UNIVERSITY OF THE PELOPONNESE

PSIR

Department of Political Science and International Relations

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

**DEPARTMENT
OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

STUDY GUIDE

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

CONTENTS

Περιεχόμενα

1. THE AIM OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of the Peloponnese was established in 2007 based on Presidential Decree 118/2003 (Government Gazette 102, issue A') and is part of the School of Social and Political Sciences based in the city of Corinth. Students were first enrolled in the academic year 2007-2008.

The mission of the Department, according to the Government Gazette establishing it, is: i) to cultivate and promote knowledge in the areas of the organisation and operation of state institutions and the political institutions of central and regional national and European administration, as well as socio-economic and geopolitical changes and relations that are part of domestic and international developments, ii) to provide students with the necessary skills to ensure their thorough training for scientific and professional careers, iii) to organise postgraduate studies leading to the training of scientists with specialised knowledge in specific subjects of the Department, and iv) to promote science and research, particularly in the fields of European relations and the development of European political institutions, diplomacy and international co-operation, and the study and promotion of Greece's relations with the Greek diaspora, highlighting its intervention at the economic, political, and cultural levels in the constantly evolving Balkan, European, and international environment.

Useful Information

The department is located near the Centre of Corinth. Access to the city is easy either via the modern motorway (Athens-Patras motorway) or via the Suburban Railway (Athens-Kiato). Regular bus services connect the Department with the KTEL bus station in Athens.

The contact details of the Department are:
Department of Political Science and International Relations
School of Political Science and International Relations,
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Corinth, P.C. 20132
Tel: +302741040040
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Email: pedis@uop.gr

1.1. Learning Outcomes of the Undergraduate Programme of Studies

The Undergraduate Programme of Studies (UPS) of PSIR aims for graduates of the Department to acquire qualifications recognised for students in the first cycle of higher education. These qualifications, which are developed and demonstrated as Knowledge (facts, principles, theories and practices), Skills (cognitive and practical) and Abilities (managing actions or projects with responsibility and achieving autonomy), are compatible with Level Six (6) Indicators of the National and European Qualifications Framework.

More generally, the central purpose of the UPS is the systematic academic education and sound scientific training of the students of PSIR in the fields of "Political Science"

and "International Relations" and their interdisciplinary interconnection with International Political Economy, Area Studies, Cultural Studies, Contemporary History, Sociology, Philosophy, Law and Information Systems. The curriculum aims at imparting specialised knowledge in Political Science and International Relations so that students will acquire the ability to understand and critically analyse theories and phenomena concerning the design and implementation of policies both at the level of the national state and in the context of the European Union, non-governmental organisations and international organisations. In this way, students are expected to: a) develop skills to deepen and broaden their knowledge in specific subjects such as political theory, comparative politics, political leadership, public policies, political economy, development studies, systems of analysis, European studies, area studies, cultural studies, contemporary history, constitutional, European and international law, political sociology, political philosophy, foreign policy analysis, security studies, conflict resolution, strategic studies and geopolitics; and (b) to develop competences to develop work/research projects, either individually or in cooperation, and to undertake management tasks in their areas of expertise, while taking responsibility for decision-making and managing or solving problems that arise.

In particular, the UPS seeks learning outcomes in terms of knowledge, skills and abilities. Upon successful completion of the curriculum, graduates of PSIR:

- Possess, as knowledge, advanced knowledge in the fields of Political Science and International Relations that enables them to make use of the theories, views, approaches, research practices and principles of the above fields and, therefore, to develop, in a systematic and structured way, their analytical and critical thinking. More specifically, the graduates of PSIR:
  - ✓ are familiar with the basic conceptual categories, theoretical approaches and research methods of Political Science and International Relations, i.e. with a coherent and cohesive body of knowledge that allows them to deepen and broaden their horizons of analysis on issues of political, economic, social, cultural and legal interest at global, European, state and local level,
  - ✓ have acquired a multi-faceted and multi-level background of knowledge that enables them to understand and exploit the dynamics of scientific development and innovation in political science and international relations,
  - ✓ cultivate analytical and critical knowledge of the specialised disciplines of Political Science and International Relations, as well as the different ways of research, study and writing,
  - ✓ acquire knowledge related to the constantly evolving digital environment of the modern world, such as big data, information systems, and artificial intelligence, and its impact on several subject areas studied in Political Science and International Relations.

- They possess, as skills, sufficient and innovative tools to understand and solve existing and new, complex and difficult problems that constitute objects of research and study in Political Science and International Relations. More specifically, the graduates of PSIR:
  - ✓ use, adapt and apply the knowledge and research methods they have acquired in order to analyse ideas and information, explore contemporary and topical issues and acquire new knowledge in issues related to Political Science and International Relations

- learn to use in a scientific way the knowledge base and analytical tools they have acquired and the various reference and documentation sources available, both in print and online, to argue, formulate ideas and opinions, solve problems and formulate policy proposals on issues of international, European and domestic life, which cut across political, economic, social, cultural and legal fields,
- develop and communicate, in writing and orally, to specific or general audiences and to broader groups in civil society and public opinion, valid opinions and judgments, with reasoned, analytical and critical discourse or counter-discourse, on issues and subject matters falling within the fields of knowledge of Political Science and International Relations,
- apply digital tools, means, and methods for collecting, processing, utilizing, and presenting data, information, and knowledge on topics related to Political Science and International Relations.

- Manage, abilities, activities or individuals and groups in complex and unpredictable study or work situations while taking responsibility for decision-making. More specifically, the graduates of PSIR UPS:

  - utilize, adapt and apply their acquired knowledge and research methods to analyse ideas and information, investigate long-standing and current issues, and acquire new knowledge in issues related to Political Science and International Relations,
  - have sufficient autonomy and appropriate guarantees of professionalism and social responsibility and ethics to transfer, develop, adapt and put into practice, within defined contexts, the knowledge and skills they have learned, to evaluate and undertake activities, to manage individuals and groups and to formulate and take decisions.

1.2. Assessment and Accreditation

In 2014 an external evaluation assessment was conducted by the Higher Education Quality Assurance Agency. More precisely, the External Evaluation Report highlights the Department's strengths as follows:

- *"the curriculum is organized well, with its various components related to each other sensibly, and it fulfils the overall mission of the Department, imparting knowledge, developing analytical and research skills, and connecting theory to practice",*
- *"it has produced a respectable volume of quality publications, achieving rich collaborations with Greek and international colleagues, as well as having instituted Research Groups of substantial originality",*
- *"it has developed an impressive array of courses that respond effectively to the contemporary needs of undergraduate studies, effectively serving the educational needs and requirements of undergraduate students",*
- *"the use of information and communication technologies for upholding learning processes is remarkable".*

In 2019, the Certification process of the Undergraduate Study Program was completed with great success in accordance with the criteria and conditions of the Quality Assurance Authority (QAA). Acclaimed scientists from foreign Universities

certified the Program according to a series of internationally accepted indicators and found that it is a scientifically and functionally sound undergraduate program effectively covering the relevant educational needs. More details can be found here.

We quote only some of the many characteristically positive remarks of the external evaluators regarding the emphasis given to students:

> *"There is a great deal of respect, camaraderie, and collegiality in the Department (PSIR) and between the Department and students",*
> *"The student-focused learning is not only reflected in the module selection or pedagogical approaches but also in the module mapping throughout the semester",*
> *"The Department makes certain that modules are offered in a cycle and frequency that accommodates the needs of a student body (…) the students and their needs are at the forefront of the academic mission of the Department",*
> *"The students have a clear strong voice and have mechanisms of shared governance as well as a participatory voice in the curricular offerings. This is especially evident in the student module evaluations and in the level of participation in classes. (…)"*
> *"A careful allocation is also made between obligatory and elective courses for each level and for each area of special focus so that all students have viable options within a semester".*

1.3. Graduate's professional potential

The Department offers a particularly wide range of opportunities and career prospects. The studies in both the fields of Political Science and International Relations constitute an excellent "basic" education so that graduates can fill numerous jobs in a wide range of fields and also proceed to a postgraduate course of education, specialising in their field.

The main professional directions include:

1. Public sector bodies: With an emphasis on staffing ministries and central government agencies and taking on advisory roles, e.g. Parliament, Ministries, Public Enterprises and Organisations, Regional and Local Government.
2. International and Regional Organisations: Agencies and bodies of the European Union and international bodies such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the High Commissioner, the International Organisation for Migration, etc.
3. Greek and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in the fields of international development cooperation and the social economy.
4. (Political) Communication Bodies & Think Tanks.
5. Media & Research and Polling Companies.
6. Private sector companies: Companies operating in Greece and abroad.
7. International development aid agencies
8. Consulting and project management companies
9. Greek and international research institutes,
10. Political foundations and research institutes

To see more on the professional prospects of PSIR graduates, visit https://pedis.uop.gr/en/professional-potential.

2. INFRASTRUCTURE

The Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of the Peloponnese is housed in two adjacent modern buildings in the Centre of the city of Corinth, on Athinon Avenue & Aristotelous Street. The Department has in its main building five classrooms with modern educational equipment, a library and a fully equipped computer laboratory. The second building houses the offices of the faculty members and the student restaurant.

Access to both buildings is facilitated for wheelchair users by permanent ramps at the entrance, spacious lifts and a toilet for disabled people.

Furthermore, since 2014, the Municipality of Sikyonia has granted a modern building with a total area of 400 square meters. The Department used the new infrastructure for the organisation of Summer Schools and lifelong learning programs. The results are encouraging for strengthening the Department's actions that benefit the local community.

2.1. Library & Reading Hall

The Department operates an autonomous specialised Library that follows international standards while using, for its operation and for the electronic lending of its books, modern radio frequency systems.

The Library meets the requirements of a dynamic university department by providing essential educational and informational work. The Library provides for lending to the entire university community, a wide variety of Greek and foreign language books as well as a number of scientific journals.

Furthermore, through the Consortium of Greek Academic Libraries (HEAL-link, https://www.heal-link.gr/) it provides access to digital books and articles from scientific journals with remote access via VPN.

The Library has computers for the use of its services, a wireless network and a reading room that enables on-site study.

2.2 Computer Room and Network Services

The Department utilizes modern IT and communication technologies in the entire range of teaching and administrative procedures in order to facilitate students' access to teaching and administration resources.

The students of PSIR have access to an up-to-date computer laboratory, which strengthens both the educational and research work of the Department. It provides professional software for statistical analysis and decision-making, as well as open-coding software necessary for working with graphics, etc.

Access to Greek and international electronic databases of bibliographic data and scientific journals is provided through the laboratory's PCs. The teaching-research staff and students of the Department of Political Science and International Relations utilize the telecommunications capabilities already provided by the Data Network of the University of the Peloponnese. These include:

- E-Mail services
- Forum and News services
- Data Transfer
- www-server for website hosting (sites of Department teaching members, courses, etc.)
- Virtual Private Network (VPN) facility that allows access to online bibliographical resources and academic journals
- Online marking system (through Universis)
- Textual similarity check service Turnitin and AI.

In addition, the Department has an asynchronous tele-education platform (http://eclass.uop.gr), which offers a wealth of material and resources for every teaching and supervisory need, while also facilitating collaboration between lecturers and students. Indicatively, the platform offers the following features: sharing of educational material, textual identification-plagiarism control of assignments (connection with the Turnitin system), implementation of (self-)evaluation exercises, submission of assignments, sphygmomanometry, asynchronous, informal communication with students (forum), synchronous communication with students (chat room). Distance learning is equally facilitated by access to the Cisco Webex teleconferencing platform, which is also available to all students of the Department.

Finally, several useful digital tools are available to students of the Department, such as the Office365 software package, the One Drive file hosting and synchronisation service, and the SPSS statistical research software.

2.3. Classrooms

The Department has five classrooms in which the educational activities take place. All classrooms are fully equipped with modern technological equipment (projectors, modern computers, sound and microphone systems, internet) that adequately meet the educational and scientific needs of the Department.

In addition to the teaching of the courses, other activities such as seminars, lectures, screenings of educational films, etc., take place in the classrooms, while they are available also to groups of students for their activities upon request to the Department.

2.4. Student Restaurant

A student restaurant operates on the premises of the Department, which offers free meals to eligible students or meals at a low cost.

2.5. Sports Facilities

The Municipality of Corinth has granted the Department of Political Science and International Relations part of its sports facilities at the Corinth Stadium, which include a tennis court, a basketball court and a track and field, for the students' sports activities.

2.6. Student Lounge

A student lounge is on the ground floor of the second building of the Department.

3. STUDENT CARE

3.1. Department of Student Affairs

The University of the Peloponnese has a Department of Student Affairs, which is responsible for student welfare issues concerning students (https://studentcare.uop.gr). Its website provides information on food and housing, scholarships and awards, housing allowances, sports activities, etc.

- Feeding

Students of all categories can apply for free meals after obtaining the code given to them upon registration by the Department Secretariat. Applications are submitted electronically via a special platform on the website https://studentcare.uop.gr, on dates specified by the Student Welfare Department. Those interested can find more details on the Student Welfare website (https://studentcare.uop.gr). Those who are not entitled to free meals can be fed for a small fee.

The food is provided in a specially designed area in the Department from September until the end of the examination period of the spring semester. Christmas and Easter holidays are excluded. If the academic year is extended, meals for students may be extended for the same period.

- Housing allowance

The student housing allowance is an additional state subsidy provided by the Ministry of Education to undergraduate students for financial support. Those interested can find more details on the student welfare website (https://studentcare.uop.gr).

3.2. The Liaison Office

The Liaison Office aims to connect education with the job market by developing channels of communication, networking, and cooperation with productive bodies, employers, and the wider community, as well as by providing comprehensive support and guidance to students and graduates in planning their further studies and personal professional careers.

The Office provides the following services:

1. Individual and group counselling on issues such as CV writing, job interviews, job search techniques, cover letter writing, exploring interests and job preferences, career planning, etc.
2. Connecting with the job market and developing a network of partner companies and organisations at the national and European level.
3. Matching job supply and demand.
4. Providing information on postgraduate programs and scholarships.
5. Informing secondary school students about the content of the institution's departments.
6. Organising events, conferences, and career guidance days.
7. Developing and editing educational and advisory material in print and electronic form, as well as managing and utilising specialised psychometric tools for the provision of personalised information and counselling services to students and graduates.
8. Conducting research and studies on issues within its remit.

9. Informing interested members of the academic community, graduates, employers, and professional organisations about its activities and services, mainly through its website, the Employment and Career Department's support information system, and social media.

