

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### SOCIAL AND CULTURAL POLICIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

Educational and qualification degree: MASTER

Professional qualification: MASTER IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL POLICIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Duration of study: 2 academic years/ 4 semesters

Mode of study: full-time

### QUALIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS

#### **I. Basic Characteristics and Educational Objective of the Master's Programme**

The Master's degree programme *Social and Cultural Policies in the European Union*, within professional field 3.3 Political Science, is designed for candidates who hold a Bachelor's or Master's degree in disciplines other than Political Science and who wish to prepare for successful professional realization in various sectors of public life. The first two semesters of study provide foundational knowledge in the field of political science, followed by in-depth theoretical and specialized training aligned with the programme's academic focus.

The Master's programme is highly interdisciplinary, offering knowledge in the fields of political science, law, economics, sociology, philosophy, cultural studies, and history. These disciplines are integrated to address the theoretical and practical dimensions of European social and cultural integration. The training focuses on developing specialized theoretical knowledge alongside key competences and practical skills for implementing EU policies in areas such as social cohesion, education, culture, healthcare, and communications. Particular emphasis is placed on the development of the European Union's competences and powers in the social and cultural domains, as well as on its interaction with the national governments of the Member States in these policy areas. The programme examines the main EU institutions involved in these sectors, the relevant legislation, instruments, funds, and mechanisms used for policy coordination and monitoring. It also develops students' skills in critical analysis and policy evaluation. Enhanced foreign language training is included as part of the programme.

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates may also pursue further academic development through doctoral studies.

#### **II. Professional Competence and Realization**

Owing to the in-depth theoretical and specialized training provided by the Master's programme, students acquire the knowledge, skills, and competences necessary for applied research activities, as well as the personal qualities required for professional success in today's complex and dynamic world.

Graduates of the programme are qualified to work in central government bodies, local self-government and administrative institutions, cultural organizations, political parties, and trade unions. They may also pursue careers in the private or non-governmental sectors, including roles

involving partnerships with European institutions and participation in the implementation of social and cultural policies within the European Union.

### **III. Organization and Structure of Study**

The master's programme is developed in accordance with the contemporary requirements in theory, practice and research activities in the field of higher education with a particular focus on the social, economic and legal sciences. The programme's curriculum documentation aligns with the latest trends in the development of education in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the growing need to deepen training in civic education. Both national and international practice and experience in the respective field have been taken into account in the process of developing it.

The duration of the programme is one academic year (two semesters) and it is intended for candidates who hold a Bachelor's or Master's degree in a field other than Political Science. The curriculum complies with established standards for the professional training of Master's degree holders, ensuring coherence, consistency, and logical progression among the academic disciplines throughout the educational process.

#### **Curriculum:**

The Master's programme is structured over four semesters, comprising a total of 3,600 contact hours, equivalent to 120 ECTS credits.

The curriculum includes *compulsory*, *compulsory elective* and *facultative* courses. The **compulsory courses** ensure theoretical foundations and specialized training. The **compulsory elective courses** extend and deepen both theoretical knowledge and subject-specific expertise. What is particular of the **optional courses** is that they allow students to pursue knowledge and skills in other academic disciplines according to students' personal interests. In accordance with Article 2(5) of the Ordinance on State Requirements for Higher Education (SG No. 76/2002), any student may choose optional courses offered by any faculty at SWU "Neofit Rilski," regardless of their home faculty. The total contact hours for optional courses may not exceed 10 % of the programme's overall hours.

To complete the programme, students must either pass a written state examination or successfully defend a Master's thesis. Passing either option awards 15 ECTS credits.

### **IV. Compliance with the Mission of SWU "Neofit Rilski"**

The curriculum and syllabi of the Master's programme in *Social and Cultural Policies in the European Union* are developed in accordance with the mission, educational goals, and research strategies of South-West University "Neofit Rilski" and the Faculty of Philosophy. They reflect the evolving landscape of secondary and higher education in Bulgaria and the country's full integration into the European Union. Built upon established European models, the programme's content is fully comparable to similar offerings at other European universities. At the same time, it incorporates best practices from Bulgarian institutions in Political Science and European Studies, as well as the particular characteristics of the region in which SWU "Neofit Rilski" is located.

