literatuur

Selected articles – to be made available via Blackboard.

Doelgroep

MSc students Political Science

Selected Issues: Comparative Political Institutions and Behaviour

Vakcode	S_SICPIB ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep

Doel vak

- To promote knowledge of various key issues and theories in Comparative Politics;
- To master approaches and related methods of Comparative Politics;
- To develop students' academic writing skills.

Inhoud vak

Political institutions, such as political parties and welfare states, shape and are shaped by political behavior, like political values and public opinion. This course examines comparatively a number of key political institutions and types of political behavior. The focus lies particularly on (1) seminal and current theories of political institutions, behavior and their interaction and (2) the approaches and methods to research political institutions and behavior comparatively. Note that these methods are not necessarily statistical.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar

Toetsvorm

Written assignment(s) + class participation

Literatuur

To be announced

Doelgroep

MSc students Political Science

Overige informatie

This course is compulsory for students in the track Comparative European Politics and optional for students in the other Master tracks.

Selected Issues: Global Environmental Governance

Vakcode	S_SIGEG ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	dr. P.H. Pattberg
Examinator	dr. P.H. Pattberg
Docent(en)	dr. P.H. Pattberg
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep
Niveau	500

Doel vak

- To increase students' knowledge of major empirical developments in Global Environmental Governance;
- To train students in identifying the policy relevance of the results of political research as well as detecting pitfalls and shortcomings;
- To invite reflection on the policy relevance and strategic consequences of research;
- To develop students' academic writing skills.

Inhoud vak

This course introduces students to the current state of research within the field of global environmental governance. Global environmental change is one of the great challenges humankind is facing today. Humans now influence almost all biological and physical systems of the planet. Scientists today see mounting evidence that the entire earth system now operates well outside the normal state exhibited over the past 500,000 years, and that human activity is generating change that extends well beyond natural variability – in some cases, alarmingly so – and at rates that continue to accelerate. The perennial question from a social science perspective is how to organize the co-evolution of societies and their surrounding environment, in other words, how to develop effective and equitable governance solutions for today's global problems. This course builds on Theories and Approaches: International Relations and Political Concepts and Processes by teaching students how to apply core concepts of political science to substantial issues in international studies. At the same time, students will be made aware of the current state of research within the field of global environmental governance. This knowledge will be useful in the upcoming workshop later

in the program.

Governance refers to the phenomenon that many public functions increasingly seem to be assumed and carried out by actors other than the government actors of the nation-state. In particular, the course further investigates three profound transformations in global environmental governance: (1) the increasing diversity of agency (i.e. the observation that authority to govern is vested not only in governments and public actors but in a host of non-state actors as well); (2) the institutionalization of novel governance mechanisms and instruments beyond international agreements (e.g. private certification schemes in global forest politics); and (3), the increased fragmentation of global environmental governance into a number of functionally interlinked but increasingly conflictive policy domains (e.g. the potential overlap between climate change and biodiversity governance). For each type of empirical transformation discussed above, a selection of important examples will be analyzed. Students are encouraged to make their own contributions in the form of one essay that presents original research and one class presentation that critically discusses a concrete empirical example of global environmental governance.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar

Toetsvorm

Written assignment (50%) + class participation (10%) + group presentation (40%)

Literatuur

We will use the following text book: Biermann, Frank, and Philipp Pattberg, editors (2012): *Global Environmental Governance Reconsidered*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

A reading list will be made available via Blackboard.

Doelgroep

MSc students Political Science

Overige informatie

This course is compulsory for students in the track Global Environmental Governance and optional for students in the other Master tracks.

Selected Issues: International Security

Vakcode	S_SIIS ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Examinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Docent(en)	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep

Doel vak

- Familiarise students with topical research in international security and to get a practical sense of the insights and challenges involved;

- Increase students' understanding of the structures, actors and processes regarding contemporary international and global security;
- Enhance students' critical understanding of the potential and limits of competing approaches to international security;
- Stimulate active class participation;
- Enhance students' academic writing skills.