Detailed information is available here: https://studentcare.uop.gr/career-office

3.3. Students' Advocate Office

The Students' Advocate Office (https://synigoros.uop.gr/) of UOP mediates between students and professors or administrative services of the Institution, to uphold legality within the framework of academic freedom, safeguard the smooth operation of the institution, and address instances of maladministration and mismanagement. The Students' Advocate has no authority over student examinations and grading. The Students' Advocate investigates cases on their own initiative or following a student's report and mediates with the competent bodies of the institution to resolve them. Detailed information is available here: https://studentcare.uop.gr/synigoros-foititi

3.4 Counselling and Psychological Support Service for Students - WeCare

This service of the University has specialised scientific staff (psychologist, social worker) and provides its services to students of all levels of study in order to best meet their psychosocial needs. More specifically, it provides:
- Counselling and psychological support for students from vulnerable social groups.
- Social counselling
- Recording and monitoring of students' requests and problems.
- Individual or group counselling to students who have occasional concerns about personal or developmental issues and adjustment problems.
- Support services to help students realize their potential/skills in their academic and personal lives.
- Support for students with special educational needs.

All services are provided free of charge and with absolute confidentiality, respecting the code of conduct for the protection of the personal data of the students served. Meetings with students take place after a telephone appointment or after a visit to the Service itself.
More information about the service can be found on the service's website https://wecare.uop.gr .

3.5. Electronic Secretariat

For better service of students, the secretariat provides the possibility of electronic communication through different channels (student email, message through Universis, message through Eclass).

Requests for certificates are handled by the secretariat in an automated way and special care is taken to ensure that they are delivered electronically to the students' student email.

3.6. Academic Identity Card - Student Ticket

Since the academic year 2012-2013, the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports has developed a central information system for the issuance of a new

academic identity card for students. The academic identity card also incorporates the Student Ticket Voucher (PASS) (for those students who are entitled to it). For those students who are not entitled to a pass, the academic ID card takes the place of a simple identity card.

To obtain the new cards (Academic ID with integrated PASS), students can submit their application online at: https://academicid.minedu.gov.gr.

3.7. Website of the Department of PSIR-Social Media

The website of the PSIR Department (https://pedis.uop.gr/) is an essential tool for its students. The purpose of the website is to provide information about the curricula, educational activities, and, in general, the organisation and operation of the Department. Through the website, students have direct and reliable access to information about everything related to their education and student life in general.

The PSIR Department also has a strong presence on social media, providing immediate updates on its activities and educational programs.

4. STAFF
4.1. Teaching Staff   -   Members of Teaching Research Staff

#	Name	Position	Expertise	Office	Tel. number	E-mail
1.	Huliaras Asteris (Head of Department)	Professor	Comparative Politics and International Relations	Office of the Department's Head	27410 40042	huliaras@uop.gr
2.	Lalagianni Vassiliki	Professor	European Literature and Culture	Building B-C2	27410 40056	vasiliki.lalagianni @uop.gr
3.	Papadimitriou Pyrros	Professor	International Economic Relations	Building B-C7	27410 40051	papad@uop.gr
4.	Tzifakis Nikolaos	Professor	International Relations in the Balkans	Building B-C6	27410 40057	tzifakis@uop.gr
5.	Roussos Sotiris	Professor	International Relations and Religion in the Middle East and the Mediterranean	Building B-C4	27410 40057	sroussos@uop.gr
6.	Klapsis Antonis	Associate Professor	Contemporary History and International Politics	Building B-C3	27410 40057	klapsis@uop.gr
7.	Manoli Panagiota	Associate Professor	Political Economy of International Relations	Building B-C1	27410 40056	manoli@uop.gr
8.	Papazoglou Manos	Associate Professor	Political Systems	Building B-C8	27410 40051	epapaz@uop.gr
9.	Petropoulos Sotiris	Associate Professor	Regional Cooperation and Emerging Powers	Building B-C6	27410 40057	spetrop@uop.gr
10.	Tsiliotis Charalambos	Associate Professor	Constitutional Law and European Constitutional Law	Building B-C10	27410 40051	htsil@uop.gr
11.	Fakiolas Efstathios	Associate Professor	International Relations	Building B-C1	27410 40056	fakiolas@uop.gr
12.	Vandoros Sotiris	Associate Professor	Political Science and Modern and Contemporary Political Theory	Building B-C3	27410 40057	vandoros@uop.gr
13.	Plymakis Sifis	Associate Professor	Public Policies	Building B-C8	27410 40051	splimakis@uop.gr
14.	Psychogiopoulou Evangelia	Assistant Professor	EU policies and institutions	Building B-C2	27410 40056	e.psychogiopoulo u@go.uop.gr
15.	Papaioannou Konstantinos-Iasonas	Assistant Professor	Political Behaviour and Quantitative Methods			
16.	Rozakis Dimitrios	Assistant Professor	Contemporary Philosophy	Building B-C2	27410 40056	drozakis@uop.gr
17.	Xenakis Alexander	Assistant Professor	Decision-Making Models and Information Systems in the Global Political Economy	Building B- C7	274104 0051	a.xenakis@uop.gr

4.2. Specialised Teaching Staff

#	Name	Position	Expertise	Office	Telephone	E-mail
1	Galani Maria-Eleftheria	Specialised Teaching Staff	French language	Building A	27410 40054	megalani@uop.gr
2	Rontou Maria	Specialised Teaching Staff	English language	Building A	27410 40054	m.rontou@go.uop.gr

4.3 Temporary teaching staff

Academic Scholars – Appointed Teaching Staff

The Undergraduate Study Program is also taught by a) Young Scientists, holders of a Doctorate Degree, within the framework of the "Acquisition of Academic Teaching Experience for New Scientists Holders of a Doctorate 2018-2019 at the University of the Peloponnese" and b) Appointed Teaching Staff for the courses defined by the decision of the Assembly of the Department.

Moreover, many distinguished members of the teaching staff and researchers of other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) from Greece and abroad teach the courses of our Postgraduate Studies Programs.

4.4 The Staff of the Department

Student Registry	Telephone (+30)	E-mail
Student Registry	2741040040	pedis@uop.gr
Eleni Markoutsi (Head of Registrar)	2741040045	emarkout@uop.gr
Katerina Doundi	2741040058	kdoundi@uop.gr
Konstantinos Mylonopoulos	2741040059	cosmylon@uop.gr
Library		
Matina Gouvousi	2741040041	matina@uop.gr
Marios Bartzis	2741040041	mbartzis@uop.gr
Computer Lab	2741040048	pedislab@uop.gr
Special Technical Staff		
Eleni Georgoulia	2741040044	elenigeorgoulia@uop.gr
Afroditi Roussi	2741040041	roussi@uop.gr
Iliana Foti	2741040040	ilianafoti@uop.gr

4.5 Heads of Postgraduate Programs of Studies

PPS	Head
Governance and Public Policies	Professor Nikolaos Tzifakis
Local and Regional Development and Local Government	Professor Pyrros Papadimitriou

5. UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

This chapter provides information on the basic structure of the Undergraduate Curriculum. The Internal Operating Regulation contains more detailed information and is available on the Department's website (Students → Regulations-Guidelines → Internal Regulation of the Undergraduate Programme)

5.1. Organisation of Studies

The Curriculum is organised into eight (8) semesters. The number of courses per semester is set at six courses and the total number of courses required to obtain a degree is set at forty-eight (including English language – terminology I and II courses in semesters A and B). In each semester, students take six courses.

Students must, at the beginning of every semester and on dates determined by the Departmental Assembly, select in Universis all the courses of the current period which they wish to attend and be examined in (courses of the current semester and any due courses from the corresponding period of previous years). In every semester of every academic year, the students have the right to select a maximum of nine (9) courses. Graduate students are given the opportunity to select up to twelve (12) courses.

According to articles 76 and 454 of L. 4987/2022 and article 58 of L. 4777/2021, the maximum duration of studies in a program of studies of the first circle with a minimum duration of eight (8) academic semesters for the award of a title of studies, for the students who enter Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) from the academic year 2021-22 onwards, this period, is increased by four (4) academic semesters. After the completion of the maximum duration of studies, according to the provisions of paragraphs 2-4 of Article 76 of L. 4987/2022, the Dean of the School issues an act of deletion.

Section 10.3 of the internal Regulations of Procedure of the PPE (https://pedis.uop.gr/kanonismoi-odigoi) describes in detail the current institutional framework for student status issues (maximum duration of study and University regulations for exceptional cases of exceeding this duration, part-time study, interruption of study).

5.1.1. Core courses

From the 1st to the 4th semester, the program is uniform, and the courses are common and compulsory for all students (Compulsory Core courses).

5.1.2. Fields of Specialisation

The selection of the field of Specialisation is made in the 5th semester when students are invited to choose one of the two fields of the Department:
- Political Science
- International Relations

The selection of a field of specialisation entails a partial differentiation in courses for semesters 5 to 8, as indicated in the program of studies. Students are recommended to successfully complete the core courses which are of particular importance for both directions.

Students are required to register for compulsory, specialisation, and elective courses at the Department's Student Registry on specific dates during October for the Winter

term and during March for the Spring Term upon the decision of the Departmental Assembly.

Specialization studies last for four semesters (5 to 8). In each of the four semesters, students have no compulsory courses, but are expected to make their own choices of their specialisation and elective courses as follows:

- Three courses of their specialisation per semester from the list of courses on offer in each semester,
- Three courses from the list of elective courses per period (winter-spring semester).

5.1.3. Prerequisite courses

There are six pairs of courses in which the first is a prerequisite for the second:

1. Introduction to Politics (1010Y) → Greek Political System (5010Y)
2. Introduction to International Politics (1030Y)→ International Political Economy (4050Y)
3. International Relations (2010Y) → Jean Monnet Chair: EU External Relations and Foreign Policy Analysis (ΔΕ7030Y)
4. Introduction to Economics (2020Y) → Macroeconomic Policy (3040Y)
5. Comparative Politics (3030Y) → Political Systems and Governance in Europe (6010Y)
6. EU Law and Governance (4030Y) → European Union Institutions and Policies (ΔΕ8040Y).

Students are expected to complete the prerequisite course in order to continue with the next corresponding course.

5.1.4. Requirements for Degree Award

To be awarded a degree, students are required to:

1. attend at least eight (8) academic semesters
2. to be successfully examined in 48 educational activities, as follows:
   - 22 Compulsory Core courses (Y)
   - 12 Elective courses (EC)*
   - 12 Free choice courses (EU)*
   - 2 English language courses

*Two of the courses offered in the fourth year of study may be replaced by the Dissertation.

All of the above requirements correspond to the accumulation of a total of 240 European Credit Units (ECTS), in accordance with the conditions that apply to all European four-year first-cycle study programs.

5.1.5. Dissertation

The thesis is optional in the 4th year and is equivalent to two 4th year courses. This educational activity aims at deepening the students' research skills.

The right to conduct a dissertation requires enrolment in the 7th semester of studies, successful completion of 30 courses, no due course from the first year, an average grade equal to or greater than 7.0 and submission of a research proposal summary. For students in the fifth year and beyond, the same conditions as above apply.

Students interested in conducting a dissertation must request the subject of the dissertation in consultation with a supervising professor. The language of the dissertation may be, with the consent of the supervising professor, the English language.

A relevant announcement for the deadlines for submission of applications for conducting a dissertation is posted by the Student Registry at the beginning of every academic year. For the conduction of the dissertation, the students follow the guidelines in the [Guide for Writing Dissertations and Theses](#) (available on the website of the Department, [http://pedis.uop.gr)](http://pedis.uop.gr). All the dissertations are subject to monitoring for the detection of cases of plagiarism using relevant digital media. The Anti-Plagiarism Regulation of the University of the Peloponnese is valid and applies (available [here](#)).

Each faculty member of the Department supervises the preparation of up to two dissertations per academic year. It is possible to increase the number of these supervisions to three by a faculty member following his/her reasoned request to the Assembly.

The duration of the dissertation writing is set at two semesters. The dissertation is submitted, without requiring additional administrative action or act on the part of the students (e.g. an application for extension) and the Student Registry or the Departmental Assembly (e.g. extension approval), either on:

- **May 31** of the academic year. In this case, the oral support of the dissertation must be completed by the end of the examination period of the spring semester. However, if part of the dissertation is required to be revised, the student must submit the final text upon approval by the supervisor up to two weeks after the end of the June examination period.

- **August 31** of the academic year. In this case, the oral support of the dissertation must be completed by the end of the re-examination period in September. However, if part of the dissertation is required to be revised, the student must submit the final text upon approval by the supervisor up to two weeks after the end of the September examination.

The dissertation is uploaded by the student in [e-Class](#) in a separate folder especially created for this purpose. At the same time, the student must send the dissertation in a pdf file to the Student Registry's email pedis@uop.gr stating explicitly that s/he has received the consent of the supervising professor.

5.1.6. Teaching

Educational activities begin in September and end in June of each academic year, which includes three exam periods: September, January, and June. Each semester comprises 13 weeks of teaching. Many courses include seminar exercises, essays, and presentations. In parallel with regular curriculum courses, the Department offers English language and terminology seminars, special thematic seminars, etc. Each course is taught for three hours weekly.

5.1.7. Exams

Exams on each semester's courses are held only at the end of each term and repeat exams for both terms take place in September. Exams are either written or oral at the

instructor's discretion and may be accompanied by projects or laboratory exercises. In case of failure or absence during the January and June exam periods, students can sit for a repetition exam in September or during the exam periods of subsequent years, at the end of the term in which each course is taught.

In particular, students who have completed the period of regular study are entitled to take examinations during the examination period of each academic semester (winter and spring).

The terms of student participation in examinations are determined upon the decision of the Departmental Assembly and include matters of arrival and departure, penalties for ill conduct, re-evaluation, participation of students with special needs, etc.

5.1.8. Textbooks

According to No. Φ.1/76244/B3 Ministerial Decision EK957/issueB/30-6-2010, the selection and distribution of textbooks in all HEIs is done through the online service EVDOXOS (www.eudoxus.gr). Students must choose a textbook from the list of recommended books for each course. A list of the textbooks of each academic year is posted on the Department's website (https://pedis.uop.gr/en/study-guide-structure) and on the website of "EYDOXOS" (https://eudoxus.gr/).

Announcements regarding the process of accessing the Electronic Service for Textbook Selection "EUDOXOS" are posted on the notice board of the Student Registry. Students can obtain the selected books free of charge by showing their student ID at the relevant publishing houses or at special bookstores that will be indicated to them by the Department's Student Registry.

5.1.9. Academic Advisor - Meeting the teaching staff

The department has an Academic Advisor to whom every student can refer for information on issues about the curriculum, course selection, and fields of specialisation, but also, more generally, for guiding students on issues relating to student life and its implications. The list of Academic Advisors is posted on the Department's website at the beginning of each academic year (https://pedis.uop.gr/symvouloi-spoudwn).

All members of the teaching staff set a specific day and time when they receive students in their office every semester. A consolidated list is posted in the Student Registry and on the website of the Department with the relevant information and contact details of each member of teaching staff, as well as the reception hours for students (https://pedis.uop.gr/symvouloi-spoudwn).

