



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2022

7,361: Key Concepts in Politics

ECTS credits: 0

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (75%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Active participation (25%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,361.1.00 Key Concepts in Politics](#) -- Englisch -- [O'Flynn Ciaran](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

This workshop is for students with no background in political science. It provides an introduction to key concepts in political science such as power, democracy, government and political institutions. It facilitates the successful participation in the MIA lecture "International Politics and Market Economy".

This MIA Morning workshop takes place at the BASIC level. The workshop requires no prior knowledge regarding the topic. The workshop is closely aligned with the MIA Morning workshop "Key Approaches in Politics", in which more advanced knowledge on political science can be obtained.

Learning objectives

MIA Morning workshops are designed to:

- 'fill the gap' in proficiencies regarding students' thematic, methodological and professional skills and competencies necessary for the effective completion of their studies and a successful career,
- strengthen students' competencies in proactively planning their studies and future career,
- accommodate heterogeneous disciplinary backgrounds and interests,
- enables students to reflect on and train major skills and competencies needed for the effective writing of their MA theses.
- **Students who participate in this workshop will, afterwards, be able to:**
 - explain key concepts in political science,
 - discuss political and/or societal events from a theoretical perspective.

Course content

The MIA Morning course is designed to provide students with training in skills and competencies that support the progression of their studies as well as their transition into the professional world. Participation in five (5) MIA Morning workshops is a core requirement of the MIA degree.

This MIA Morning workshop "Key Concepts in Politics" gives an overview over central concepts in politics. The aim is to give students with no or little knowledge in the social sciences, especially in the political science, the possibility to catch up with key approaches in the discipline. We will take up concepts such as democracy, institutions, state and power based on state-of-the-art literature and discuss how they help us to understand better political and/or societal events.



Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

Workshops are interactive teaching modules that take place in the morning and last 90 minutes.

Course literature

The course content will come from *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics* (2020) by O'Brien & Williams. Chapters of this book as well as further literature will be made available on the online learning platform. Reading of the course literature is not mandatory but heavily recommended in order to be able to participate actively in the course discussions.

Additional course information

Dr. Ciaran O'Flynn is a Postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Political Science, researching democratic legitimacy in the macro and microprudential financial regime.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (75%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Attendance at the workshop session is a prerequisite

Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Written work must be written without outside help according to the known citation standards, and a declaration of authorship must be attached, which is available as a template on the StudentWeb.

Documentation (quotations, bibliography, etc.) must be carried out universally and consistently according to the requirements of the chosen/specified citation standard such as e.g. APA or MLA.

The legal standard is recommended for legal work (cf. by way of example: FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R., SCHINDLER B., *Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende* (the latest edition in each case), or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The reference sources of information (paraphrases, quotations, etc.) that has been taken over literally or in the sense of the original text must be integrated into the text in accordance with the requirements of the citation standard used. Informative and bibliographical notes must be included as footnotes (recommendations and standards e.g. in METZGER, C., *Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien* (latest edition)).

For all written work at the University of St.Gallen, the indication of page numbers is mandatory, regardless of the standard chosen. Where page numbers are missing in sources, the precise designation must be made differently: chapter or section title, section number, article, etc.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English



2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Active participation (25%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Students must attend workshop sessions.

Examination-aid rule

Active classroom participation

In the "Active classroom participation" examination form, regular participation in class is assessed.

The assessment criteria can be as follows:

- Requests to speak enrich the discussion (productive) / requests to speak disturb the discussion (counterproductive);
- Requests to speak are correct/requests to speak are incorrect;
- Requests to speak are frequent/average/rare;
- No requests to speak, but students follow the lesson/no requests to speak and students do not noticeably follow the lessons.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

Students are expected to make the following contributions:

1. They actively participate full-time in class (25%), i.e. demonstrate excellent preparation, contribute to class discussion, demonstrate active involvement in class activities.
2. They complete a problem set (75%) specific to the subject matter of the respective workshop, which needs to be submitted within one week of the workshop.

Grading and obtaining the 2 ECTS for the MIA Mornings course will be on a pass-fail basis. To this end, five individual workshops need to be passed. Criteria are punctual attendance, the degree of active participation throughout, and the quality of the problem sets.

Examination relevant literature

The course content is derived from Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics (2020) by O'Brien & Williams. Chapters of this book as well as further literature will be made available on the online learning platform before the workshop.

Reading of the course literature is not mandatory but heavily recommended in order to be able to participate actively in the course discussions.



Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 25 August 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 7 November 2022).