## CONTENTS OF THE CURRICULUM

ACADEMIC YEAR 1			
First semester	ECTS credits	Second semester	ECTS credits
Sociology of Politics	6	EU Economic Policy	6
Comparative Politics	7	History of Political Ideas	6
History of Integration Processes in Europe	7	Elective Course of Group One	6
Political Theory	4	Elective Course of Group One	6
English Language	6	English Language	6
	<b>Total 30</b>		<b>Total 30</b>
ACADEMIC YEAR 2			
Third semester	ECTS credits	Fourth semester	ECTS credits
Social Policies in The EU	7	Education And Science Policy of the EU	4
EU Health Policy	7	Cultural Policies in the EU	6
English Language	6	Management of EU-Funded Projects	5
Elective Course of Group Two	5	Graduation: State Exam or Thesis Defense	15
Elective Course of Group Two	5		
	<b>Total 30</b>		<b>Total 30</b>
Elective courses /Group one/ <i>The students select two courses</i>	ECTS credits	Elective courses /Group two/ <i>The students select three courses</i>	ECTS credits
History of the European Idea	6	Political Behavior	5
Religions in Europe	6	Cultural Management	5
European Civilization Process	6	EU Funds and Programs	5
EU Media Policy	6	Comparative Analysis of the Political Systems in the EU	5
<b>TOTAL FOR 2 ACADEMIC YEARS: 120 CREDITS</b>			

## ANNOTATIONS OF COURSES

### COMPULSORY COURSES

#### SOCIOLOGY OF POLITICS

**ECTS credits:** 6

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** I

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

**Faculty of Philosophy**

**Hours:** 3 lectures + 1 seminar

**Type of exam:** written

**Lecturer: Adjunct Assoc. Prof. Petya Pachkova, DSc**, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: [pachkova@swu.bg](mailto:pachkova@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

The object of analysis of the “Sociology of politics” is the interrelationship between various social needs and activities and political life. Their interdependence and mutual influence is examined. Within the discipline, it is analyzed to what extent change in some spheres of public life leads to change in others. The question arises as to what is the sociological criterion for the effectiveness of a given human activity.

**Content of the course:**

Nature of political sociology. Socio-political aspects of labor relations. Right to work and trends in labor relations. Discrimination in employment and politics. Political relations as a reflection of economic ones. Economic and political globalization. The role of the state. The penal state. Science, culture and politics. Ideology, religion and politics. Demographic trends and politics. Material needs, health care and politics. Education and politics. Entertainment, recreation, sports and politics. Communications and Politics. Governance and politics.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester’s course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **COMPARATIVE POLITICS**

**ECTS credits: 7**

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester: I**

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, PhD**, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: [tpetkova@swu.bg](mailto:tpetkova@swu.bg)

**Hours:** 3 lectures + 1 seminar

**Type of exam:** written

**Annotation:**

The initial idea in developing and teaching the course “Comparative Politics” is the idea that under the conditions of globalization politics is also globalized. In this context it the need for knowledge of the unique and the universal in the structure and functioning of the political institutions and how political changes come about is drastically increased. Starting from these considerations, the course is built in response to the principal questions: is it necessary to draw comparisons in politics, what is it which is compared and how is it to be compared, etc. These issues are clarified by presenting both theoretical debates and case studies.

**Content of the course:**

The main topics covered in the course are: typology of the forms of polity and governance; typology of political regimes, cases, political systems of the United States, Britain, Japan, Russia, France, the interaction between electoral systems and party systems; forms of modernization, etc.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

### **HISTORY OF INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN EUROPE**

**ECTS credits:** 7

**Hours:** 3 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** I

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: [tpetkova@swu.bg](mailto:tpetkova@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

The subject of analysis of the discipline "History of integration processes in Europe" is the main policies and structures of the integration community and the perspectives of pan-European cooperation. The main goal of the course is to acquaint students with the essential legal and political characteristics of partnership with countries and organizations within the Union and beyond. Emphasis is placed on the structures and mechanisms of pan-European cooperation, as well as on the community's strategy for current and future enlargement.