5.1.10. E-class platform

Through the e-Class platform (https://eclass.uop.gr/), students have access to educational material posted by the teaching staff for each course they teach, announcements of all kinds and of course, course syllabuses. They are also able to submit written assignments, as well as be examined in written mid-term exams. The e-class platform includes all the necessary information for each course and enables teacher-student collaboration. Teachers send announcements and various information via e-class. Students must register for the e-class of each course at the beginning of the semester.

5.1.11. Internship

The Internship is part of the Curriculum and is organised at University and Department level. it is optional and is offered as an elective course in both winter and spring semesters. It offers an irreplaceable opportunity to develop skills and gain work experience in order to prepare students for their entry into the labour market. The program is implemented with resources and in accordance with the rules of the Program "Human Resources and Social Cohesion 2021-27.

All student applications, the submission of supporting documents and the management of the program are done through the special platform https://praktiki-new.uop.gr/. After submitting the application, the candidates will be asked for information about the application grading criteria, as well as their preferences for the practice body and the period of the internship. The internship:

> Is addressed to students who are already in their third year of studies, as well as in subsequent years.
> Is equivalent to a free choice course. Applications from students who do not have an elective course due are rejected.
> It lasts three months, it is paid and during this period the students are insured in case of an accident at the workplace.
> Each student has the right to undertake an internship position for one period only. Students who are working are not eligible to participate.
> Each student undertakes the fulfilment of the relevant duties, as provided by the contract signed between the University, the host institution and the student. Supervisors are appointed by the host institution and by the Department for each student.

For the selection process of students, there is information on the PSIR website: https://pedis.uop.gr/en/internship

Program Managers

- Internship Committee
Department supervisor: Manos Papazoglou, associate professor epapaz@uop.gr
Members:
Sotiris Petropoulos, assistant professor spetro@uop.gr
Iosif Plimakis, associate professor splimakis@uop.gr

- Alternate members:
Nikolaos Tzifakis, professor
Efstathios Fakiolas, associate professor
Antonios Klapsis, associate professor

- Committee on Objections
Members: Pyrros Papadimitriou, Professor
Sotiris Vardoros, associate Professor
Sotiris Roussos, Professor

- Alternate members: Asteris Houliaras, Professor
Panagiota Manoli, Associate Professor
Charalambos Tsiliotis, Associate Professor

5.1.12 ERASMUS Program/International Cooperations

- ERASMUS+ Program

Students of the Department have the opportunity to participate in the European academic exchange program ERASMUS+, either for studies or for internships (information at the University's central address for the Erasmus+ program https://www.uop.gr/erasmus/, as well as on the PSIR website (https://pedis.uop.gr/erasmus-diethneis-synergasies). They can go to a foreign country not only to broaden their knowledge in their field of study, but also to learn how European universities and businesses/organisations operate, as well as about the daily life and mentalities of other European societies. After a selection process, PSIR students have the opportunity to attend courses at more than thirty renowned universities (see the detailed list of partner universities on the Department's website). They can also undertake an internship abroad as part of the Erasmus+ Placement program (see also the section on "Elective Courses").

Information on the selection procedure for students and the Erasmus+ and International Mobility Regulations is available on the PSIR website:
https://pedis.uop.gr/erasmus-diethneis-synergasies.

Erasmus Committee of the Department:
Department supervisor: Evangelia Psychogiopoulou, assistant professor (e.psychogiopoulou@go.uop.gr)
Members: Antonis Klapsis, associate professor (klapsis@uop.gr)
Maria Eleftheria Galani, Department's Special Teaching Staff (megalani@go.uop.gr)
Maria Rontou, Department's Special Teaching Staff (m.rontou@go.uop.gr)

Appeals Committee:
Sotiris Vandoros, associate professor
Iosif Plymakis, associate professor
Efstathios Fakolas, associate professor

- International Partnerships

In order to strengthen its extroversion, PSIR has expanded its network of cooperation with Universities and International Research Centres abroad. Through these synergies, the mobility of students and teaching staff is promoted, as well as general cooperation at academic and research level (conferences, lectures, publications, etc.). Outside the European Union, the Department has developed a network of cooperation and mobility with the following distinguished universities and research centres:

	Institution	Country	Website	Type of Cooperation
1.	ADA University	Azerbaijan (Baku)	https://www.ada.edu.az/	Cooperation Agreement
2.	Carleton University	Canada (Ottawa)	https://carleton.ca/	Cooperation Agreement
3.	York College of Pennsylvania	USA (York)	https://www.ycp.edu/	Cooperation Agreement

4.	University of Central Florida	USA (Orlando)	https://www.ucf.edu/	Cooperation Agreement
5.	Emmanuel College	USA (Boston)	https://www.emmanuel.edu/	Academic Cooperation & Exchange Agreement

-EUNICE Programme

Within the framework of the European University Alliance EUNICE (European University for Customised Education, https://eunice-university.eu), which includes 10 universities from 10 countries (Greece, Poland, Germany, Italy, France, Belgium, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, and Finland), PSIR students can take distance learning courses, which are available in English and other official languages of the Alliance universities.

The PSIR Department participates in the EUNICE program with two English-language courses: Topics on European Studies and Topics on International Studies.

The EUNICE coordinators for PSIR are Maria-Eleftheria Galani, Special Teaching Staff (megalani@go.uop.gr) and Dimitris Rozakis, Assistant Professor (drozakis@uop.gr).

5.2. Curriculum

The curriculum is not exactly the same every year. The Departmental Assembly has the possibility to make the necessary adjustments to ensure the smooth implementation of the programme. Any changes are communicated to the students in good time by means of a detailed announcement by the secretariat. The current curriculum for the academic year 2025-2026 is as follows:

5.2.1. Undergraduate courses 2025-2026

TERM	SEMESTER	SPECIALISATION *	COURSE TITLE	LECTURING HOURS	ECTS	CODE	TAUGHT BY	STATUS
W	1	C	English I	3	3	0107ΣΕ	RONTOU M.	Special Teaching Staff
			Diplomatic History, 1815-1991	3	5	1020Y	KLAPSIS A.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to International Politics	3	6	1030Y	TZIFAKIS N.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to Political Science	3	6	1010Y	VANDOROS S.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to Law	3	5	1070Y	PSYCHOGIOPOULOU E.	Faculty Member
			Research and Methods in Social Sciences	3	5	1060Y	FAKIOLAS E./PAPAIOANNOU K.I.	Faculty Member/Faculty Member Pending Appointment
S	2	C	English II	3	3	0207ΣΕ	RONTOU M.	Special Teaching Staff
			International Relations	3	6	2010Y	FAKIOLAS E.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to Sociology	3	5	X300E	ROZAKIS D.	Faculty Member
			Greek Diplomatic History	3	5	2040Y	KLAPSIS A.	Faculty Member
			Political Theory	3	6	4010Y	VANDOROS S.	Faculty Member
			Constitutional Law	3	5	3050Y	TSILIOTIS C.	Faculty Member
W	3	C	International Law	3	5	2030Y	PSYCHOGIOPOULOU E.	Faculty Member
			Diplomacy and International Organisation	3	5	3070Y	KLAPSIS A.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to Economics	3	5	2020Y	PETROPOULOS S.	Faculty Member
			Digital Research Methods	3	5	3100Y	XENAKIS A.	Faculty Member
			Political Philosophy	3	5	3010Y	ROZAKIS D.	Faculty Member
			Comparative Politics	3	6	3030Y	HULIARAS A.	Faculty Member
S	4	C	International Political Economy**	3	6	4050Y	MANOLI P.	Faculty Member

TERM	SEMESTER	SPECIALISATION*	COURSE TITLE	LECTURING HOURS	ECTS	CODE	TAUGHT BY	STATUS
			EU Law and Governance	3	5	4030Y	PSYHOGIOPOULOU E.	Faculty Member
			Theories of Culture	3	5	4020Y	LALAGIANNI V.	Faculty Member
			Economic Development and International Development Cooperation	3	5	4080Y	PETROPOULOS S.	Faculty Member
			Political Leadership	3	4	E500E	PAPAZOGLOU E.	Faculty Member
			Conflict and Security in World Politics	3	5	4060Y	FAKIOLAS E.	Faculty Member
W	5	PS	General Administration Law	3	5	5070Y	TSILIOTIS C.	Faculty Member
			Democracy: History, Theory, Contemporary Challenges	3	5	X1500E	VANDOROS S.	Faculty Member
			Public Administration and Administrative Reform in Greece	3	5	5060Y	PLYMAKIS I.	Faculty Member
			Greek Political System**	3	5	5010Y	PAPAZOGLOU E.	Faculty Member
			European Union Institutions and Policies**	3	5	ΔE8040Y	PSYCHOGIOPOULOU E.	Faculty Member
			Management Information Systems	3	5	ΠΕ5080	XENAKIS A.	Faculty Member
		IR	Jean Monnet Chair: EU External Relations and Foreign Policy Analysis**	3	5	5020Y	TZIFAKIS N.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to Geopolitics	3	5	X1700E	HULIARAS A.	Faculty Member
			European Union Institutions and Policies**	3	5	ΔE8040Y	PSYCHOGIOPOULOU E.	Faculty Member
			Strategic Studies	3	5	5030Y	FAKIOLAS E.	Faculty Member
S	6	PS	Religion and Politics	3	5	X400E	ROUSSOS S.	Faculty Member
			State and Civil Society	3	5	ΠΕ8020Y	ROZAKIS D.	Faculty Member
			Political Parties and Governance in Europe**	3	5	6010Y	PAPAZOGLOU E.	Faculty Member
			Public policy planning and analysis	3	5	6050Y	PLYMAKIS I.	Faculty Member

TERM	SEMESTER	SPECIALISATION*	COURSE TITLE	LECTURING HOURS	ECTS	CODE	TAUGHT BY	STATUS
		IR	Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence	3	5	ΠΕ6080	XENAKIS A.	Faculty Member
			East Asia: politics, economy, and international relations	3	5	ΔE8020Y	HULIARAS A.	Faculty Member
			Greek-Turkish Relations	3	5	E2800E	KLAPSIS A.	Faculty Member
			Macroeconomic Policy**	3	5	3040Y	PAPADIMITRIOU P.	Faculty Member
			Political Parties and Governance in Europe**	3	5	6010Y	PAPAZOGLOU E.	Faculty Member
W	7	PS	Public Administration and Public Management	3	5	X2100E	PLYMAKIS I.	Faculty Member
			Nations and Nationalism	3	5	ΠΔ7010Y	ROUSSOS S.	Faculty Member
			Greek Economy	3	5	E200E		Visiting Lecturer
			Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Development	3	5	X2300Y	MANOLI P.	Faculty Member
			Conspiracy Theories, Secularism and (Anti-) Scientific Discourse	3	5	ΠΕ7060	PAPAIOANNOU	Faculty Member (pending appointment)
			Political Communication and Mass Media	3	5	ΠΕ7030Y	PAPAZOGLOU E.	Faculty Member
		IR	International Economic Relations	3	5	ΔE7020Y	PAPADIMITRIOU P.	Faculty Member
			Global Migration and Diasporas (NOT AVAILABLE FOR 25-26)	3	5	X100E	LALAGIANNI V.	Faculty Member
			Nations and Nationalism	3	5	ΠΔ7010Y	ROUSSOS S.	Faculty Member
			Russia in Global Politics and Economy	3	5	ΔE7050Y	MANOLI P.	Faculty Member
			Regional Security in the Middle East	3	5	ΔE7040Y	ROUSSOS S.	Faculty Member
S	8	PS	Elections, Electoral Systems, and Electoral Behaviour	3	5	ΠΕ8060Y		Visiting Lecturer
			Political Ideologies	3	5	ΠΕ8070Y	VANDOROS S.	Faculty Member
			Political Psychology	3	5	ΠΕ8050	PAPAIOANNOU	Faculty Member (pending appointment)

TERM	SEMESTER	SPECIALISATION*	COURSE TITLE	LECTURING HOURS	ECTS	CODE	TAUGHT BY	STATUS
			Local Governance and Local Administration	3	5	ΠΕ8010Υ	PLYMAKIS I.	Faculty Member
			Greek Economy	3	5	E200E		Visiting Lecturer
			Political Psychology	3	5	ΠΕ8050	PAPAIOANNOU	Faculty Member (Pending appointment)
			Digital systems and Political Behaviour	3	5	ΠΕ8060	XENAKIS	Faculty Member
		IR	Emerging Powers and Global Governance	3	5	4070Y	PETROPOULOS S.	Faculty Member
			Africa: Politics, Economy and International Relations	3	5	ΔΕ8010Υ	HULIARAS A.	Faculty Member
			Jean Monnet Chair: The EU and Geopolitical Competition in the Western Balkans	3	5	ΔΕ7030Υ	TZIFAKIS N.	Faculty Member
			Political and Economic Relations in the Black Sea and the Caucasus	3	5	6060Y	MANOLI P.	Faculty Member
W	5/7	PS/IR	Topics on European Studies (EUNICE) (in English)	3	5	X1100E	Teachers from the Department of Political Science and International Relations	Teaching Staff
			Social Policy (in English)	3	5	EE56	Teachers from the Department of Social and Educational Policy	Teaching Staff
			English for Academic Purposes I	3	5	X2800E	RONTOU M.	Special Teaching Staff
			French for Political Scientists	3	5	E2500E	GALANI M.-E.	Special Teaching Staff
			Topics on Political Philosophy	3	5	X1200E	ROZAKIS D.	Faculty Member
			Introduction to Social Policy	3	5	3090Y	VENIERIS D.	Faculty Member (Dept. S.E.P.)
			Global Governance and Civil Society	3	5	X2200E	PETROPOULOS S.	Faculty Member

TERM	SEMESTER	SPECIALISATION *	COURSE TITLE	LECTURING HOURS	ECTS	CODE	TAUGHT BY	STATUS
			Internship - Erasmus+ Placement		5	X800E	PAPAZOGLOU E. ERASMUS+ AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE	Faculty Members
			The Psychology of Revolution (NOT AVAILABLE FOR 25-26)	3	5	E1900E	ROZAKIS D.	Faculty Member
			The new economy and the challenges in the global economic system	3	5	ΠΔ8030Y		Visiting Lecturer
S	6/8	PS/IR	Education Policy (in English)	3	5	EE55	Teachers from the Department of Social and Educational Policy	Teaching Staff
			Topics on International Studies (EUNICE) (in English)	3	5	E1100E	Teachers from the Department of Political Science and International Relations	Teaching Staff
			English for Academic Purposes II	3	5	E3200E	RONTOU M.	Special Teaching Staff
			French for Political and Social Scientists	3	5	E2600E	GALANI M.-E.	Special Teaching Staff
			French Language and Interculturalism	3	5	E2700E	GALANI M.-E.	Special Teaching Staff
			Topics on Greek Foreign Policy	3	5	E1500E	TZIFAKIS N.	Faculty Member
			EU Cultural Policy	3	5	4090Y	PSYCHOGIOPOULOU E.	Faculty Member
			European Social Policy	3	5	E3500E	VENIERIS D.	Faculty Member (Dept. S.E.P.)
			European Civilization: The Feminist Movement	3	5	X900E	LALAGIANNI V.	Faculty Member
			Fundamental Rights	3	5	ΠΔ8050Y	TSILIOTIS C.	Faculty Member
			History, Politics, Culture: Comics, Cinema, Enlisted Literature (NOT AVAILABLE FOR 25-26)	3	5	E400E	LALAGIANNI V.	Faculty Member

