



Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Syllabus
3П 1.1
PHD 622
Specialty: 051 “Economics”
Educational program “Economics”

Quarter/Year: Fall/2023

Instructor: Dr. Nataly Amalyan

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Prerequisites: -

ECTS Credits: 3

US Credits: 1.5

Course Description

The course, which is writing- and reading-intensive, focuses on the discussion of specific topics at the intersection of philosophy, politics, and economics.

The core of the course - familiarization students with the philosophical, political, and economic approaches to the most topical problems of the modern world, including theories (of Rational, Public and Social choice, of [Decision-making](#), Money and Banking) and practice of [Public policy](#), Banking and Corruption.

Each of the three viewpoints makes a distinctively valuable contribution to the degree. Studying philosophy develops analytical, critical, and logical rigour through discussion of deep, puzzling questions. In turn, the study of politics provides a thorough understanding of the impact of political institutions on modern societies. It helps PhD students to evaluate the choices that political systems must regularly make, to explain the processes that maintain or change those systems, and to examine the concepts and values used in political analysis. Economics facilitates understanding of the decisions of consumers, firms and government that collectively determine how resources are allocated. An appreciation of economics has become increasingly necessary to make sense of governmental policy-making, the conduct of businesses and the enormous economic transformations throughout the world.

This course will familiarize students with the fundamentals of philosophy and economic policy in specific spheres as well as with evolution of the practical approaches to problem solving in these spheres.

It is aimed at the development of students' complex/critical thinking.

The course will be taught through 12 classes. Texts of the lectures will be posted on MOODLE. Specific web-sites and readings for each class and PowerPoint presentations will be also posted on Moodle.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

PH02. Deep understanding of basic (fundamental) principles and methods of economic sciences, as well as the methodology of scientific research, to create new knowledge in the sphere of an economy with the purpose achievement economic and social development in conditions of globalization.

PH05. Propose new solutions, develop scientific projects that give the possibility of rethinking and creating new integral knowledge and/or professional practice, solve significant and fundamental problems in economic science, taking into account social, economic, and environmental issues and legal aspects; provide commercialization results based on scientific research and compliance rights to intellectual property.

PH09. Formulate and check hypotheses; use for justification of conclusions proper evidence the results of theoretical analysis, empirical research, mathematical and/or computer modeling, and available literary data.

Competencies

IC, Ability to generate new ideas to solve complex economic problems, as well as conduct actual scientific research, the results of which have scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance, implying deep rethinking available and creating new ones integral to knowledge and/or professional practice.

3K01. Ability to abstract thinking, analysis, and synthesis.

3K04. Ability to generate new ideas (creativity).

CK03. Ability to use modern methodologies, methods, and tools of empirical and theoretical research in the field of economics, computer modeling methods, modern digital technologies, databases, and other electronic resources, and specialized software in scientific and scientific-pedagogical activities.

CK05. Ability to identify, conduct in-depth analysis, and solve problems of a research nature in the field of economics, taking into account economic risks and possible socio-economic consequences, and to evaluate and ensure the quality of performed research, including issues of European and Euro-Atlantic integration.

Internationality: The international aspect of the course includes introduction of students to the most popular political, philosophical and economic concepts of the development of modern society and the attempts of their implementation in the USA and Europe.

Communications

For individual issues, students should contact the professor **ONLY** by given e-mail or by Moodle. In the Subject line they should put: UACUFirstNameLastName. E-mail messages will normally be answered within 24 hours.

Note! Only emails sent from the student's corporate email address will be answered.

Attention! Official and only language used for assessment activities is English.

Official and only languages used for communication within the University are Ukrainian and English.

Student Responsibilities

Time Commitment

The study of technical courses is cumulative (i.e., an understanding of earlier material is necessary to grasp concepts covered later). Past experience has shown a high correlation between procrastination and low grades. Students must be committed to completing tasks on time.

Technical Aspects

The student is obliged to provide himself/herself with all the necessary technical equipment for the educational process (laptop or computer, webcam, headsets or headphones and microphone), as well as access to the Internet.

