Faculty of Economics and Political Science

Evolution of Arab and Western Political Thought

Information :

Course Code :	PSC 201	**Level :**	Undergraduate	**Course Hours :**	3.00- Hours

Department :	Department of Political Mass Media

Instructor Information :

Title	Name	Office hours
Lecturer	Mariam Waheed Mahmoud Mekheimar	
Lecturer	Sarra Mohamed Moneir ElSayed Ahmed	
Lecturer	Sarra Mohamed Moneir ElSayed Ahmed	
Teaching Assistant	Nada Youssef Abbas Amin	2

Area Of Study :

This course discusses the big questions of Western political thought such as the relationship between politics and ethics, the relationship between the state and society, religion, family, social classes, individuals, women and other states. It analyzes these issues through a critical reading of classical authors from antiquity to the twentieth century within their historical context such as Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Spinoza, Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu, Hume, Hamilton, Burke, Mill and Max Weber.
The course also treats Arab political thought since the nineteenth century until the end of the twentieth century. It distinguishes between the major trends that emerged during this period: the nationalist, the liberal and the socialist trends. Moreover, the course touches on the perception of different Arab thinkers of key concepts such as: nation, identity, justice, reform, secularism and democracy.

Course Goals:
ÅDistinguish between main thinkers.
ÅAnalyze the relation between the classic and modern theories.
ÅFormulate academic argument in the form of a research paper.

Description :

This course discusses the big questions of Western political thought such as the relationship between politics and ethics, the relationship between the state and society, religion, family, social classes, individuals, women and other states. It analyzes these issues through a critical reading of classical authors from antiquity to the twentieth century within their historical context such as Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Spinoza, Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu, Hume, Hamilton, Burke, Mill and Max Weber.
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Course outcomes :

a.Knowledge and Understanding: :

1 -	Identify key concepts in the Arab political thought.

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2 -	Explain the relationship between politics and ethics, and that between the state and society, religion, family, social classes, individuals, women and other states.
b.Intellectual Skills: :	
1 -	Distinguish between the classic and modern Western and Arab political thought.
2 -	Compare the thought of different prominent classical Western and Arab political thinkers.
c.Professional and Practical Skills: :	
1 -	Write reports analyzing such Western and Arab political thought.
2 -	Develop argumentative skills to employ in an academic environment.
d.General and Transferable Skills: :	
1 -	Use critical thinking.
2 -	Develop academic writing skills.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Introduction	3	1	
Relationships: state, society, religion, family, social classes, individuals, and women.	3	1	
Greek political thought	3	1	
Roman political thought	3	1	
Christian political thought	3	1	
Modern Western political thought	3	1	
Midterm Exam		1	
Politics during the prophetic state and the Khulafaa' al-Rashedoon	3	1	
Constants and variables in Islamic politics	3	1	
Key Arab and Muslim philosophers (part 1)	3	1	
Key Arab and Muslim philosophers (part 2)	3	1	
Key politicians in the Islamic Renaissance	3	1	
Islamic politics in the age of Modernity	3	1	
Theoretical challenges	3	1	
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

Data show and computer in lectures

Group discussion

Research Paper

Debates

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Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Class work (assignments, quizzes, research papers, class attendance, class participation)	30.00		To assess understanding.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills
Midterm Exam (s)	30.00	7	To assess professional skills

Recommended books :

Anouar Abdel-Malek, Contemporary Arab Political Thought, Zed Books Ltd, 1984.

Ibn Taymiyyah, The Political Shariyah on Reforming the Ruler, Dar ul Fiqh UK, 2000.

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