**Content of the course:**

Post-war cooperation structures. ECSC, EURATOM, EEC. Creation of a European Council and security structures. Transition from coordination to common policies. The crisis of the 70s. Overcoming stagnation. Creation of the European Monetary System. Formation of the concept of the EU. Genscher-Colombo Plan. Steps towards a United Europe. Single European Act (EEA). Extending the scope of the Treaties of Rome. Formation of the Single Internal Market. The four freedoms. Stages of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). Convergent criteria. The opening to Eastern Europe. The Stability and Growth Package. From EU 15 to EU 25 and EU 27. Prospects for EU enlargement in the Balkans. Bulgaria in the EU. Post-accession strategy.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **POLITICAL THEORY**

**ECTS credits:** 4

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** I

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer: Prof. Boris Manov, PhD**, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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### **Annotation:**

The main goal of the course is to acquaint students with the most influential theories about the nature and content of politics, its place, and its role in public life.

Expected results: To lead to the building of students' abilities for independent analysis of political texts and theories, for the formation of a critical approach in the interpretation of their ideological messages and practical projections.

### **Content of the course:**

The main three sections in the course are devoted to the essence of politics, political relations, and political consciousness; the theories about the essence of the political subject, the types of political subjects; the political interaction with the main spheres of public life - the economy, morality, law, ideology; the political process, the dynamics of politics, political change and theories of political transitions, the main political ideologies; the specifics of political life in Bulgaria, its essential characteristics and paradoxes.

### **Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **EU ECONOMIC POLICY**

**ECTS credits:** 6

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** II

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer: Prof. Maria Kicheva-Kirova, PhD**, Department of Economics

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### **Annotation:**

The course on the discipline “EU economic policy” is designed to acquire knowledge about the role of the European Union in the conditions of economic globalization. An objective necessity is the complex study and analysis of the processes taking place in it. Understanding the essence and problems of European integration also implies the availability of basic knowledge on issues of general economic theory and the world economy.

**Content of the course:**

The main goal of the course is to present the features and prospects for the development of the European Union, in relation to the accelerating integration processes in the world as a whole, and especially for countries like Bulgaria.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester’s course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **HISTORY OF POLITICAL IDEAS**

**ECTS credits:** 6

**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** II

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer: Prof. Boris Manov, PhD**, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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**Annotation:**

The “History of Political Ideas” course analyzes, summarizes and systematizes the best achievements of political thought from antiquity to the present day. The views of individual authors are examined in historical and comparative terms, and their place in the history of political science is highlighted, according to the context of the era in which they were formulated and developed. Basic political ideas and doctrines are covered, with an emphasis on the achievements of European political thought. Special attention is paid to the most influential modern political concepts, as well as to the disclosure of the most important aspects and directions of their application in the real political life of society.

**Content of the course:**

The history of political ideas as a subject. Main paradigms, doctrines and stages in the development of European political thought. Ancient Greek and Roman political thought. The doctrine of the natural historical origin of the state. The doctrine of the divine origin of the state. Eastern and Western Christian political thought. Political thought during the Renaissance, the Reformation, the New Age and the Enlightenment. The doctrine of the social contract. The political teachings of the 19th and 20th centuries. A socio-historical, liberal and totalitarian doctrine of politics. The state and politics in the postmodern (global) era. The Doctrine of

Universal Liberal Democracy and the End of History. Monocentric and polycentric political models, technocratic and globalization interpretations of 21st-century politics.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

**SOCIAL POLICIES IN THE EU**

**ECTS credits:** 7

**Hours:** 3 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** III

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Adjunct Assoc. Prof. Petya Pachkova, DSc, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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**Annotation:**

The object of analysis under "Social policies in the EU" is the set of public activities related to social relations with the aim of regulating social equality and inequality. The subjects building or implementing regulatory mechanisms are bodies, institutions, and organizations (the state, political parties, non-governmental organizations, companies, citizens, international institutions and organizations). The object of regulation are separate aspects of an individual's life - his work, health, education, family development, etc.