Only students signed-in with their own first and last name are allowed into video lectures in Zoom.

Grading Policy

The course is based on mastery of course outcomes. Student grades for this course will be calculated based on performance.

Note: the minimal grade to pass a subject is 60%.

Graduate Grading Guidelines

The assignment of a letter grade for a course is an indication of the student's overall success in achieving the learning outcomes for the course. The course letter grade may be viewed as a summary statement of the student's achievement in individual assessments (assignments & activities). These assessments are intended to identify for students their strengths as well as those areas in need of improvement. Student work is assessed according to the guidelines below.

Course-level Grading guidelines:

Grade	ECTS Grade	International Grade
90% - 100%	A	5 (Excellent)
83% - 89%	B	4 (Very Good)
75% - 82%	C	4 (Good)
70% - 74%	D	3 (Good)
60% - 69%	E	3 (Acceptable)
35% - 59%	FX	Not acceptable, possible repetition of course

Criteria for grading:

ECTS grade	Requirements for the student
A	The student demonstrated a comprehensive systemic and in-depth knowledge of program material; processed basic and additional literature; obtained a solid grasp of the conceptual apparatus, methods, techniques and tools provided by the program; found creative abilities in the presentation of the educational program material both on this issue and on related modules of the course and related courses, or the student had a current control of 90-100 points.

B	The student demonstrated good knowledge of program material;
C	processed the basic literature, mastered the conceptual apparatus, methods, techniques and tools provided by the program, but with some inaccuracies
D	The student showed mediocre knowledge of the core program material; learned information mainly from a lecture course or just one
E	textbook; mastered only certain methods, techniques and tools provided by the program
FX	The student has significant gaps in knowledge of the main program material; fragmentary mastered the basic concepts, techniques and tools; significant mistakes are made when using them

Maximum total possible points – 100 points ([Midterm](#) and Final exam are 60% of overall evaluation, where [Midterm](#) – 20% and Final – 40%)

- Test / Assignment / [Essay](#) – 3 or 4 points for each assignment depending on its complexity (12 times during the course)
- [Midterm](#) exam – 20 points
- Final exam – 40 points

Student Workload

It is assumed that for each out of 12 class sessions a student spends about 10.5 academic hours of work. This includes 3.5 academic hours of lectures with the instructor and 7 academic hours of personal work. Personal work includes implementation of gained theoretical knowledge into discussion of the most controversial issues into short essays. Please pay attention that 1 academic hour equals to 40 minutes.

Assignment Format

- All work should be shown in time. If the student misses the deadline – the task is failed.
- [Midterm](#) covers topics from previous lectures (weeks 1-7). It includes proceedings for the conference and quiz.
- The Final exam covers all course material and includes multiple choice questions and article for the Journal. It lasts for 1.5 hours. Admission to the Final exam is possible only if all the tasks of the curriculum are covered.
- After the [Midterm](#) and Final is graded a student has access only to the grades. Access to the attempt of correcting answers and information on whether the answer is correct cannot be granted.

Academic dishonesty

- Academic integrity is submitting one's own work and properly acknowledging the contributions of others. Forms of academic dishonesty include:
 1. Plagiarism — submitting all or part of another's work as one's own in an academic exercise such as an examination, a computer program, or written assignment.
 2. Cheating — using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on an examination or assignment, such as using unauthorized texts or notes or improperly obtaining (or attempting to obtain) copies of an examination or answers to an examination. Including the use of artificial intelligence and pre-prepared answers to the questions of tasks is prohibited (unless otherwise specified in the task itself or allowed by the instructor).

3. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty — helping another commit an act of dishonesty, such as substituting for an examination or completing an assignment for someone else.

4. Fabrication — altering or transmitting, without authorization, academic information or records.

· Any violation of these rules constitutes academic dishonesty and is liable to result in a failing grade and disciplinary action. In case of any academic dishonesty a student is not allowed to continue or retake the assessment activity and for the Final the unsatisfactory grade (“0”) is assigned for the course total. Cases of the academic dishonesty are not considered by the Academic Council.