TERM	SEMESTER	SPECIALISATION *	COURSE TITLE	LECTURING HOURS	ECTS	CODE	TAUGHT BY	STATUS
			Experimental Methods in Social Sciences (using computational systems)	3	5	E3600E	PAPAIOANNOU K.I.	Faculty Member (pending appointment)
			Political Parties and Polls	3	5	X1400E		Visiting Lecturer
			Internship - Erasmus+ Placement		5	E900E	PAPAZOGLOU E. ERASMUS+ AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE	Faculty Member
			The Palestinian Issue: A Comparative Approach	3	5	E3000E	ROUSSOS S.	Faculty Member
W & S	7&8	PS/ IR	Dissertation (equivalent to two 4th year courses)		10			Supervision by faculty members of the Department

*Specialisations:
PS=Political Science
IR=International Relations

Types of courses:
Y=Mandatory Core Course
EC=Elective Specialisation Course
EE=Elective course
**: Course requiring a prerequisite

1st year

Semester 1

English I

The course is aimed at students who do not have a language proficiency certificate at the "good knowledge" level (level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). The course includes a quick overview and teaching of the basic structures and tense system of the English language, as well as upgrading students' vocabulary, development of all basic language skills (comprehension and production of written and spoken language) through the use of spoken and written language on topics related to the students' field of study (Politics, Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Nationalism, Feminism, Ecology). The course takes the form of weekly lectures during which practical exercises are carried out to acquire specific skills. The educational material used includes the course textbook, PowerPoint presentations, and extensive use of ICT for searching for information sources on the internet, multimedia (video lectures, documentaries, interactive videos, etc.), interactive and other self-study material available on the internet related to learning the English language. At the same time, students are asked to write three short essays on topics related to politics, participate in collaborative projects using ICT by communicating with students from other universities, read a book of their choice or the recommended book, and do a group or individual project and presentation on it.

Diplomatic History, 1815-1991

The course analyses the major diplomatic events from the end of the Napoleonic Wars to the end of the Cold War. The starting point is the Congress of Vienna, whose decisions determined the physiognomy of the European balance of power system for a century. Special mention is made of multilateral diplomacy during the 19th century, which took the form of convening international Conferences to resolve major political issues. The foreign policy of the Great Powers, their rivalries and alliances, as well as the emergence of new Powers, which were gradually added to the existing ones, are also analysed. Next, the causes, the development, and results of the First World War are investigated. The interwar international system is outlined and the reasons why it collapsed, resulting in the beginning of World War II. A separate field of reference is the diplomatic events during the Second World War. Finally, the characteristic features, crises, and recession periods of the Cold War are presented.

Introduction to International Politics

The course studies the interaction among state and non-state actors in the international environment. Its objective is to introduce students to the main features of the international system as well as familiarize them with the core concepts and research tools of the discipline of international relations. Moreover, the course acquaints students with the most important issues featuring in the world agenda, namely, the struggle against poverty and underdevelopment, the protection of human rights, the spread of democracy, and the fight against terrorism. Altogether, the course prepares the students for the needs of the Spring term course on International Relations.

Introduction to Political Science

For the purposes of this course, Political Science is defined in a broad sense, including the study of power and the state, as well as the study of phenomena that have political dimensions and perform a political function. The course aims to acquaint students with the sources, the basic concepts, theories and methodological tools by which Political Science tries to conceive and interpret the different forms of the political phenomenon and to demonstrate its pluralistic character. Thus, it will serve as a basis for more advanced courses.

Introduction to Law

This course presents basic concepts and elements of legal science with a view to introducing students to legal education and the fundamental characteristics of legal thought. By approaching law as a 'social phenomenon' and by recognising the political dimension of rules and institutions, the course aims to familiarise students with the organisation and operation of the contemporary legal order, and with the evolution and transformation of law through processes of internationalisation and European integration. The course focuses on positive law, distinguishing between law, ethics and social mores. It examines the principal features of a legal rule, different types of legal rules, the characteristics that make a legal rule capable of influencing human behaviour and various aspects concerning the adoption and hierarchy of legal rules in a democratic state. The course also explores the sources of the Greek legal order, with reference to key distinctions between private and public law, and between substantive and procedural law. The course ends with an exploration of basic elements of constitutional law, international law and EU law, as they are directly related to the Department's curriculum.

Research and Methods in Social Sciences

Research & Methods in Social Sciences seeks to introduce newcomer, first-year students to the ways research is conducted and knowledge is produced in social sciences. In addition to outlining the fundamentals of qualitative methods, it discusses several aspects of the philosophy of social sciences. Also, it tries to act as a practical, instructional guide to social science research and writing: study of literature, constructing the framework for analysis, data compilation, testing of hypotheses or arguments, scrutiny of findings, and proposal for further research.

Semester 2

English II

The course includes further development of the general knowledge of English in terms of all skills and students' first contact with academic discourse through excerpts from books, articles, lectures, and other written and oral texts of general or academic interest, analytical presentation, and teaching of grammatical and syntactic phenomena of advanced difficulty and practising them and teaching vocabulary at an advanced level with an emphasis on themes related to the students' field of studies (Politics, Policy, Democracy, Capitalism, Elections, Opinion Polls, Human Rights, Civil Rights, Left-Right, Constitution, Supranationalism, Intergovernmentalism, Imperialism, Globalisation; International law, State, War, Freedom). The educational material used includes module textbooks, PowerPoint presentations, and extensive use of ICT to search for information sources on the internet, multimedia (video

lectures, interactive videos, documentaries, etc.), interactive and other self-learning materials available on the internet, related to learning the English language. At the same time, the students are asked to read a literary book for which supporting material is given, and make a presentation on it individually or in groups.

International Relations
International Relations is the field of social science that examines the dynamics and practice of world politics in the past and the present in a theoretically informed way. In essence, it is a discipline of social sciences that thoroughly studies the phenomena of war and peace in space and time, focusing on the relationships developed between state and non-state actors in areas of human activity that transcend and cross borders, territories, and regions. From this angle, the course overviews the history and development of the discipline of international relations, great debates and major schools of thought, while discussing relevant methodological issues and aspects of the philosophy of social science.

Introduction to Sociology
Sociology is the study of human groups, large and small, particularly in the industrial age. Specifically, the subject of sociology is the process of socialization, i.e., the integration of individuals into these groups. The course examines different interpretations of this process from the perspectives of behaviourism, sociobiology, sociological holism, historical materialism, and methodological individualism. By comparing these approaches, concepts such as social phenomenon, social practice, social cohesion, division of labour, social role and identity, institutions, and social representations are clarified. Special reference is made to politics as a social practice.

Greek Diplomatic History
The course examines the formation and evolution of Greek foreign policy from the establishment of the Greek state to Greece's accession to the EEC. The starting point is the diplomatic developments related to the recognition of Greek independence. Special reference is made to the way in which the demand for territorial expansion (which took the form of the Great Idea) determined the diplomatic orientations of Greece for most of the 19th and until the beginning of the 20th century. The diplomatic components of Greece's ten-year war expedition during the period 1912-1922 are also analysed. The key role of the Asia Minor Disaster and the signing of the Lausanne Peace Treaty for the fundamental restructuring of Greek foreign policy, which, in its new form, began to be implemented in the interwar period, is highlighted. Greece's participation in the Second World War, as well as its membership in the Western coalition during the Cold War, are also outlined. The developments surrounding the Cyprus issue and their effects on Greek-Turkish relations are presented, as well as the negative impact that the dictatorship of the colonels had on the Cyprus issue, but also on Greek foreign policy as a whole. Finally, the new diplomatic program adopted after the restoration of democracy in the summer of 1974 is presented, an organic element of which was the pursuit (and ultimately the achievement) of joining the EEC.

Political Theory
The political theory of some of the most important thinkers of the modern era – Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, Tocqueville, Mill, Marx– is analysed in relation to the intellectual and socio-political context in which it was developed. In

this way, fundamental issues of modern political theory, from the 16th to the 19th century, are examined, with an emphasis on becoming familiar with the primary texts and their argumentation.

Constitutional Law

The course includes basic concepts of a general theory of Constitutional Law, polity issues, as well as the sources of Greek Constitutional Law. The choice of issues analysed enhances the Politics student's understanding of law rules affecting Greek politics. Teaching rests on a combination of theoretical analysis and their application. The course includes the basic concepts and the elements of general theory of Constitutional Law, elements of politology, as well as the sources of the Greek Constitutional Law. The choice of the particular subjects to be analysed seeks to meet the need of a political scientist to approach the meaning of the rules of the law which regulate Greek political life. The teaching of the course provides a combination of theoretical analysis and application of these rules. The course includes the basic concepts and elements of Constitutional Law, the distinctions of the Constitution, the general theory of Constitutional Law, the sources of Constitutional Law, the judicial review, the constitutional power and the revisionary function, the process of revising the Constitution, the fundamental principles of the regime and the organs of the State (People, Parliament, President of the Republic, Government), the judiciary and the independent administrative authorities.

2nd year

Semester 3

International Law

The International Law regulates several aspects of social behaviour. It is not limited, as in the past, to interstate relations and pervades major segments of internal law. Dealing with international law involves not only governments, international organisations, and international institutions, but also domestic institutions of the state, as well as simple citizens, as well as those whose intention is the creation of an international civil society. The course includes the following sections: Definition and theory of international law. The subjects of international law. Relations between international and domestic law. Sources of international law: Custom, general regime - functionality. International treaties. Conclusion of international treaties, reservations to international treaties, effects of international treaties between contracting parties and with respect to third parties. Interpretation of treaties, revision, termination or suspension of force, unforeseen change of treaties, invalidity. The general principles of law. The subsidiary sources. State and territory. Territorial sovereignty. Methods of acquiring territory. Limitations of territorial integrity. The Sea and the evolution of legal regulations Federations of states - federated states. The state in the international community - recognition, succession of states. International responsibility, diplomatic protection. Peaceful resolution of disputes.

Diplomacy and International Organisation

The course offers a comprehensive introduction to the methods of diplomacy, as well as to the institutional organisation of the international system. The course aims at making students familiar with the most important theoretical and practical aspects of

diplomatic practice, as well as the role of international organisations in the international setting, with emphasis on issues such as peace and security, international economic relations etc. In this framework, through the use of practical examples, the course presents the ways diplomatic relations are developed among states, as well as the ways diplomatic negotiations are carried out, both at the bilateral and the multilateral level. Moreover, the typology, the structure and the aims of international organisations are analysed, with emphasis on the functioning of organisations such as the League of Nations, the United Nations, the World Trade Organisation, NATO etc.

Introduction to Economics

This course familiarizes students with basic notions and terminology of economic theory. In particular, in the context of microeconomics, it examines the concept of the market and supply/demand, of competition, oligopoly and monopoly, as well as some aspects of cost-benefit analysis and game theory. It also introduces some major concepts and terminology of macroeconomics such as GDP, inflation, unemployment, growth, fiscal vs. monetary policy, and exports-imports-balance of trade.

Digital Research Methods

The course introduces students to a variety of digital research methods that have been developed to date and have been documented to contribute to the production of acceptable research results. The first eleven lectures group individual research tools around corresponding basic research methodological approaches. These include data analytics, online interviews, data collection and processing, digital ethnography, digital visual methods, information collection and processing, geospatial analysis, methods for mobile devices and smartphones, the analytics of human behaviour, the analytics of social networks and games, and finally online experiments, questionnaires and observation. The presentation of research tools is not exhaustive; on the contrary, it attempts to demonstrate the suitability of each method per case and the complementarity of the tools per approach. The last two presentations introduce and analyse the concept of the algorithm as a key element of the use of artificial intelligence applications to achieve research goals. The discussion focuses on the management of the ethical and fair treatment of research issues and objects when research results are produced using artificial intelligence applications. Finally, the issue of limits on the autonomous decision-making capacity, that a bounded or unbounded system of artificial intelligence applications can undertake, is raised.

Political Philosophy

The course aims to orient students within the landscape of contemporary political philosophies. Specifically, it examines the principles of justice involved in the legitimization of political regimes, as articulated by contemporary philosophical currents of utilitarianism, libertarianism, egalitarian liberalism, political liberalism, communism, socialism, communitarianism, conservatism, liberal nationalism, republicanism, multiculturalism, constitutional patriotism, and pluralism.

Comparative Politics

The course examines key issues in comparative political analysis through the study of different political systems, institutions, and processes. It includes topics on methodology and theoretical approaches, as well as themes such as political

participation, political communication, political culture, political parties, electoral systems, public policies, and multi-level governance. The approach is empirical, with systematic use of quantitative and qualitative comparative data, as well as case studies from various regions of the world.

Semester 4

International Political Economy
The course is an introduction to International Political Economy - the interaction of international politics and international economy. Politics and economics, the domestic and the international, constitute a single integrated reality according to which we perceive, understand and analyse the contemporary complex international system. Students at a first level come into contact with the main theoretical approaches to International Political Economy. At a second level, special topics are analysed with emphasis on the formation and manifestations of the international economic system from World War II to the present day. Students study economic issues of trade, finance, production and development from the perspective of the international political economy. The focus is therefore on the politics of international economic relations.

EU Law and Governance
This course aims to familiarise students with the law of the European Union, in the light of the Union's system of governance and its political organisation. The course begins with an overview of the European integration process and its evolution. It also presents the Union's mission, its objectives, its competences and the principles governing the latter's exercise. The course then focuses on the Union's institutional architecture, the role, powers and operation of the EU institutions, the EU legal acts and their making, the Union's regulatory function and processes of differentiated integration. The course also examines key theoretical models of European integration and concludes with a presentation of fundamental manifestations of the Union, with emphasis on the Union as a Political Union and the Union as a Union of Law.

Theories of Culture
This course examines key milestones in the history of ideas and cultural thought, from the Enlightenment to the present, with a focus on the shaping of modernity. It explores the historical and geographical context of the European Enlightenment and the emergence of leading precursors of contemporary social theory. It also investigates gender relations as they were structured around shifting boundaries between the private and public spheres during the pre-industrial era and the process of industrialization. The Age of Exploration is approached through the lens of East-West relations; Orientalism, the concept of Empire, and the interplay between discourse and power are studied within a postcolonial framework that highlights diasporas, hybrid cultures, and cosmopolitanism.