**Content of the course:**

European social model. Main trends. Present and future of the welfare state. Social policy in the field of labor - social dialogue. Social policy towards poverty. Unemployment in Europe. Social policy towards inequalities. Anti-discrimination policy. Social Security. Social policy towards pensioners. Pension reforms. Social policy in health care. Social assistance. Social services. Family social policy in Europe. Immigration policy. Policies towards people with disabilities. Social policies in other regions of the world.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.



## **EU HEALTH POLICY**

**ECTS credits:** 7

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** III

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Vaska Stancheva-Popkostadinova, PhD, Department of Medical Sciences

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### **Annotation:**

The main objective of the European health policy is to achieve good health for all citizens of Europe and to successfully deal with significant health challenges facing the EU - from the consequences of an aging population to the high rates of morbidity related to lifestyle and the rising rates of infectious diseases. diseases such as HIV/AIDS and SARS. The aim of the course is to present: basic terminology, principles, strategies and action plans for the implementation of EU health programs in its member countries. Students should acquire a wide range of knowledge and skills to develop and implement EU health policies and strategies.

### **Content of the course:**

The study course is composed of two thematic modules. In the first (general) module, the dimensions of the health policy, its determinants, structure, and basic principles are considered. The second (specialized) module presents the priority programs and strategies of the European Union for the protection of public health, to overcome the effects of poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, smoking, alcohol, drugs, genetic disorders, aging and sexual intercourse, harmful effects of the environment.

### **Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **EDUCATION AND SCIENCE POLICY OF THE EU**

**ECTS credits:** 4

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** IV

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Daniela Pastarmadzhieva, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

E-mail: [daniela.pastarmadzhieva@swu.bg](mailto:daniela.pastarmadzhieva@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

The subject “Education and science policies of the EU” aims to outline possible ways to reveal the essence of education and science, and their place in culture and social development. Its primary task is to consider the nature of education as a special socio-cultural practice, which predetermines the foundations of culture itself - the direction towards building, forming, and growing the image of man.

**Content of the course:**

The multidirectional dimensions of the understanding of culture and their humanitarian dominance. Education as a cultural problem. The classical ideal of education. Christian Thinkers on Education. Renaissance humanism and the new idea of the human. The educational ideal of the Enlightenment. Education policies of the EU. Objectives and framework programs. Projections of neohumanism in education. The ideas of Wilhelm Dilthey and the definition of pedagogy as an independent and independent science. Changes in contemporary educational theories and policies. Postmodernist theory of education. European policies in the field of scientific research and technological development.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester’s course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

**CULTURAL POLICIES IN THE EU****ECTS credits:** 6**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar**Assessment:** exam**Type of exam:** written**Semester:** IV**Methodical guide:****Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Daniela Pastarmadzhieva, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political SciencesE-mail: [daniela.pastarmadzhieva@swu.bg](mailto:daniela.pastarmadzhieva@swu.bg)**Annotation**

The course is aimed at understanding the nature of the effective and strategic role of cultural policies related to the management of cultural resources, impacts and support for the arts, cultural institutions and activities in a historical and contemporary context.

**Content of the course:**

The main modules structure the content of the course according to its own logic in revealing the subject matter of the discipline, focusing on: the main characteristics of cultural policies and their historical development in Bulgaria in a comparative plan; separate topics in foreign cultural policies.

General issues in the field of cultural policies are considered both in view of political, administrative, market processes and national contexts, as well as according to the specifics of

Bulgarian social development, supported by theoretical and empirical arguments. The issue of separate stages and models of cultural policies is covered, as well as the changing discourse of cultural policies in view of the processes of decentralization, regionalization, privatization and urbanization.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

**MANAGEMENT OF EU FUNDED PROJECTS**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** IV

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. Desislava Stoilova, PhD, Department of Finance and Accountability

Chief Assist. Prof. Rumyana Popova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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**Annotation:**

The lecture course "Management of EU-funded projects" aims to present all aspects and mechanisms of application, the structure of the project proposal, project management from the provision of documents to the implementation of the activities, types of entities that can apply, as well as how to apply for all funds and programs.