Inhoud vak

International Security is a core and still evolving sub-field of International Relations. While traditionally focused on the security of states and on the concern with national security as a source of international conflict, recently, and in the context of globalization, the field has moved beyond this state-centric focus. On the one hand non-state actors and transnational (economic, social and environmental) processes can be seen as affecting national security. On the other hand, it is argued that the concept of security itself must be broadened beyond that of states to include for example human, societal, environmental and energy security. However, also in 'global security' as a more encompassing term, states and their strategies, continue to play a critical role. From this perspective we will critically evaluate both more traditional and newer approaches to international security and examine how they are applied to various contemporary issues. Special attention will be paid to so-called critical approaches, in particular those who seek to relate issues and dynamics of international security to the unequal power structures of the global political economy. From this perspective we may 'deconstruct' national and other actors' strategies for security by analysing the social forces involved in shaping these strategies and hence the social purpose (beyond the official justifications given) that they may serve. From this perspective we will amongst others review the politics of America's national security discourse and related foreign policy; the rise of East Asia and possible security implications; the geopolitics of the growing competition for energy sources and the relationship between security and development.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar

Toetsvorm

Class Participation and written assignment(s). All parts must be passed.

Literatuur

To be announced on blackboard.

Doelgroep

Students of Master Political Science

Selected Issues: Transnational Political Economy

Vakcode	S_SITPE ()
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	dr. N.A. de Graaff
Examinator	dr. N.A. de Graaff

Docent(en)	dr. N.A. de Graaff
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep
Niveau	500

Doel vak

- To advance students' understanding of the epistemological issues involved in International Relations and thereby rendering them capable of developing sound research designs;
- To increase students' knowledge of major empirical developments in transnational political economy;
- To train students in identifying the policy relevance of the results of political research as well as detecting pitfalls and shortcomings;
- To stimulate critical theoretical and normative reflection on research results;
- To invite reflection on the policy relevance and strategic consequences of research;
- To enhance students' abilities in academic writing and reporting on research for different audiences as well as drafting summaries for discussion.

Inhoud vak

This course deals with a key field of International Relations (IR). Traditionally, the field of IR was subdivided in the fields of international security and international political economy. As a consequence of major transformations of the international system (end of the Cold War, globalization, the rise of new great powers, climate change), the boundaries between these subfields have blurred. In this course the focus is on transnational political economy. We will deal with the general framework through which transnational affairs are dealt with (e.g. international regimes, global governance), and with a number of specific issues (e.g. global migration, international finance, energy security, international division of labour). In each case, students are challenged to explore the ways in which the boundaries between economics and politics in a transnational setting are transcended; seemingly "economic" issues are actually highly political in nature and are often the cause of conflict and struggle (sometimes violent) between and within states.

Onderwijsvorm

Interactive seminars

Toetsvorm

Participation (30%), written assignments (70%, of which final paper 50%, which must be graded with at least a 5.5 to pass)

Literatuur

State-of-the-art articles and book chapters (via Blackboard).

Doelgroep

Course is open only to students in the MSc Political Science, MSR students and the LLM Law and Politics of International Security programmes; other students need special permission.

Overige informatie

This course is compulsory for students in the track International Relations and Transnational Governance and optional for students in one of the other Master tracks.

Theories and Approaches in Comparative European Politics

Vakcode	S_TACEP ()
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	dr. P.J.M. Pennings
Examinator	dr. P.J.M. Pennings
Docent(en)	dr. P.J.M. Pennings
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep, Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

This course is meant to introduce the students to the contemporary state of the art in comparative political science.

Inhoud vak

Based on the Handbook of Comparative Politics (edited by Daniele Caramani) a large number of topics in the comparative politics of European and OECD democracies will be discussed representing the various approaches to comparative political science as well as its methods and use of different types of data. In addition the student will be made familiar with how to employ theory in different research designs, including assignments. The course will be concluded by the student by developing a research design which is his/her final paper.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar: Instruction - Discussion - Assignments

Toetsvorm

In addition to a final paper there will be two written assignments. Together with the final paper and active participation (by delivering your methodological reflection on the content of each chapter) the assignments are part of the final grading.

Literatuur

D. Caramani: Comparative Politics. Oxford: OUP [latest Edition].

Doelgroep

Students of MSc Political Science.

Overige informatie

Lectures will be once a week (3 hours tuition).

Theories and Approaches in International Relations

Vakcode	S_TAIR ()
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen

Coördinator	dr. P.H. Pattberg
Examinator	dr. P.H. Pattberg
Docent(en)	dr. P.H. Pattberg
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep, Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

Objectives and learning goals:

- To provide students with an overview of the theoretical foundations of IR, thus enabling them to analyse concrete historical developments from various theoretical perspectives;
- To teach students to critically reflect upon the meta-theoretical foundations - and their methodological and normative implications – of (social science) theory (increasing their reflexive knowledge of both the main traditions and of paradigmatic change);
- To familiarize students with the critical assessment of political science literature, in particular by placing it within a historical context and by reflecting upon both the social constitution of theory as well as its socially constitutive effects.