· [Midterm](#) and Final are valid only if they are taken on-campus (room defined by the dean’s office) and on UACU’s computer/laptop or online on the student’s computer/laptop using Zoom and other conditions defined by the dean's office to avoid the cases of academic dishonesty. Students who will not meet this requirement will be expelled from the course with grade “0”.

· In case of missed [Midterm](#) or Final exam (for a valid reason like sickness or an emergency) a request to repeat the exam is possible. Permit to repeat a [midterm](#) or final exam is done through a letter to the dean's office with request and approval of subject lecturer.

· Submission or retaking of any assessment activities after deadlines are forbidden.

Submission & Return Policy

Assignments ([essay](#) up to 300 words, expressing own thoughts of the author) must be submitted to the professor on or before the due date indicated in the Course Schedule. The assignments submitted after the due dates receive zero points.

**** NO MAKE –UP QUIZZES AND EXAMS ****

Schedule

Week #	Research Projects	Assignments Due Volume of essay – up to 300 words	Points
Lecture 1	Topic: Introduction to the course. Rational Choice Theory	The Kahneman-Tversky heuristics-and-biases approach to economics	3
Lecture 2	Topic: Decision-Making Theories	Do the humans have free will (based on Libet experiment)?	4
Lecture 3	Topic: Public policy	Essay : Positive and negative traits of any chosen model of public policy	3
Lecture 4	Topic: Introduction to Public choice theory	Create your own marketplace for rent-seeking	4
Lecture 5	Topic: Public choice theory: Officials	Bureaucracy vs ‘think tank’ democracy in army	4

Lecture 6	Topic: PPE of voting	Shall we have the Presidential elections in March 2024? Why?	3
Lecture 7	Topic: Public choice theory: Pressure group	Ethical aspect of government-pressure group relations	3
Midterm. 20% out of total amount of points for the course		Quiz and Proceedings for the conference	20
Lecture 8	Topic: Market failures	Long-term results of Quantitative easing	3
Lecture 9	Topic: Government failures	Will our victory in war bring any changes in the governance of Ukraine?	4
Lecture 10	Topic: PPE of Corruption	Are there any correlation between corruption and democracy?	3
Lecture 11	Topic: Social justice	Problem of abortion - who has a right for what: fetuses for life or woman for control of her body?	2
Lecture 12	Topic: PPE of money and banking	What do you think about the plans of the US government to create the US Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)? In case of their realization, how will it affect foreign holders of US dollars?	4
Final 40% out of total amount of points for the course		Quiz	40

Recommended Materials

- Olson Jr, M. (1971). *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups, with a new preface and appendix* (Vol. 124). Harvard University Press. (attached)
- Tullock, G. (1967). The welfare costs of tariffs, monopolies, and theft. *Economic inquiry*, 5(3), 224-232. (attached)WELFARE
- Caplan, B. (2011). The myth of the rational voter: why democracies choose bad policies-new edition. In *The myth of the rational voter*. Princeton University Press (attached)WEL
- Cowen, T., & Tabarrok, A. (2009). *Modern principles of economics*. Third Edition. (attached)WEL
- Krueger, A. O. (1990). [Government failures](#) in development. *Journal of Economic perspectives*, 4(3), 9-23.
- Niskanen, W. A. (1968). The peculiar economics of bureaucracy. *The American Economic Review*, 58(2), 293-305.
- Watch all 23 videos in the PPE series
- Predictably Irrational | Dan Ariely | Talks at Google
- А.Баумейстер. Свобода волі: реальність чи ілюзія? -

The above schedule and procedures are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Протокол засідання кафедр № 4 від 22.08.2023 року

Проректор з навчально-методичної роботи



Л.І.Кондратенко

Завідувач кафедри



Л.В.Жарова

Викладач



Н.Д.Амалян