**Content of the course:**

Among the main issues addressed are: Nature of project management. General framework and rules for projects. Difference between funds and programs. Institutions that finance projects. Project cycle. Procedures for the selection of project proposals. New enhanced priorities and projects based on them in the current financial framework 2021-2027. Elements and terminology of projects. Pre-project preparation. Elements of the application form and their content. Project justification. Correspondence of the project with the objectives of the priority area, with the area of intervention or priority axis, with the general objectives of the operational program. Project Manager and Project Team. Team roles and job characteristics. Definitions of the target group, direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project - examples. Project activities - types, terminology, planning of project activities, examples. Project results, output, and impact indicators. Horizontal principles, their indicators and EC regulatory framework. Project budget. Eligible project costs - the regulatory framework for different OPs. Procedures for determining subcontractors. Requirements for other applications in the project documentation.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**ECTS credits** 18

**Hours:** 6 seminars

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** I, II, III

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturers:** Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Chief Assist. Prof. Rumyana Popova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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#### **Annotation:**

The structure and content of the course are aimed at developing knowledge and skills in English for listening, speaking, reading and writing, through various grammatical and communicative tasks and activities implemented in order to build up the student's confidence in applying and integrating the learning material. The training aims for consistent and methodical introduction and development of grammatical and lexical characteristics. The course also emphasizes on the study of specialized lexical units and work with specialized literature related to the profile of the specialty.

#### **Content of the course:**

Grammatical and lexical norms and constructions. Practical grammar exercises. Study of lexical units necessary for independent use of the language in the thematic areas provided for in the programme. Current idiomatic expressions. Specialized texts. Specialized terminology.

#### **Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

### **ELECTIVE COURSES**

#### **HISTORY OF THE EUROPEAN IDEA**

**ECTS credits:** 6

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** II

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Type of exam:** written

**Annotation:**

The lecture course on “History of the European Idea” has a theoretical and cognitive orientation. Main theses are analyzed, such as ideas about Europe and projects for Europe; the processes of formation of the European identity over the centuries; the foundations of European culture and the idea of Eurocentricity; philosophers' concepts of European unity, etc.

**Content of the course:**

Ideas of Europe and Projects of Europe: Approaches to the History of the European Idea. The mythology of Europe. The ancient Greek idea: Europe as a symbol of freedom. Europe in the Middle Ages. Medieval man: the homemaker and the “man-on-the-road.” Medieval Pilgrimage and the Formation of Medieval Identity. Interregional connections and networks of interactions within pilgrimage routes. What does Europe owe to Arab civilization? Renaissance humanism and the idea of Europe. The great geographical discoveries and the self-discovery of Europe. Changes in the social horizon of Renaissance man. The birth of Eurocentrism. The Grand Tour and European identity. Philosophers of the New Age as participants in the Grand Tour. Immanuel Kant and European Unity: “Towards Eternal Peace”. Husserl on the crisis of European sciences. Spengler: The Decline of Europe. José Ortega y Gasset: Europe and the Idea of Nation & Gadamer on the European Heritage.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester’s course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

**RELIGIONS IN EUROPE**

**ECTS credits:** 6

**Assessment:** exam

**Semester:** II

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Mario Marinov, PhD, Department of Sociology

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**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Type of exam:** written

**Annotation:**

The subject of analysis are religions in Europe. Issues related to the evolution of the major world religions on the European continent are discussed. Real trends of modern society are traced - religious pluralism, secularization, religious mobilization, etc. By presenting the results of an empirical sociological study, students get an opportunity for scientific analysis and comparison. The lecture course includes literature that will contribute to the formation of an adequate view and sensitivity to the studied matter. In the lectures, basic categories, concepts and principles are brought out and problematized, which support orientation in the religious dilemmas of modernity. The course assumes a dynamic rather than a fixed definition of religion in modern societies.