Inhoud vak

Whereas IR traditionally (and narrowly) defined deals almost exclusively with relations between states, the 'discipline' has moved much beyond such a narrow state-centrism in order to embrace a much broader conception of world politics in which there is attention to both state and non-state actors and both interstate and other global social structures. This broader conception of world politics is point of departure for this introductory course and is in fact taken one step further by departing from the notion that contemporary world politics is of a fundamentally transnational nature. Thus, politics is not just between states but also the political struggle between various transnational interest groups, movements and social forces. Although there is no world polity, there is a European polity, and internationally there are numerous international organizations that constitute institutionalized structures of global governance. Policy, finally, is not just produced by states as foreign policy, but also by the aforementioned international organizations and by the EU. A second characteristic is that although we consider IR as a mature sub-discipline of political science which is grounded in various approaches and methods of general political science (and therefore clearly linked to the other stream of the MSc in Political Science), we also recognize the contributions from other disciplines (including philosophy, economics, sociology, anthropology, and law) to the field and stress the importance of interdisciplinary research. This course is structured as a historical overview of the development of the discipline, placed in a wider historical context of 'real-world' developments in the global system - stressing the obvious links between those developments and the development of theory - as well as in a wider social science context, trying to see how IR theory developed in relation to other disciplines and to wider debates within the social sciences. Next to the historical context considerable attention is given to the meta-theoretical assumptions (and methodological implications thereof) underlying various approaches and theories as we believe that these are key to understanding the major debates, and that - for their own research - it is important that students critically reflect upon those assumptions.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar. Building on prior knowledge of students (i.e., students from our Bachelor's programme are assumed to have basic knowledge of the IR and European integration literature used in the bachelor, and students coming from outside to have an equivalent knowledge), students will work through the literature in tutorial form. The total amount of reading will be about 80 pages per session.

Toetsvorm

Participation, including three pieces of homework (30%) and one final essay (70%).

Literatuur

The course is based on Scott Burchill et al (2013). Theories of International Relations, 5th ed. London: Palgrave (to be bought). A reader will be made available.

Doelgroep

MSc Political Science students.

Theories of Public Administration and Governance

Vakcode	S_TPA ()
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	prof. dr. L.W.J.C. Huberts
Examinator	prof. dr. L.W.J.C. Huberts
Docent(en)	prof. dr. L.W.J.C. Huberts, H.L. Paanakker MSc
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege, Werkgroep
Niveau	500

Doel vak

To gain knowledge and insight in public administration theories, their strengths and weaknesses, and to learn how to use PA theory in research on governance and public administration.

Inhoud vak

The seminar will focus on the state of the art of theory development in the fields of public administration and governance studies. Of course, some attention is paid to foundational questions ('how we go about knowing what we know'), but an overview of different approaches and fields of study is at the heart of the seminar. These will include theories about politics and bureaucracy, rational and public choice, institutions of governance, public management and decision-making, postmodern analysis, governance and networks, and ethics and integrity. The theories or approaches will be related to specific research interests and questions, in order to clarify their meaning and potential as well as to show and practice how theory can be related to actual empirical work and research.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures, group meetings, presentations

Toetsvorm

Exam, written assignment and presentations

Literatuur

- H. George Frederickson, Kevin B. Smith, Christopher W. Larimer & Michael J. Licari (2012). The Public Administration Theory Primer. Second Edition. Boulder: Westview Press (ISBN 978-0-8133-4576-5 pbk; 978-0-8133-4577-2 e-book).
- Jay M. Shafritz & Albert C. Hyde (Eds.) (2012). Public Administration. Classic Readings, N.P.: Wadsworth Cengage, 551 pp., paperback, International Student Edition.
- Additional papers (Blackboard).

Doelgroep

Master students 'Public Administration' and 'Political Science: track Policy and Politics'.

Workshop in Comparative Policy and Politics

Vakcode	S_WCPP ()
Periode	Periode 4
Credits	12.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Examinator	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Docent(en)	prof. dr. A.C. Hemerijck
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep
Niveau	600

Doel vak

- To train students in critically evaluating political science research, in particular in the area of Comparative European Politics;
- To guide students in the process of designing theory-guided research projects, alone or in working groups;
- To train students in selecting and applying the appropriate methods and techniques of data collection and analysis to carry out research projects;
- To enhance the abilities of students in academic writing and reporting on research for discussion;
- To invite critical theoretical and normative reflection on the research results;
- To train students to work in small research teams.