Economic Development and International Development Cooperation
The course acquaints students with basic concepts of development economics. It presents growth indicators, such as GDP and others, the issue of balanced and unbalanced growth and delves into poverty and inequality. At the same time, it aims to familiarize students with the concept, content and practices of international development cooperation policies. Some of the topics discussed are: how is

economic development achieved? What is the difference between economic growth and economic development? Is international development assistance solely a mechanism for providing assistance to those in need, without necessarily serving political purposes? In the course students can choose to join a team responsible of writing a proposal in the context of development aid calls from the European Commission, taking the role of an NGO or a consulting company and become familiar with the relevant procedures and mechanisms.

Political Leadership
The course aims at approaching the phenomenon of leadership especially within the framework of a democratic political system. It assesses principal theories, values and features of leadership, models of leadership in the fields of society and the economy, the significance of leadership to the functioning of political and social institutions and the importance of gender. Moreover, leadership is seen with regard to decision-making with emphasis on the values and principles of public interest, as well as on the structures, functions and the overall regulatory framework of modern governance that influence the quality of decision-making.

Conflict and Security in World Politics
The course, making use the theoretical background of the International Relations course, focuses on two analytical categories, that is, conflict and security, which matter a great deal to making sense of world politics. Conflict and security are taken to result from the driving forces of competition and cooperation in the anarchical international society, which in turn determines the evolution of peace and war. Within this theoretical framework, the course seeks to discuss conflict and security in the view of: a) the traditional and contemporary IR theories, b) the part that state and non-state agents play in determining their evolution, and c) the experience of practice, and of the challenges of the future.

3rd year

Semester 5 – Specialization Political Science
(students select 3 of these courses offered)

General Administration Law
The General Administrative Law initially deals with Administration and similar terms as a legal concept. It presents the distinction between public and private law as well as the sources of Administrative Law. It then defines the principles that govern administrative action, includes the Public Administration in the principle of separation of powers and presents the organisation of the Administration and the executive power in general. It focuses on the legal acts of the public administration, the administrative act, the administrative contract, the non-contractual liability of the Administration and administrative coercion. At the end, there is a presentation of the protection of property and its limitations with an emphasis on forced expropriation.

Democracy: History, Theory, Contemporary Challenges
The course comprises of three interrelated sections: the first one examines a selection of important "moments" of Democracy as an ideal or/and regime, such as classical Athens and the «re-invention» of democracy in the 18th century. The

second section examines models of democracy, mainly from a theoretical point of view, such as those of deliberative democracy and the economic theory of democracy. The third section examines the state of "malaise" or crisis observed in contemporary democracies and the challenges they have to meet, such as the problems of democratic control, legitimization and accountability which issue from the reduction of the power of national representative institutions and the fragmented character of world governance, the tendencies of the rise of populism and extremism, the tension between technocracy and popular sovereignty etc.

Public Administration and Administrative Reform in Greece
The course deals with the historical evolution, the organisation and the performance of public administration in Greece and its administrative reform challenges and prospects. Starting with the historical evolution and formulation of the national administrative model, the course analyses the wider socio-political environment of public administration in Greece and the factors that contributed to its organisation and performance. The organisation and performance of the national administrative system is presented through the analysis of public agencies' models of organisation, management and performance, the coordination patterns and the distribution of the competencies for public services provision between the public agencies. Furthermore, the course presents the organisation of public Greek administration at central, regional, and local level, the pitfalls and problems of the efficient and effective public services provision, and the challenges for the reform of the national administrative system.

Greek Political System
The course deals with the construction and development of the Greek political system from the perspective of political science. Some of its major themes include the functioning of fundamental political institutions, democratization, state-society relations, the party system, political ideologies, the impact of socio-economic factors, modernization and Europeanization. Major historical events for the political system are investigated, such as the beginnings of state formation, the civil war, democratic consolidation and adherence to the EC. Moreover, important aspects of the quality of the democratic process are critically approached.

European Union Institutions and Policies
This course studies basic concepts and elements of the flagship policies of the European Union, together with their institutional dimension. The course examines the birth and evolution of selected EU policies through the Treaties and discusses their constitutional foundations, objectives and key parameters, as reflected in the Treaty of Lisbon. It also explores the EU institutions' role in their context and examines their content by investigating concrete EU measures and actions. The course begins by briefly presenting the objectives of the Union, its competences and its institutional organisation. It then proceeds with an examination of the internal market, EU citizenship, the area of freedom, security and justice, with a focus on EU asylum and migration, EU social policy, EU cohesion policy, EU policies for the environment, climate change and energy, the Union's external action, and contemporary challenges facing the internal market with reference to new technologies and digital transformation.

Management Information Systems

The course provides a first cognitive approach to Information Systems as a tool for exercising operational management of businesses and organisations. The course content covers the basic concepts of administrative operation in the context of digital reality. Initially, the concepts of the technological dimensions of information systems are covered (hardware, software, information, databases, telecommunications, security). Then, through case studies, their potential operational applications are presented, as well as the prospects of developing and managing management information systems. Emphasis is placed on the concepts of e-business and digital markets in the light of an operational global economy. The basic discussion of the concepts is completed with the correlation of information systems and decision-making processes, with the aim of achieving competitive advantage in an environment of international competition. Finally, the ethical and social issues that arise, particularly in the context of evolving artificial intelligence technology, are presented, as well as the multiplying possibilities that arise from the development of these new technological capabilities.

Semester 5 – Specialisation International Relations
(Students select 3 of these courses offered)

Jean Monnet Chair: EU External Relations and Foreign Policy Analysis

The course offers a Foreign Policy Analysis perspective of decision-making and policy implementation in the domain of EU external relations. It examines the complex interplay of EU supranational and intergovernmental institutions and member-state governments across different policy areas. It demonstrates that the Union is a sui generis international actor and it strives to shed light into the most important variables that determine its external influence. The course analyses each major dimension of EU foreign policy (e.g., diplomacy, trade etc.) and it explains where competence for decision-making lies, which actors get involved and under which rules of decision-making, the source of available means and instruments, and the main policy priorities. Moreover, the course discusses the main challenges in the Union's foreign policy such as the democratic legitimacy and accountability of decision-making, and the coherence, consistency and effectiveness of policy implementation.

Introduction to Geopolitics

Geopolitics is the branch of International Relations which seeks to understand, explain, and predict international political behaviour by using geographical variables. Typical geographical variables are the location, size, climate, demography and natural resources. The course examines the history of geopolitical thought from the German geographers of the 19th century and Halford Mackinder's 'heartland theory' to French geopolitical thought that attempted to 'de-nationalize' geopolitics, and contemporary critical geopolitics that emphasize geographical discourses and study geographical imagination. Much attention is paid to the influence of geopolitical ideas on policy-making.

European Union Institutions and Policies

This course studies basic concepts and elements of flagship policies of the European Union, together with their institutional dimension. The course examines the birth

and evolution of selected EU policies through the Treaties and discusses their constitutional foundations, objectives and key parameters, as reflected in the Treaty of Lisbon. It also explores the EU institutions' role in their context and examines their content by investigating concrete EU measures and actions. The course begins by briefly presenting the objectives of the Union, its competences and its institutional organisation. It then proceeds with an examination of the internal market, EU citizenship, the area of freedom, security and justice, with a focus on EU asylum and migration, EU social policy, EU cohesion policy, EU policies for the environment, climate change and energy, the Union's external action and contemporary challenges facing the internal market with reference to new technologies and digital transformation.

Strategic Studies
Strategic Studies is the field of the discipline of international relations that explores, focusing on human action and power, how the relation of means to the ends of policy plays its part in shaping occurrences, trends and transformations in world politics. It is substantially a subject whose terrain of research and knowledge, cutting across such subjects of the discipline as security and defence studies, geopolitics, crisis management, conflict resolution and foreign policy analysis, is constantly formulated through and by the interdisciplinary dialogue engagement of International Relations with History, Political Science and Sociology. It is from this perspective that drawing attention to violence and especially its main component, military force, sets the thread of the problematique and theoretical discussions over the phenomenon of war and peace. Equipped with this framework of analysis, the course will shed light on the history of strategic thought with a view to making the conceptual and theoretical fundamentals of Strategic Studies familiar to students.

Semester 6 – Specialization Political Science
(Students select 3 of these courses offered)

Religion and Politics
This course aims to examine the role of religion in contemporary international politics, emphasizing the phenomenon of religious fundamentalism. The world's major religions (Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Buddhism) are analysed through this prism, in terms of their influence on political perceptions, attitudes and ideologies. It also studies particular issues, such as the clash of civilizations, respect for human rights, and new religious movements. Finally, it explores contemporary state-church relations and the contradictory role of religion in international relations and policy formulation in the US and Europe.

State and Civil Society
The subject of the course is the clarification of the concept of the State through the study of its historical genesis and its comparative parable with the concepts of the city-state and the empire. The analysis of the evolution of the state institution using the methods of historical sociology covers the stages of the territorial state, the feudal kingdom, the territorial kingdom, the hegemonic state, the confessional state, the absolutist state, and the nation-state. The course examines the relationship between the state institution and social classes, the Church, and urban communities.

Political Systems and Governance in Europe

The course assesses the role and features of political parties and party systems as regards the functions of democratic representation, the exercise of political power and its democratic control. Its major themes concern democratic consolidation, political culture, typologies of party systems, political ideologies, the role of parties in the functioning of parliamentary institutions and executive bodies. Moreover, emphasis is given to the influence of social factors and historical events on the formation of particular cleavages – and correspondingly, to the rise or fall of particular parties – and on the 'crisis of representation' that some developed democracies are faced with.

Public Policy Planning and Analysis

The scope of the course is to present, and comparatively analyse the different steps and tools of public policy design and implementation. In this context, the theoretical background, the historical evolution and the wider social, political and economic factors determining public policy theory and practice are presented. The course analyses, the stages of public policy design and formulation, the basic models and tools of public policy implementation, the decision-making matrix, as well as the critical issues of the evaluation of public policy impact on the society and the economy.

Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence

The course provides a comprehensive approach to Digital Governance. The course content covers the administrative-procedural dimension of the provision of public services through digital systems (e-government), and furthermore presents the applications of digital systems within the context of their political-democratic perspective (e-governance). The discussion of the above issues includes legal, organisational, technological and institutional issues. Conceptually, it covers the institutional framework of digital governance, the concept of public service, the provision of electronic public services, open government data, electronic participation, one-stop electronic governance and interoperability between Public Sector bodies and services at national and supranational levels. The various dimensions of Digital Governance are analysed, as these are evolving mainly in the member states of the European Union. Finally, the modern developments brought about by the emergence of artificial intelligence, as a complementary tool for the implementation of public policies, and the integrated implementation of strategic policy targeting of national governments and supranational policy-making bodies, are presented.

Semester 6 – Specialization International Relations
(Students select 3 of these courses offered)

East Asia: Politics, economy and international relations

The course focuses on political developments and international relations in the East Asian region, with an emphasis on the People's Republic of China. The content includes China's historical trajectory from the imperial era and the republican period to the Cultural Revolution and the reforms of the post-Mao era. It analyses China's modern political and economic system, its internal challenges, and future prospects. At the same time, the course explores China's international relations, with particular

emphasis on its relations with the United States and the European Union, as well as regional power dynamics and territorial disputes involving Taiwan and neighboring states in the South China Sea.

Greek-Turkish Relations
The course analyses relations between Greek and Turkey from the Treaty of Lausanne to the present day. In this framework, special emphasis is given on the content and importance of the Treaty of Lausanne per se. Moreover, the reasons the led to the Greek-Turkish rapprochement in the 1930s and in the first years after the Second World War re explained. The course, also highlights the importance that the Cyprus question played in the historical development of Greek-Turkish relations ever since the mid-1950s, including the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. Last but not least, Greek-Turkish relations after 1974 and the problems related with them are thoroughly examined.

Macroeconomic Policy
The course "Basic Principles of Macroeconomic Policy" is designed to help the students understand thoroughly the behaviour of the economy as a whole. To study the overall performance of the economy, the course gives particular emphasis on economic policies and policy variables that affect that performance – on monetary and fiscal policies, the money stock and interest rates, the public debt, the budget and the public deficits, the balance of payments and the determination of income in an open economy.

Political Systems and Governance in Europe
The course assesses the role and features of political parties and party systems as regards the functions of democratic representation, the exercise of political power and its democratic control. Its major themes concern democratic consolidation, political culture, typologies of party systems, political ideologies, the role of parties in the functioning of parliamentary institutions and executive bodies. Moreover, emphasis is given to the influence of social factors and historical events on the formation of particular cleavages – and correspondingly, to the rise or fall of particular parties – and on the 'crisis of representation' that some developed democracies are faced with.

4th year

Semester 7 – Specialization Political Science
(Students select 3 of these courses offered)

Public Administration and Public Management
The scope of the course is the comparative presentation and analysis of the contemporary models of public sector management. At a first level, the course presents the historical evolution of public administration theory and practice. Following the analysis of the theoretical framework of public administration, the course analyses the evolution and the reform of the contemporary models of public administration, focusing on governance and performance issues. At the last part of the course, the basic principles and the models of organisational design and management in the public sector are presented, as well as the current issues on public management reform.

Nations and Nationalism

The course aims to familiarize students with the theories concerning the formation of nation-states and the rise of nationalism. It does not adopt a specific theoretical approach but presents the full range of theories, categorized into broader theoretical "approaches" (for example primordialism, modernism, and ethnosymbolism), which attempt—more or less successfully—to interpret the origin and dominance of nationalism. The course adopts a historical-analytical approach so that these theoretical perspectives can be better understood through concrete examples (Ireland, Algeria, contemporary extremist nationalism).

Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Development

The course introduces students to the interdisciplinary field linking entrepreneurship and innovation with development. The course focuses on theoretical approaches to entrepreneurship and the relationship between entrepreneurship and development. It brings students in touch with relevant literature, focusing on the development of theoretical and analytical competences on issues of business activity. The topics examined in the course include the concept and forms of entrepreneurship, the concept and types of innovation, the importance of small and medium-sized enterprises, international entrepreneurship, technological change and innovation, the business environment, the impact of entrepreneurship on society, entrepreneurship, productivity and development, business activity and theories of development.

Conspiracy Theories, Secularism and (Anti-) Scientific Discourse

To be updated.

Political Communication and Mass Media

The course studies the ideological and practical influence of various mass media (the press, cinema, television, internet etc.) on the formation of public opinion. Special emphasis is given to their influence on contemporary political behaviour, the management of political power, communication strategies of parties, governments, organisations, and economic and social institutions. Attention is also paid to the influence of public opinion on the agenda and ideological preferences of mass media. Empirical cases are combined with relevant theoretical analysis of fundamental notions in philosophy and communication. The course offers an introduction to the mechanisms of communication activities in politics through practices, such as planning and management of electoral campaign, the use of political resources and mass media and the analysis of public opinion polls.