**Content of the course:**

Religions in Europe - introduces students to the issues of religious communities, their main representatives and their distribution in Europe. The aim is to create in students a sense of the relationship between the individual and the community: how different religions with different cultures interact within themselves, with each other and with the larger European society. It is expected that once students have acquired such a perspective and 'understanding' of religions in Europe, they will be able to apply the same way of observation, analysis and theorization to other aspects of life as well as enrich themselves with a wider understanding of religions and their role in modern society. Examples are given of the main representatives of religions in Europe, and their social and political aspects. Controversies and conflicts related to religions are addressed.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

**EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION PROCESS****ECTS credits:** 6**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar**Assessment:** exam**Type of exam:** written**Semester:** II**Methodical guide:****Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Dimitar Tyulekov, PhD, Department of International Law and International RelationsE-mail: [dtyulekov@law.swu.bg](mailto:dtyulekov@law.swu.bg)**Annotation:**

European Civilization Process - aims to present the main concepts, problems and developments of the European civilization process over time and the transformation of culture and values. The course includes the examination of the various aspects of the development of the concept of "civilization", "genesis" and "development" of the idea of the creation of the EU. One of the sub-goals of the course is to examine the region of South-Eastern Europe as a significant cultural crossroads and to note Bulgaria's contributions to the European civilizational process.

**Content of the course:**

Concept of civilization. Changing definitions over time. Europe before Europe. The ancient European world and the first polis. City and urban structure. The role of the ancient culture in the Bulgarian lands for Europe. The first European gold, the first agriculture, and the first urban and settlement construction. History of Medieval Europe. Revival. Cultural centers of Europe. Enlightenment and Romanticism. Social movements. The role of the French Revolution. Architectural styles and styles in art. Libraries and scientific knowledge in Europe from antiquity to the present day. Comparison of Eastern and Western Europe. Difference between the two civilization models. Religious teachings and religious wars. The industrial revolution. History of scientific and technical revolution and European scientific knowledge. The idea of a united Europe from the Middle Ages to the creation of the EU. History of the EU. New Europe of Secularization. Nationalism and Global Trends. Traditional and modern societies. Values and cultural differences. The civilizational problems of Europe. The place of Europe in the center of civilization in the world. Does European civilization have a future?

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

**EU MEDIA POLICY****ECTS credits:** 6**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar**Assessment:** exam**Type of exam:** written**Semester:** III**Methodical guide:****Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Chief Assist. Prof. Milena Yankova, PhD, Department of Public RelationE-mail: [yankova\\_milena@swu.bg](mailto:yankova_milena@swu.bg)**Annotation:**

The course "Media Policy of the EU" aims to provide students with the opportunity to acquire in-depth and up-to-date knowledge about the essence of the audio-visual and media policy of the European Union. Emphasis is placed on the EU Audiovisual Media Services Directive, which, as a key piece of legislation for media pluralism, aims to create an effective single European market for audiovisual media services. The objectives of EU coordination in the field of media are explained. The principles for the regulation of audiovisual media services at the European level are analyzed. The work of the European Parliament and the European Commission in the field of media and communications is examined in detail. A special place is occupied by the question of the transposition and implementation of the EU directives in the audiovisual policies of the Republic of Bulgaria.

**Content of the course:**



The emergence of the media policy of the European Union. History of the Community audiovisual regulatory framework. Audiovisual Media Services Directive. Objectives of EU coordination in the field of media. Principles for the regulation of audiovisual media services at the European level. Convergence - the transformation in the audiovisual media landscape. Audiovisual commercial communications. Promotion and distribution of European works. Protection of users of audiovisual services. European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA). Transposition and implementation of the EU Directives in the audiovisual policies of the Republic of Bulgaria - problems and perspectives. The activity of the multimedia center of the European Parliament. Media policy of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Communication on explaining EU policies to an external audience. Communication campaigns within the Commission. Official Journal of the European Union.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **POLITICAL BEHAVIOR**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** III

**Methodical guide:**

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Adjunct Assoc. Prof. Petya Pachkova, DSc, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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**Annotation:**

The subject of the discipline "Political Behavior" is the main forms of participation of the various social strata in the political process - both legitimate and illegitimate, both supporting the system and protesting. The content of the course provides information about the channels, forms and institutions through which the political will of the citizen is realized.