Inhoud vak

The workshop may either focus on a particular theme / research area or deal with a plurality of research topics in Comparative European Politics. In both cases, the main aim of the workshop is to train students 'on the spot' by letting them critically evaluate the research of others (looking at contrasting examples of research); to develop, in the same critical vein, a theory-guided research design jointly with fellow students; and to carry out (part of) that research also in small groups as well as individually. Students can build upon this in developing a design for their own Master's Thesis.

Onderwijsvorm

Tutorial. Students will work in small groups, and report on their work both orally and in writing.

Toetsvorm

Individual assignments and group work as well as in-class participation.

Literatuur

Selected articles

Doelgroep

Students in the MSc Political Science, Tracks Comparative European Politics and Policy and Politics.

Workshop in Global Environmental Governance

Vakcode	S_WGEG ()
Periode	Periode 4
Credits	12.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	prof. dr. F.H.B. Biermann
Examinator	prof. dr. F.H.B. Biermann
Docent(en)	prof. dr. F.H.B. Biermann, S.C. van der Hel BSc
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep
Niveau	600

Doel vak

To train students in critically evaluating political science research, in particular in the area of global environmental governance; To guide students in the process of designing theory-guided research projects, alone or in working groups; To train students in selecting and applying the appropriate methods and techniques of data collection and analysis to carry out research projects; To enhance the abilities of students in academic writing and reporting on research for discussion; To invite critical theoretical and normative reflection on the research results; To train students to work in small research teams.

Inhoud vak

In this workshop, students will be divided in working groups that focus on different themes relating to international (environmental) relations and global environmental governance, ranging from the effectiveness of different global governance architectures to questions of accountability, legitimacy, and justice. The workshop will build on introductory lectures; joint discussion sessions on key readings in international relations and global environmental governance; individual and team research that leads to review essays and to a longer essay (in the style of a journal article) on one of the themes; and class presentations and discussions of research findings. Students will be asked to critically evaluate the research of others (looking at contrasting examples of research); to develop own theory-guided or policy-oriented research designs jointly with fellow students in the area of global environmental governance; and to carry out that research in small groups as well as individually. Students can build upon this in

developing a design for their Master's Thesis.

Onderwijsvorm

Tutorial. Students will work in small groups, and report on their work both orally and in writing.

Toetsvorm

Individual assignments and group work well as in-class participation.

Literatuur

Selected articles and books

Vereiste voorkennis

Participation in Selected Issues in Global Environmental Governance (S_SIGEG) is required.

Doelgroep

MSc students in political science and international relations.

Workshop in International Relations

Vakcode	S_WIR ()
Periode	Periode 4
Credits	12.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen
Coördinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Examinator	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn
Docent(en)	dr. E.B. van Apeldoorn, B. Poor Toulabi LLM
Lesmethode(n)	Werkgroep
Niveau	600

Doel vak

- To train students in critically evaluating political science research, in particular in the area of international relations and transnational governance;
- To guide students in the process of designing theory-guided or policy-oriented research projects, alone or in working groups;
- To train students in selecting and applying the appropriate methods and techniques of data collection and analysis to carry out research projects;
- To enhance the abilities of students in academic writing and reporting on research for discussion;
- To invite critical theoretical and normative reflection on the research results;
- To train students to work in small research teams.

Inhoud vak

On the basis of a collective thematic focus the workshop aims to train students in doing political science themselves within the field of International Relations and Transnational Governance. This course starts by critically examining; - as a class, and in small groups; - some key issues – on the basis of selected readings – within the overarching theme, thus seeking to acquire in depth knowledge and understanding of existing research in this area, and then, in the final weeks, proceeds

by applying that knowledge by designing and carrying out small research projects. This way, substantive knowledge is deepened while at the same time the focus is on training students 'on the spot'; further developing students' (research) skills and competences within the setting of a research practical. The main aim of the workshop is thus to train students in the practice of political science research, familiarizing students with the different meta- theoretical and methodological issues and problems involved, such as: research design; choice of research methods; data collection and empirical analysis; causality, inference and interpretation.

Onderwijsvorm

Seminar

Toetsvorm

Class Participation and Written Assignment(s). All Parts must be passed.

Literatuur

To be announced on blackboard

Doelgroep

Students MSc Political Science, Track International Relations