Semester 7 – Specialization International Relations
(students select 3 of these courses offered)

International Economic Relations

This course introduces students to basic theories that explain international trade relations, the international monetary system and financial market operations. The section of international trade will cover the basic theories of trade, the export-

oriented growth strategy, as well as the political economy of trade policy. Moreover, the role of foreign direct investment and of the multinational companies will be discussed. Monetary aspects of the international economy are the subject of the second section. After a short presentation of the history of the international monetary system, the workings of the foreign exchange market will be analysed. Moreover, issues like the rationale behind and effects of different exchange-rate policy regimes, the underlying reasons for international financial crises, the interplay between international and domestic macroeconomic forces in the adjustment of the Balance of Payments, will be discussed in this section.

Global Migration and Diasporas (NOT AVAILABLE FOR 2025-26)
Migration is frequently addressed across a range of discourses—those involving religious tolerance, racism and xenophobia, human rights, and civil society, as well as the economic and political impacts of population movement. This course explores how migrant communities integrate into host societies, the social and economic challenges they face, and their ties to the homeland (return movements). Emphasis is placed on theoretical models that analyse migration and diaspora phenomena, while exploring issues such as the formation of ethnic and cultural identities, gender and migration, the reproduction of stereotypes, political and socioeconomic integration, cultural syncretism, and writing in the language of the "Other." The course gives special focus to Greek migration and diaspora, particularly in the United States, Australia, and Germany, and places special emphasis on migration cinema and documentary film.

Nations and Nationalism
The course aims to familiarize students with the theories concerning the formation of nation-states and the rise of nationalism. It does not adopt a specific theoretical approach but presents the full range of theories, categorized into broader theoretical "approaches" (for example primordialism, modernism, and ethnosymbolism), which attempt—more or less successfully—to interpret the origin and dominance of nationalism. The course adopts a historical-analytical approach so that these theoretical perspectives can be better understood through concrete examples (Ireland, Algeria, contemporary extremist nationalism).

Russia in Global Politics and Economy
This course examines the place of post-Soviet Russia in world economy and international politics. The course focuses on Russia's foreign policy schools, its characteristics as an "emerging power", Russia's international economic relations and energy policy, as well as its role on important issues on the contemporary international agenda. The purpose of the course is to enable students to understand how Russia interacts with other actors in international politics and what factors determine its international choices. Emphasis is placed on the international context of Russian policy-making and on the hard and soft power elements that Russia puts forward today, highlighting the country's role in the international distribution of power and wealth.

Regional Security in the Middle East
The course explores international relations and security in the region of the Middle East. In particular, it presents the history of intractable conflicts (e.g., the Arab-Israeli conflict), their causes and prospects for peaceful resolution. It also examines the rise

of radical Islam, the issue of terrorism, the role of minorities in the region, the clash between Shia and Sunni Muslims, Iran's regional role, nuclear proliferation, and US, EU and Russian policies in the Middle East.

Semester 8 – Specialization Political Science
(students select 3 of these courses offered)

Elections, Electoral Systems and Electoral Behaviour

The aim of the course is to investigate and analyse voting behaviour and the parameters that determine it and decisively influence the choice of voters in the elections. In this context, students learn the basic explanatory models of electoral sociology: electoral geography, political ecology, behavioural approaches developed by the Columbia and Michigan Schools, rational choice, and the macro-sociological model. Other topics with which students will become familiar include the relationship between voter and party identification and the causes of the major changes in voting behaviour in recent elections in Greece and elsewhere. The course also analyses electoral systems and their impact on voting behaviour and the party system.

Greek Economy

The purpose of this course is to study the development of the Greek Economy during the last fifty years. At a first stage, it analyses the models of economic development and the protectionism that prevailed until the 1980s. At a next stage, it extensively discusses issues such as the effects of EEC accession, the macroeconomic policy of the 1980s, the change in the monetary policy in the 1990s, the way that Greece chose to reduce inflation and fulfil the Maastricht criteria, the economic policy in the period following the introduction of the euro as well as the causes of the recent economic crisis.

Political Ideologies

This course strives to offer a map with the major ideologies – Liberalism, Conservatism, Nationalism, Anarchism, Fascism- National Socialism –, and also more contemporary movements like Feminism and versions of religious fundamentalism as well as populism seen as "a thin-centred" ideologies. In the last lectures the course attempts to familiarize the ideological analysis with a selective reference to conceptual approaches, and also through discourse analysis. Students are expected on the one hand to construct a fundamental body of knowledge relative to the more important ideological currents, and on the other hand to form a critical ability of recognizing and appreciating ideological patterns as they unfold in contemporary political discourse.

Local Governance and Local Administration

The purpose of this course is to present a comparative evaluation of the different models of Regional and Local Government organisation at international level, focusing on the case of Local government in Greece. In this context, the theoretical framework and the different models of local government organisation in the European Union are compared, in order to evaluate their implementation and performance and identify the common trends towards their reform. Having presented the wider environment, the theoretical framework and the contemporary

models of Regional and Local Government organisation, the second part of the course critically analyses the historical evolution, the institutional framework, the organisational design and the performance of the local government in Greece.

Political Psychology
To be updated.

Digital Systems and Political Behaviour
The course approaches the field of digital political behaviour in a combined and interdisciplinary manner. In order to achieve this goal, applied political communication is presented in the light of political marketing, and the observation of the behaviour of digital actors on social media with political content is presented. Emphasis is placed on the concepts of the digital transition of the political market and the political consumer. In addition, students are familiarized with the basic principles of political and digital marketing. The basic strategies of political marketing and the relevant methodologies of digital marketing are presented. The importance of communication and marketing is highlighted both during the pre-election period as well as during the governmental terms. Finally, the relationship and consequences of digital political marketing on the functioning of democracy are analysed.

Semester 8 – Specialization International Relations
(Students select 3 of these courses offered)

Emerging Powers and Global Governance
The course examines ongoing developments in the international political and economic stage with regard to the emergence of new states, such as Brazil, India and China. It focuses on the ways by which a range of emerging states have managed to substantially strengthen their positions on the world stage, thereby leading to a de facto reorganisation of the system of global governance. It puts emphasis on the economic and political choices of these states during the last decades, as well as the global environment that facilitated their emergence, assessing developments in international organisations and fora such as the UN, the WTO, the G-20, the World Bank, etc.

Africa: Politics, Economy and International Relations
Africa remains largely a *terra incognita* in Greece. This course examines political and economic developments in Africa from the colonial era to the present day. Since the early 21st century, higher rates of economic growth, increased interest from China, and certain other factors (such as migration, armed conflicts, and environmental threats) have heightened global interest in the continent. The study of Africa is particularly compelling for political scientists and international relations scholars because it involves the actions of both state and non-state actors in an environment where regime survival is often the paramount concern.

Jean Monnet Chair: The EU and Geopolitical Competition in the Western Balkans
The course examines the EU involvement in the Western Balkans and the Union's efforts (usually in partnership with the United States) to promote stability, democracy, and economic development in the region. In addition, it discusses the increased footprint in the region of other external powers (notably, Russia, China,

Turkey and the Gulf countries). In particular, it analyses the aims, the instruments, and the policies of these external non-Western geopolitical actors and it questions the compatibility of their policies with the EU/US reform agenda for the region. Therefore, the course reflects upon the impact of the unfolding geopolitical competition between the EU and the United States, on the one hand, and external non-Western powers, on the other, on the advancement of conflict resolution and peacebuilding, democratic consolidation and sustainable development in the Western Balkans.

Political and Economic Relations in the Black Sea and the Caucasus
The course focuses on the political, economic and international relations in the wider Black Sea region, including the Caucasus, and on the structures and processes that influence the behaviour of states and other actors in the region. Specifically, the course focuses on interstate economic relations, regional security issues including the protracted conflicts, and modern forms of regional cooperation. In addition, it studies the EU's policy in the Eastern European neighborhood as well as the regional policies of other important actors in the region (Russia, Turkey, Greece).

ELECTIVE COURSES

Winter Term

(Students are expected to select three elective courses in each of the winter and spring terms, at the 5th and 7th semesters)

Social Policy (in English)
This course introduces students to the theory and practice of social policy in Western advanced welfare states. Because it is not possible to cover all aspects of this complex social science discipline in one programme of study, this course focuses on selected key areas in the study of social policy.
In particular, the course aims to:
- Introduce students to key concepts and principles in social policy, such as 'welfare', "equality", 'social needs', 'social justice', 'solidarity' and 'new social risks'.
- Introduce students to the main research methods in social policy
- Introduce students to the historical perspective of social policy
- Examine competing ideological approaches to 'welfare' (e.g. liberal, Marxist, social-democratic, 'third-way' etc.)
- Provide an overview of some of the core social policy areas (e.g. health policy, labour market policy, poverty and social exclusion, social economy)
- Introduce the concept of 'welfare regime' and provide an overview of the different welfare systems operating in Europe
- Examine the development of social policy at the European level (EU).

Topics on European Studies (EUNICE) (in English)
The content of the course is articulated in four main themes which view the European reality from the viewpoints of European studies, political science, international relations, culture, history and philosophy. Within these themes, special lectures tackle issues of political leadership, ideology and practice, policies, security issues, and

relations with the EU's vicinity as well as with more distant actors. Questions of values, of identity and civilization, and of the origin of European Integration are addressed in the second half of the course. A special session targets the English writing skills of participating students.

The courses Social Policy and Topics on European Studies are offered jointly in both Departments of the School (PSIR and the Department of Education and Social Policy) only if there are Erasmus students in the current semester. If they are offered, they can be taken by students from both departments, PSIR and SEP.

English for Academic Purposes I

Through this course, students are introduced to the use of English for Academic Purposes: they are taught to recognise and understand the structure and conventions of written and spoken English academic discourse and develop relevant vocabulary while learning complex syntactic and grammatical structures common to the genre. Students acquire appropriate strategies for approaching, reading/listening to and understanding relatively long, moderately difficult authentic academic texts related to their field of study and produce written and spoken academic discourse of moderate length and difficulty. In addition, emphasis is placed on teaching the principles of text summarization, paragraphing, linguistic features of academic discourse and bibliographic reference. Extensive use is made of the Department's online platform for vocabulary practice and essay writing, the Internet and multimedia. In addition, students are asked to read at least one book for which supporting material is provided and to make a presentation of their work in groups or individually.

French for Political Scientists

This course is designed for students in the Department of Political Science and International Relations who are starting French from scratch and have no prior knowledge. It aims to familiarize them with basic grammar, everyday vocabulary, and essential communication skills (comprehension and production of written and spoken language), through themes related to daily life as well as their broader field of study. The course uses authentic material from the French-speaking press and internet, adapted to the students' level, so they can be introduced early to key political, social, and international terms, as well as to cultural aspects of the Francophone world. Teaching is carried out through weekly lectures and practical exercises. A variety of sources are used, such as videos, audio clips, interactive exercises, and short political or social texts. Students are invited to take part in simple written and oral activities and to approach the language not only as a communication tool but also as a bridge to the world of international and political sciences.

Topics on Political Philosophy

The subject of the course is the regulation of war violence and the ways in which this can be achieved: by formulating rules for the declaration and conduct of war through the theory of Just War, by legitimizing certain forms of war and delegitimizing others, in conjunction with the type of state that prevails in each historical era, and by completely denouncing war in the context of a pacifist protest. Particular emphasis is given to historically diverse Christian attitudes towards the idea of a Just War.

Introduction to Social Policy
The course introduces the basic concepts and relationships that underpin Social Policy, an interdisciplinary academic subject that explores the response of organised societies to social needs. The study of Social Policy requires the analysis of theoretical and empirical evidence emanating from a wide range of social sciences and disciplines such as sociology, economics, politics, history, philosophy, law, statistics, etc. The course includes two aspects. On the theoretical level, as an academic subject, it refers to the study, investigation and interpretation of Social Policy. At the applied level, as a field of social intervention, it refers to the formulation and practice of social policies. In this context, the subject matter of the courses is formed, where the concept and role of Social Policy, the principles and values of Social Policy, the fields of Social Policy, the history of the welfare state and the main factors of its development, models and theories of welfare, the role of ideology in Social Policy, basic concepts such as need, poverty, social rights, etc. are presented.

Global Governance and Civil Society
The concept of civil society appeared emphatically with the end of the cold war, with the wider prevalence of democratic institutions that essentially led to the creation of new forms of representation and citizenship. At the same time, globalisation and the transformation of the welfare State have strengthened the role of new forms of policy-making. These new forms, such as social movements and non-governmental organisations (NGOS) began to acquire more and more attention. This course aims to analyse the political influence of civil society actors in the decision-making process. It begins with an attempt to familiarize students with concepts like civil society, social movements and NGOs, within a broader context of historical development and under the broader conceptual framework of global governance. Focusing on the most important representatives of modern civil society, the NGOs, the course will attempt to define them, and explain their role in the context of global governance. The lectures will focus on Greece considering initially the broader evolution of Civil Society and subsequently the position and the role of NGOS.

Internship
The Internship Program gives the opportunity to students to work for a short period of time in public or private agencies (in Greece or abroad) whose activities are relevant to the Department's study fields in order to prepare for their future professional activities.
The Practical Training is carried out through two axes:

1) The Business Programme Education and Lifelong Learning (within the framework of the NSRF). More detailed information at https://praktiki.uop.gr.
2) Another form of Internship is the "Erasmus Placement", which is offered under the "Erasmus+: Student Mobility for Internships" programme and enables students to undertake an Internship in a company or host organisation abroad, for a period of 3-12 months, with partial funding, while providing full ECTS credit recognition, once the requirements as defined in the Internship Agreement have been fulfilled (information at http://www.uop.gr/erasmus).

The program aims to assist the students to experience how theory translates into practice, that is to say, how their academic capacities and qualifications might be

exploited professionally. Overall, the internship program intends to facilitate the students' accession to the labour market.

The Psychology of Revolutions (NOT AVAILABLE FOR 2025-26)
The course investigates the phenomenon of revolutions from the point of view of political psychology, namely the branch of social psychology which focuses on the psychological mechanisms associated to political practices. After an introduction to the general proceedings and methods of political and social psychology, the course will explore the psychological mechanisms that underpin the stability of political regimes and which, under certain conditions produce phenomena of "stasis" and violent constitutional change. These mechanisms constitute the subjective reception of those structural social disfunctions which lead to the growth of collective expectations which cannot be met and the frustration of which is provoking discontent. The psychic factor is analysed into the desirability of the possibilities of "exit", of "voice" and "loyalty", with revolution being the choice of "exit" when "loyalty" recedes under the weight of growing anomy. The establishment of a new political order is examined through the prism of the psychological need of "routinization".