**Content of the course:**

Political behavior and political consciousness. Studies of Political Behavior. Basic concepts - elite, non-elite, classes. Participatory, direct, representative, associative democracy, and authoritarian democracy. Participatory democracy. Lobbying. Revolution, evolution. Basic theories of the power structure of society. Basic theories of the power structure of "socialism". Basic factors of political behavior. Political behavior of the personality. The behavior of the economic elite. The behavior of the military elite. The behavior of the political elite. The behavior of the intellectual elite. The behavior of the journalistic elite. Forms of non-elite political behavior. Socio-political movements. Workers' movement/trade unions, parties, organizations/. Anti-globalism. Environmental movements. National liberation movements. Feminism. Cyber Rights



Movement. Terrorism. Crowd behavior. Other forms of political behavior - civil disobedience, insurrection, rebellion, civil war, tactics of nonviolence, and digital civic activism. Protest through art. Other forms of political behavior - demonstration, manifestation, referendum, signature, general meeting, petition, rally.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

## **CULTURAL MANAGEMENT**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** III

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Daniela Pastarmadzhieva, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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**Annotation:**

The discipline "Cultural Management" is aimed at understanding the nature of the effective and strategic role in the management of cultural organizations related to the management of resources, impacts and support for a cultural product, for the development of audiences. The main topics structure the content of the course, according to its own logic in revealing the subject of the discipline, emphasizing on: the main characteristics of cultural management; the separate dimensions of cultural management - strategy, structure, leadership; contemporary cultural policies.

**Content of the course:**

Nature, goals and tasks of cultural management. Formation of goals and strategy of the cultural organization. The organizational structure. Organizational life cycle. Basic principles in forming the organizational structure of the cultural organization. Types of organizational structures. Project organization. Project management in the cultural sector. Organizational culture and ethical values. Cultural leadership and team environment. Coordination and decision-making. Types of management decisions in the cultural sector. Cultural entrepreneurship. Subject and methods of cultural entrepreneurship. Event management. Cultural management and event production.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the

end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

### **EU FUNDS AND PROGRAMS**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** III

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. Ivan Todorov, PhD, Department of Finance and Accountability

Chief Assist. Prof. Rumyana Popova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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#### **Annotation:**

The lecture courses by "EU Funds and Programs" aims to introduce students to the basic concepts, funds and programs with which the EU finances its common policies.

#### **Content of the course:**

The course covers the various aspects of fund allocation, mechanisms, management, entities that can apply and how to apply. It is planned to examine the strategic documents, the financial framework and the project opportunities foreseen for Bulgaria, the project cycle, financial flows and control and reporting mechanisms.

#### **Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.

### **COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEMS IN THE EU**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Hours:** 2 lectures + 1 seminar

**Assessment:** exam

**Type of exam:** written

**Semester:** III

**Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences**

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Chief Assist. Prof. Tatyana Petkova, PhD, Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

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#### **Annotation:**

The course "Comparative analysis of political systems in the EU" combines two modules. First, the basic concepts and methodological criteria of comparative political science are introduced, and on this basis, the different forms of state organization, state and political

administration in the EU member states are analyzed. The second module is dedicated to the comparison of the main political institutions in the modern societies of the EU countries. The methods of formation and functions of the legislative and executive authorities in several presidential, semi-presidential and parliamentary republics are analyzed.

**Content of the course:**

History of European integration. Institutional architecture of the EU - legislative, executive and judicial power in the EU. Legal nature of the European Union, legal personality, types of competence, and the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality. The role of national parliaments in the control of implementation of the principle of subsidiarity. Membership. Increased cooperation. Forms of state organization in the EU. Forms of government in the EU. Comparative analysis of different forms of government and constitutions - practical applicability of constitutional models of separation of powers in the EU. The political system in Bulgaria. Political systems in Germany. The political systems in Spain. The political systems in Italy. The political systems in France. The European Union is a global foreign policy actor in the system of international relations. Common European security and defense policy, as a component of the EU's external relations. A comparative analysis of the legislatures in France, Italy and Germany. A comparative analysis of executive power in France, Italy and Germany. A comparative analysis of the electoral systems implemented in Italy, France and Germany. Collective Identity in the Modern Age. Nation, region, ethnicity, religious community. Majorities and minorities in the EU.

**Teaching and assessment method:**

The training is carried out by means of traditional and contemporary interactive teaching methods and approaches. Students shall perform their activities as part of their contact and non-contact student workload. The final grade is calculated on the basis of the marks received from a midterm examination conducted during the semester and from a written exam, conducted at the end of the semester's course of study. The final grade is formed in compliance with the ECTS requirements.