Dissertation
The aim of the course is for students to exercise the research and writing skills they have acquired and cultivated during the previous six semesters of their undergraduate studies by writing a long scientific paper (between 10 and 12 thousand words). In this way, they will become even more familiar, on the one hand, with some of the main methodological approaches used for research purposes in the social sciences and, on the other hand, with the stages of research and writing of a long scientific text, in this case the thesis. The final learning outcome is estimated to be the development and deepening of scientific research and writing skills, in line with the best international academic standards, in the fields of one of the two disciplines treated by the Department, namely Political Science and International Relations.
The thesis lasts for two semesters and the option of the thesis replaces any two courses in the curriculum.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Spring Term

(Students are expected to select three elective courses in each of the winter and spring terms, in the 6th and 8th semesters)

Education Policy (in English)
The aim of this course is to introduce students to the theory and practice of modern educational policy. The course starts out with an overview of the most important theoretical approaches shaping modern education policy. The course places a special interest in addressing issues such as education leadership, the interplay between institutions and education, the role of education in economic development, understanding the growing importance of technology in shaping educational services, while issues relating to socioeconomic inequality are also central to the

course. Both formal and informal institutions of education are discussed, including the political, organisational, economic, and social factors affecting schools and higher education institutes. The course is grounded in a wide and updated interdisciplinary literature stemming from sociology, political science, and economics, reflecting the diverse research and teaching interests of the faculty members.

Topics on International Studies (EUNICE) (in English)
The course focuses on a series of specialised topics of International Studies. It combines a broad overview of International Studies with a more detailed focus on specific case studies ranging from security issues to emerging powers and from progress in European integration to the role of Diasporas in the era of globalisation. Students draw upon a wide variety of resources: books, research articles, as well as think tank studies and international organisations' reports.

The courses "Topics on International Studies" and "Education Policy" are offered jointly in both Departments of the School (PSIR and the Department of Education and Social Policy) only if there are Erasmus students in the current semester. If they are offered, they can be chosen by students from both the Departments, SEP and PSIR.

English for Academic Purposes II
Students are taught texts and vocabulary in English related to academic research and their field of study. They also learn the characteristics of all parts of a research article and practice writing argumentative essays, summaries, paraphrases, introductions to articles, and research methodologies. They are also taught appropriate strategies for approaching, understanding, and analysing scientific articles and excerpts from scientific books related to their field of study, and they practice these strategies. In addition, students become familiar with English academic discourse and the skills associated with it (e.g., targeted listening, proper note-taking). Students are asked to write medium-length essays and deliver short group or individual presentations on a project based on a literary book. Extensive use is made of the Department's electronic platform for vocabulary practice and essay writing, as well as the Internet.

French for Political and Social Scientists
This course is aimed at students in the Departments of Political Science and International Relations as well as Social and Educational Policy at the University of the Peloponnese, who already possess basic knowledge of the French language. It focuses on the understanding of French in the context of social and political sciences while strengthening the students' linguistic autonomy. Students work with authentic French-language texts from the press, the internet, and selected academic sources, through which they examine topics related to political theory, international relations, social and educational policy. They also systematically practice grammatical phenomena such as the present tense and the main past and future tenses, adverbs, pronouns, common verbs, and the use of prepositions and conjunctions. The educational approach is participatory and experiential, including discussions, oral presentations, writing tasks for real-life communication scenarios, and research in Francophone websites.

French Language and Interculturalism

This course is intended for students in the Department of Political Science and International Relations who already have a good knowledge of the French language and wish to enhance their ability to understand and express themselves, both in writing and orally, on cultural and social topics. Through the study of French and Greek sources (articles, literary passages, documentary clips, and videos), students explore key concepts such as identity, otherness, cultural heritage, and intercultural coexistence. Cultural heritage is approached not as a static and closed system, but as a dynamic field of dialogue between the familiar and the foreign. Special emphasis is placed on the notion of linguistic and cultural coexistence and how the experience of transitioning between two languages and cultural frameworks reveals the fluidity and changing nature of belonging. To this end, cultural examples from Greece, France, and the wider Francophone world are used and analysed. The course incorporates interactive activities and ICT tools (online collaborative writing platforms like Padlet, quizzes, multimedia content), thus supporting students' linguistic and cultural familiarization.

Topics on Greek Foreign Policy

The course studies Greece's position in the international system and discusses the main parameters that determine the country's foreign policy. It acquaints students with the chronic problems of Greek external relations, namely, the Greek-Turkish dispute, the Cyprus question, and the controversy over the name of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The course also presents Greece's policies for the management of proximate crises (e.g. the Balkan wars) and assesses the country's contribution to regional stability. Moreover, it analyses Greece's relations with all major powers and highlights the country's participation in multilateral efforts and international institutions (mainly, in the EU, NATO and the United Nations).

European Social Policy

The emergence of European Social Policy (ESP) is linked to the need for transnational social regulation in the era of economic globalisation. ESP is linked to the study of processes such as European integration, transnational redistribution of resources, the role of European institutions and the course of European integration. ESP refers primarily to supranational social regulation emanating from international organisations – notably the European Union, the Council of Europe and the International Labour Organisation. Gradually, the emergence of the need for transnational social regulation of the capitalist economy, the weakening of national social policy and the strengthening of the interaction between national and transnational welfare, give the ESP an increasingly critical role for the European perspective in the 21st century. In this context, the themes of the courses are shaped, which include questions on the concept and evolution of European Social Policy, the fields of European Social Policy, European Social Rights, the prospects of Social Europe and the challenges of the European Social Model.

EU Cultural Policy

The course focuses on the so-called 'supporting, coordinating or supplementary' competences of the European Union. In the fields coming within this category of EU competences, the Union has the power to take action to support, coordinate or supplement the action of the Member States, without superseding their competence. The course looks in particular at the Union's competences in the field of

culture and how they are exercised. It examines the Union's cultural policy, its historical development, the procedures for its formulation and its instruments. The course also explores the Union's actions related to culture, cultural heritage, the cultural and creative sectors and cultural diversity in the context of other Union policies. Particular emphasis is placed on the internal market and the Union's external relations while culture is also approached from the perspective of fundamental rights.

European Civilization: The Feminist Movement
This course focuses on the European feminist movement and the emergence of feminism in Greece. It presents the three waves of feminism, the key theories that shaped them, and the major figures who contributed to their development, from Mary Wollstonecraft to Judith Butler. Special attention is given to the relationship between feminism and politics, particularly in the Greek context (e.g., irredentism, "female education," national education policies). The course also explores specific topics through literary and cinematic texts, such as the representation of the female body in media, social networks, and advertising; the portrayal of women in pop culture and performance art; and the woman as writer, creator, or political figure. Topics also include gender-based violence, the #MeToo movement, LGBTQI+ identities and issues of discrimination based on gender.

Fundamental Rights
This course concerns the protection of the fundamental rights on a national and international level. Protection at the national level means the protection according to the Greek Constitution, and it concerns the general theory of protection of fundamental rights and the protection of particular rights protected by the Greek Constitution. Protection at the international level means the protection on a universal level (United Nations) and also regional, where special emphasis is given on the European Convention on Human Rights and the Additional Protocols, which constitute, in any case, internal Law, since they have been signed and ratified by the Greek State.

History, Politics and Culture: Comics, Cinema, Enlisted Literature (NOT AVAILABLE FOR 2025-26)
This course focuses on how historical memory and ideologies are inscribed in cultural products, and how these can be decoded and analysed. Literature and cinema are seen as privileged forms of expressing historical events due to their representational nature, the symbolic power of language, and their ability to reflect both individual and collective imaginaries. Through graphic novels, films, literary texts, documentaries, and other forms of Art, the course examines significant historical and political events that have marked European and Greek society. It also explores artistic forms of resistance to authoritarian and fascist regimes, and the cultural inscription of collective trauma (e.g., the Asia Minor Catastrophe, the Greek Civil War, the military dictatorship).

The New Economy and the Challenges in the Global Economic Environment
The economy of the future seems to be moving significantly away from the characteristics of the "Smithian" type of economy as more and more goods are produced under conditions of increasing economies of scale. In the modern economy, the ability to create innovation is the main source of wealth creation, while the value

relevance of goods is changing significantly as the underlying value tends to take a more immaterial form. Traditional economic policies seem unable to address contemporary challenges, mainly the declining importance of labour in the distribution of wealth, growing inequalities, the declining competitiveness and indebtedness of the West and the lack of secure investment goods.

Experimental Methods in Social Sciences (using computational systems)
To be updated.

Political Parties and Polls
The course aims to present and highlight the relationship between political parties and political polls, as well as the basic characteristics and stages of the modern research process. Students learn about the history of political parties with a focus on Greece. They also learn the history of political polls in Greece, the relevant legislative framework and understand the characteristics of the methodological tools of political polls, the techniques and stages of conducting research. They reflect on the role of opinion polls in the understanding and analysis of political and social reality. Students will understand the relationship between political opinion polls and the media and how parties and governments use opinion polls for the development of communication, political and electoral strategies. They are also concerned with the particularities and problems of opinion polls related to the rules of conducting and publishing them.

Internship
(Please see above p. 46)

The Palestinian Issue: A Comparative Approach
The course follows the Palestinian Issue from the British Mandate to the fragmentation of the Palestinian Territories in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in the 2000s. It comprises a comparative analysis of the Palestinian Issue with the Irish Issue and the Algerian national liberation movement.

Dissertation
(Please see above p. 47)

5.2.4. Certificate of Computer Literacy
In accordance with current legislation (Presidential Decree 85/2022, Article 9, paragraph 2, subparagraph c, Government Gazette 232A and decision of the Supreme Council for Personnel Selection (ASEP) No. 20/2023 (Government Gazette 594B)) and decision 6 of the 225th/11-6-2025 Assembly of the PSIR Department, successful examination in four (4) of the following courses, including "Digital Research Methods" (3100Y), for students admitted from the academic year 2025-26 onwards, will lead to the award of a Certificate of Computer Literacy, which is awarded as an appendix to the degree.

List of courses:
1. Digital Research Methods, (3100Y), (3rd semester, Y)
2. Research and Methods in Social Sciences, (1060Y) (1st semester, Y)

3. Information Management Systems, (ΠΕ5080), (5th semester, EK, PE)
4. Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence, (ΠΕ6080), (6th semester, EK, PE)
5. Experimental Methods in Social Sciences using Computer Systems (Ε3600Ε), (EE, 6th & 8th semester)
6. Digital Systems and Political Behaviour, (PE8060) (8th semester, EK, PE)

Current students, with admission year up to the academic year 2023-24 and regardless of the semester of study they are in, are given the opportunity to obtain the certificate by selecting these courses as Free Elective (EE) courses and exceeding the requirements in terms of: the limit of 60 students in free elective courses and the required number of courses and ECTS credits for obtaining a degree.

5.2.5. Awards of Excellence and Honourable Mention
Since the 2018-19 academic year, PSIR has been running the Awards of Excellence and Honourable Mention program. The aim of these awards is to encourage students to become more actively involved in the learning process and to complete their studies on time.
The Excellence Awards are given to three graduates who meet specific requirements and are fully or partially exempt from tuition fees in one of the Department's postgraduate programs.
An Honourable Mention is awarded to one student from each year (1st, 2nd, 3rd) of study.
The internal Regulation of the UPS (https://pedis.uop.gr/kanonismoi-odigoi) describes the conditions that students must meet in order to receive the awards.

6. POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Since 2012-2013, the Department has been organising postgraduate programmes of study, which cover contemporary issues and fully respond to the need to acquire new knowledge and skills. The PSIR has gained excellent experience in this field, constantly improving the quality of studies with new courses, high-quality teaching staff and new collaborations with Departments and Universities abroad and in Greece.

The websites of the Postgraduate Programmes of the Department of PSIR can be accessed at the following links:

- Postgraduate Studies Programme "**Governance and Public Policies**":

  MA website: https://governance.pedis.uop.gr

- Interdisciplinary Interdepartmental Postgraduate Programme "**Local and Regional Development and Self-Government**":
  MA website: http://tpaa.pedis.uop.gr/

It is organised and operated by the Department in cooperation with the Department of Business Administration and Management of the University of Piraeus and the Department of Economics of the Democritus University of Thrace.

7. DOCTORAL STUDIES

The Department attaches particular importance to high-quality research, and this is also a guiding principle for the doctoral programme. Since the beginning of the Department's operation, young researchers have completed high-quality doctoral theses according to the best research standards. In this way, the Department contributes to the development of new research potential and enhances its overall research potential.

In the academic year 2024-2025, 48 students are registered in the Department as PhD candidates and are working on their thesis under the supervision of faculty members of the Department.

8. LIFELONG LEARNING

8.1. University of Society
The Department organises every academic year the "University of Society". This is a cycle of fourteen lectures given by visiting researchers, members of teaching staff of other Universities, appointed lecturers and doctoral students of the Department to the general public.

The character of the programme is educational. Participants have the opportunity to broaden their knowledge and reflection on political, social and economic issues.

The programme of the lectures and the biographies of the speakers are posted on the Department's website (https://pedis.uop.gr/panepistimio-tis-koinonias).

8.2. Summer Schools
PSIR organises Summer Schools during the summer months, mainly in the framework of research projects. Priority access to the Summer Schools is given to students of the Department. These schools treat various contemporary and topical subjects and take place either in person or by teleconference.

9. RESEARCH

9.1 Research Centres and Groups

9.1.1 Research Centres

Centre for International and European Economy and Governance
Since 2015, the Centre for International and European Political Economy and Governance (CIEPEG) has been operating with the aim of implementing and promoting modern scientific methods in the fields of International and European Political Economy and Governance. The activities of CIEPEG aim to meet the research and educational needs at undergraduate and postgraduate level both of the PSIR Department and of the School of Social and Political Sciences, as well as of the University in general, in the conduction of research, as well as in the provision of consulting and training services in the matters of its activity to public and/or private bodies.
Website: http://www.kedepod.gr/

Centre for Political Analysis
Since 2015, the Centre of Policy Analysis has been operating with the aim of research and study in the field of "Policy Analysis", and in particular in the field of planning, implementation and evaluation of public and private policies regarding issues that arise or concern different levels from the local and regional to the European and international level.
Website: https://centreforpolicyanalysis.wordpress.com/

9.1.2. Research Groups

Centre for Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies
The "Centre for Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies" (CEMMIS, http://www.cemmis.edu.gr/) is operating as a research group in the Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of the Peloponnese.KEMMIS is made up of a group of mainly young scientists who in the last five years have shown particular activity in the scientific analysis of the issues of the Middle East and the Islamic world. This group has built a dynamic website that includes the English edition of the multi-issue *MiddleEastBulletin* and a large number of independent current affairs analyses on the Middle East and Islam. Also important is the development of multimedia applications such as the interactive resource map for the Middle East and a series of video and audio presentations. At the same time, the Centre trains undergraduate and postgraduate students from Greece and abroad through internships, collaborates with researchers in subjects related to its fields of study and prepares policy proposals and studies.
Academic Coordinator: professor Sotiris Roussos
Website: http://www.cemmis.edu.gr/

Research Group "Political Leadership"

The purpose of the research group is to highlight the concept of Leadership as a distinct issue of study in the field of Political Science with particular importance for the analysis of the functioning of political systems and institutions (governments, parties, parliaments, etc.). The research team will rely on a strong theoretical framework, as derived from the international literature, and will explore the analytical utility of political leadership in different fields of study of the political phenomenon.

The research group will seek cooperation with research groups of the Department, as well as research groups with a corresponding subject active in universities and research centres abroad. The group's research outputs include the political leadership analysis text series with an emphasis on evaluating the theoretical and empirical evidence that documents cases of leadership.

Academic Coordinator: Emmanuel Papazoglou, associate professor
More details: https://leaderpolitics.org

Research Group "Study of Southeast Europe"

In the context of the operation of the Policy Analysis Centre, a Southeast European Research Unit/"Southeast European Research Unit (SEER-Unit)" was established. The purpose of the research group is the study of contemporary political and socio-economic developments in Southeast Europe, emphasizing the management of the chronic security problems plaguing the region and in the course of the integration of all the countries of South-Eastern Europe into the Euro-Atlantic institutions. The SEER-Unit consists of members of the Department of Political Science and International Relations, postdoctoral researchers, doctoral candidates and postgraduate and undergraduate students of the Department of Political Science and International Relations with related and related scientific interests to its field of activity. The research group contributes to the training of undergraduate and postgraduate students and doctoral candidates in basic and applied research in the field of "area studies" with an emphasis on Southeast Europe. SEER-Unit research results will be presented at an annual workshop and in published research studies.

Academic Coordinator: Professor Nicolaos Tzifakis

Research group "Philosophy and Interculturalism"

It is an interdisciplinary research group, which is active in the broad field of philosophy, culture and related social practises.
Among others, the following have been defined as research fields:
● Immigrant cultures, phenomena of diaspora and intercultural influences, post-colonial literatures, film writing and history with an emphasis on phenomena of political violence, women's writing of exile, and cosmopolitanisms in the Mediterranean.
● Emergence of collective identities and formation of rational action criteria through the traditions of social practices. Typologies of phenomena of lawlessness, institutional instability and mobilization. Issues of modernization, secularization and political change (Revolutions and social movements). Relations between political power and society.
The research team collaborates with the following research centres and research groups abroad: "Centre d'Histoire des systèmes de pensée moderne", Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, Research Group ELITE, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, and CERLOM, Université INALCO.

Academic Coordinators: Professor Vasiliki Lalagianni and Dimitris Rozakis, assistant professor

9.2. Research Networks

Consortium for the Promotion of Greek-Chinese and Sino-European Relations
(http://chinaandgreece.wordpress.com))
The University of the Peloponnese, EKEM, ELIAMEP, the Institute of International Relations of Panteion University and the Institute of International Economic Relations are participating.

Coordinator for PSIR: Professor Asteris Huliaras

Greek Network of African Studies
(http://hellenicafricanstudies.wordpress.com)
It was created by the University of the Peloponnese (PSIR) and the University of the Aegean (Department of Mediterranean Studies) and its members are Greek-speaking Africanologists from Greece and abroad. The Network held an international conference in September 2014 on EU-Africa relations.

Coordinator for PSIR: Professor Asteris Huliaras

Hellenic Network for the Study of the Third Sector
It was created by PSIR and the Department of Political Science and Public Administration of the University of Athens.

Coordinator for PSIR: Professor Asteris Huliaras

9.3 Visiting Researchers

The Department has established a visiting researcher programme. Visiting researchers are accepted for a certain period of time and carry out research work utilising the infrastructure and research potential of the Department. In this way, research activity is strengthened and academic cooperation is promoted. This institution has been successful, as several young researchers have developed a remarkable research activity and presented their work in the context of special seminars, workshops and conferences as well as in scientific publications. The Regulation for Visiting Researchers has been posted on the Department's website (https://pedis.uop.gr/).

9.4. RESEARCH COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS

MAGENDA Research Project - Integrating gender equality into the academic community

Scientific coordinator: Antonis Klapsis, associate professor
Main coordinator: University of Pokhara, Nepal
Implementation period: 01/11/2024-31/10/2027
Funding: Erasmus+

Research Program "AfriquEurope", Project ID: 101127755 ERASMUS-JMO-2023-NETWORKS (Jean Monnet Policy Debate)

Scientific coordinator: Professor Asteris Huliaras
Main Coordinator: University of the Peloponnese
Partners: Consortium of 24 partners from 33 countries
Implementation Period: 2024-2027
Funding: The project is co-funded by the European Union.

Research Project "GEO-POWER-EU – Strengthening a Geopolitical European Union in the Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans"

Scientific coordinator: Professor Nikolaos Tzifakis
Partners: Consortium of 14 partners from 12 countries
Implementation period: June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2027
Funding: The project is funded by the European Union (ID 1011322692).

Research Project «Co-Producing Knowledge On Sustainable Growth through Service Learning» (COPAFEU), Project ID: 101128829 — COPAFEU-ERASMUS-EDU-2023-CBHE

Scientific Coordinator: Sotiris Petropoulos, Associate Professor
Implementation Period: 1/3/2024-28/2/2027

Funding: Erasmus+

Research project "Social Impact Manager" (SIM)

Scientific Coordinator: Pyrros Papadimitriou, Professor
Main Coordinator: University of the Peloponnese
Partners: Consortium of fourteen partners from six countries: Greece, Italy, France, Austria, Croatia, Belgium, Ireland.
Implementation period: June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2026
Funding: Erasmus+ (EDU-2022-PI-ALL-INNO)

Jean Monnet Chair in European Union Foreign Policy and the Western Balkans

Scientific Director: Nikolaos Tzifakis, Professor

The Jean Monnet Chair in European Union Foreign Policy and the Western Balkans develops teaching, research, and dissemination activities related to the role played by the EU internationally in promoting conflict resolution, democracy, and economic development, with an emphasis on the Western Balkans.

Implementation period: October 2022 - October 2025

Website: https://econtent.pedis.uop.gr/jmc-eupf-wb/

Funding: European Commission

Democracy at Risk: EU Politics in the 21st Century "DEAR"

Scientific coordinator: Efstathios Fakiolas, associate professor

The program aims to contribute to democratic participation in the public sphere in the EU and to make democratic values in the EU more visible in a globalized world. In particular, it aims to provide knowledge, skills, and specialised training on how the democratic condition in the EU is changing. At the same time, it aims to implement the values of democracy, participation, and representation through the creation of the European Observatory on Democracy.

Implementation period: 2022-2025

Website: https://www.project-democracy-at-risk.eu/

Funding: Erasmus+, Jean Monnet Module (JMO-2022-HEI-TCH-RSCH)

Greek academic electronic publications (Kallipos repository)
As part of the Kallipos project, the following faculty members of the PSIR Department submitted proposals for the writing of monographs and/or teaching manuals which were accepted for funding after review:
S. Vandoros, M. E. Galani, S. Koniordos, P. Manolis, E. Papazoglou, S. Petropoulos, D. Rozakis, N. Tzifakis, A. Huliaras

Since the foundation of the Department, the members of the Teaching Research Staff have developed many important research programmes. For example:

- Jean-Monnet Chair "Relations between the European Union and the Less Developed World" (Academic coordinator: professor Asteris Huliaras)

- Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on Governance (with the Department of Economic Studies of the University of the Peloponnese) (Academic coordinators: professors Panagiotis Liargovas and Asteris Huliaras)

- Project "Thales. Evaluation of Non-Profit Organisations" (Academic coordinators: Professor Asteris Huliaras).

- EEA GR07/3694 "Participatory Action Research to Address Un/Under-Employment at the Local Level" (Academic Coordinator: Professor Pantelis Sklias)

- "Deciphering the Shaping of Greek Economic Diplomacy towards the Western Balkans (DEFORM-GR-WB)", The London School of Economics and Political Science,

Hellenic Observatory, H2020 Grants (Academic Coordinator and researcher: Professor Nikolaos Tzifakis)

- EU Middle East Network In Action (EUMENIA), "The European Union-Middle East Network in Action" (Academic Coordinator: Professor Nikolaos Tzifakis)

- The Chinese High Strategy and Greece, NSRF - Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning 2014-2020 (Academic Coordinator: Sotiris Petropoulos, Associate Professor)

- Research Project "Thales II: Mapping and Evaluation of Greek Non-Profit Organisations" (Academic Coordinator: Professor Asteris Huliaras)

- #YouEU - Harnessing Digital Tools to Enhance Youth Participation in the Democratic Life of the EU (Academic Coordinator: Professor Pyrros Papadimitriou)

- Information Diasporas in EurAfrica for Legal Migration (IDEAL-Migration) (2020-2022) (Academic Coordinator: Professor Asteris Huliaras)

- Gamification of Media and Digital Literacy for Youth, Erasmus+ KA2, European Union, Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation (2020-2022) (Academic Coordinator: Sotiris Petropoulos, associate professor)

- Encouraging Active Citizenship and Participation via Empowerment of Young EUCitizens (EURVoice), Erasmus+ KA2(2020-2022) (Academic Coordinator: Sotiris Petropoulos, associate professor)

- Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence "Visualising, Analysing and Learning about EUStudies" (2020-2023) (Academic Coordinator: Antonis Klapsis, assistant professor)

- "Christian Communities and Religious Pluralism in the Middle East: International Relations and Religion at the Turn of the 20th and 21st Centuries" (2020-2023), ELIDEK Research Project for the support of faculty members and researchers and the procurement of high-value research equipment (Academic Coordinator: Professor Sotiris Roussos)

- Jean Monnet Module Research Programme (2020-2023) EAC AO2-2019-JMO, "The European Spirit through Culture and Philosophy: Towards an Open Europe" (Academic Coordinator: Professor Vassiliki Lalagianni)

- "Europeanisation Meets Democracy from Below: The Western Balkans on the Search for New European and Democratic Momentum (WB2EU)", Jean Monnet Network, Erasmus+ (2020-2023) (Network Coordinator: Österreichische Gesellschaft für Europapolitik (Austria), Academic Coordinator at the Department of PSIR and Principal Investigator: Professor Nikolaos Tzifakis

- Civic Debate Club (2021-2023) (Academic Coordinator: Sotiris Petropoulos, associate professor)

- Exploiting Digital Tools to Enhance Youth Participation in EU Democratic Life (YOUEU), Erasmus+ (2021-2023) (Academic Coordinator: Professor Pyrros Papadimitriou)

- Maturity Study for the Design of the Training Project for Digital Policy Analysts, General Secretariat for Digital Governance and Simplification of Procedures of the Ministry of Digital Governance (10/3/2021-31/12/2021) (Academic Coordinator: Professor Pyrros Papadimitriou)

- From the academic year 2013-2014 and until 2020, the Department of Political Science and International Relations of the University of the Peloponnese and the Department of Economics and Financial Science of the University of Neapolis Pafos organised, based on Official Gazette 1173/t.B/15-5-2013 and the current legislation, a Joint Program of Doctoral Studies for the preparation of doctoral theses with co-supervision in the scientific fields which are related to their subject knowledge.

10. PSIR STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The PSIR Student Association is based in Corinth. Information about the student association is available on the Department's website at https://pedis.uop.gr/syllogos-kai-ekprosopoi-foititon.

PSIR Student Association email: ds.fs.pedis@gmail.com

The purpose and goal of the Association is to engage the students of the Department outside the academic framework with various activities and initiatives, such as organising conferences on topics related to the Department, voluntary blood donation, etc.

At the same time, other student groups are also active at PSIR:

- The Simulation Group participates actively in simulations of international organisations. Several PSIR students have been awarded prizes at relevant conferences and simulations.
- The PSIR Rhetoric Club was founded in 2018 and maintains a dynamic presence in the field of rhetoric.

  More information:
  Email: ritorikospedis@gmail.com
  Facebook: PEDIS Rhetoric Club
  (https://www.facebook.com/RitorikosOmilosPedis/)
  Instagram: @ritorikos.omilos.pedis

From time to time, the Volunteer Group, as well as the cinema and theatre groups, are also active.

Student representative at the PSIR General Assembly: Not yet appointed.

As noted in 2.3, student groups can use the department's classrooms upon request.

11. PSIR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The PSIR Department operates an Alumni Association with an online hub at https://alumnipedis.uop.gr/.

The purpose of the online hub is to support and provide counselling and information to PSIR graduates through a platform of contacts, synergies and actions that will contribute, both to the strengthening of the professional prospects of the graduates themselves, and of the Department itself through the recognition and evaluation of professional needs and opportunities in the labour market. At the same time, the graduates will maintain their connection with the Department and the academic community.

Through the online hub, a modern channel of communication opens between the Department and its graduates, as our graduates can:

• be in permanent connection with PSIR, contributing as graduates to the improvement of the quality of the services offered, to the further connection of the educational program with the labour market and to the strengthening of the initiatives undertaken,

• be informed about new jobs at national and international level, especially in the context of international organisations and the EU,

• take advantage of the development and general mobility of their fellow students, creating new opportunities and perspectives both for themselves and for the next generations,

• be informed about continuing education and training programs (lifelong learning),

• be informed about all the latest news and actions of PSIR that concern them and also

• look for their old classmates, while supporting reunion events.

12. ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026

Winter Term

Teaching period: 29/09/2025 – 23/01/2026 (15 teaching weeks)

Starting date: to be announced
Make-up classes week: to be announced

Exam period: 26/01/2026 – 13/02/2026

Official Holidays:

National Holiday:	Tuesday, 28/10/2025
Polytechnic Uprising Commemoration Day:	Monday, 17/11/2025
Christmas– New Year's Break:	24/12/2025 –06/01/2026
The Three Holy Hierarchs:	Friday, 30/01/2026

Spring Term

Teaching period: 16/02/2026 – 12/06/2026 (15 teaching weeks)

Starting date: to be announced
Make-up classes week: to be announced

Exam period: 15/06/2026 – 03/07/2026

Official Holidays:

Ash Monday:	23/02/2026
National Holiday:	Wednesday, 25/03/2026
Easter Break:	6/04/2026 – 17/04/2026
May Day:	Friday, 01/05/2026
Holy Spirit Holiday:	Monday, 1/06/2026
Student Election Day:	-
St. Paul:	Monday, 29/06/2026

September Exam Period

Monday, 31/08/2026 until Friday, 25/09/2026.

Notes: Changes, updates or additions to this study guide and/or the curriculum are posted on the bulletin boards and the Department's website.