

ȘCOALA NAȚIONALĂ DE STUDII POLITICE ȘI ADMINISTRATIVE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title	Populism. Propaganda and Political Discourse				
Year of Study	I	Semester	II	Type of Final Assessment *(Sa/Ca)	Sa+Ca
Course Status (Ma–mandatory, As–associated, Op–optional)				OP	
Total Hours in Curriculum	28	Total Individual Study Hours	222	Total Hours per Semester	250
Course Coordinator	Prof. univ. dr. Andrei Țăranu				

* Sa – summative assessment at the end of the semester, which may consist of a written exam (W), oral exam (O), or written and oral exam (WO); Ca – continuous assessment throughout the semester.

IOSUD	SNSPA
Doctoral School	Political Science
Field of Study	Political Science
Language of instruction	English

Specific Competencies	
Medium importance	1. Knowledge and Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of various forms of Populism • Understanding Populism and its political, social, and psychological foundations
Highest importance among listed competencies	2. Application of Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of knowledge regarding governance in order to understand and interpret concrete socio-political developments
Medium importance	3. Application of basic principles and methods to solve typical problems in the field – cultural grid analysis of immediate reality 4. Appropriate use of standard criteria and evaluation methods to assess the quality, merits, and limits of processes, programs, projects, concepts, methods, and theories – analysis of populism’s political approach within the social sphere
Medium importance	5. Supporting, promoting, and communicating democratic values 6. Introducing democratic concepts that oppose populism

Final Grade Composition	Importance in grading (% total = 100%):
- Exam/colloquium answers (final assessment)	67%
- Practical assignments (laboratory work)	

- Continuous assessment during the semester	33%
- Homework / papers / essays / translations / projects, etc.	

- Other activities (if applicable).....	
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Description of Final Assessment (Sa/Ca) (for example: written assignment (descriptive and/or multiple-choice test and/or problem-solving, etc.), oral examination with drawn tickets/questions, individual or group colloquium, project, etc.)

Final grade: $Fg = 2 \times Cg + Sg : 3$, where Fg = final grade, Cg = course grade, Sg = seminar grade.

Course grade: $Cg = Colg$, where $Colg$ = final colloquium grade.

Seminar grade: $Sg = 1 + 3Sp + 0.6Nls : 10$, where Sp = seminar participation grade, Spg = seminar paper grade.

The seminar paper is an essay that must apply one of the theories studied in the course/seminar by identifying its premises and central concepts and operationalizing them within a case study concerning EU's relations with its neighbors. To be graded, the paper must cumulatively meet the following conditions:

- include a theoretical and critical framework (identify the appropriate theoretical framework from paradigms studied in class; identify key concepts and propositions; critically engage with them; clearly state a research hypothesis; operationalize key theoretical concepts and propositions through indicators, behaviors, etc., within a case study from international politics; include footnotes and relevant academic bibliography – minimum three relevant works). Purely descriptive essays will not be graded.
- develop a coherent argument regarding how the key theoretical concepts and/or propositions of the selected framework are (or are not) reflected in the case study; explain deviations; discuss current relevance; identify implicit questions of the case study that the selected theoretical framework fails to answer, etc. The essay must refer to the implications of the analytical results. Plagiarized work will be sanctioned according to the SNSPA University Charter.

Seminar participation includes activities such as: commentary on mandatory readings, solving problems assigned by the seminar coordinator (homework discussed in seminar).

Active seminar participation requires participation in at least one presentation/debate and the analysis of the case study discussed in the seminar from the perspective of mandatory and specific bibliography. The material must be sent via email at least 24 hours before presentation.

Minimum requirements for <i>Satisfactory</i> grade	Minimum requirements for <i>Excellent</i> grade
1. 50% attendance at lectures 2. Written assignment addressed at a satisfactory (minimum passing) level	1. Fulfillment of attendance requirements 2. Seminar paper addressed at an excellent level

Nr. crt.	Course Topics (Lectures)
1.	Original Forms of Populism. 19th-century populism in the USA, Russia, and Central and Eastern Europe
2.	Latin American Populism after World War II
3.	Theories of Populism. Ernesto Laclau, Ghiță Ionescu
4.	Populism and/or Nationalism in Postwar Europe
5.	European Populism at the Beginning of the 21st Century
6.	Western Populism in the 21st Century
7.	Central and Eastern European Populism in the 21st Century. The Viktor Orbán Effect
8.	European Populism and the European Union. From a Europe of Regions to a Europe of Nations and then to Euroscepticism
9.	Conclusions
	Seminar Topics

1.	Theories of Populism. Ernesto Laclau & Chantal Mouffe
2.	Guy Hermet and the Sociology of Populism
3.	Case Study: Freedom Party in Austria
4.	Case Study: National Front in France

5.	Case Study: Hungary (The Orbán Effect), Slovakia, Poland
6.	Donald Trump's Populism
7.	Populism and Brexit
8.	Romanian Populism
9.	The Discourse of Populism

Nr. crt.	Bibliography
1.	Ernesto Laclau, On populist Reason, Verso 2005.
2.	Cas Mudde, Csrtobal Rovira Kaltwasser (eds) Populism in Europe and the Americas. Threat or Corrective for Democracy. Cambridge University Press, 2012.
3.	Guy Hermet, L'hiver de la Democratie, Armand Colin, 2007.
4.	Ghita Ionescu & Ernst Gellner, Populism: Its Meaning and Characteristics, London, Weinfeld and Nicolson 1969.
5.	G. Pasquino, Populism and Democracy, in Twenty-first Century Populism, the Spectre of Western European Democracy, D. Abatazzi and D. Mc Donell (eds.), Palgrave Macmillan, Cambridge, 2008
6.	MUDDE, Cas. The Populist Zeitgeist. Government and Opposition, v. 39, n. 4, , 2004.. Populist radical right parties in Europe. Cambridge:,Cambridge UniversityPress. 2007.
7.	TOURAINE, Alain Left Populism in Latin America, Neue Gesellschaft. Frankfurter Hefte, n. 5, , 2007.
8.	KNIGHT, Alan. Populism and Neo-Populism in Latin America, especially Mexico. Journal of Latin American Studies v. 30, n. 2, Maio, p. 223-248, 1998.
9.	VIGUERA, Aníbal. "Populismo" y "neopopulismo" en América Latina. Revista Mexicana de Sociología, v. 55, n. 3, Jul./Set
10.	Krastev, Ivan, The new Europe: respectable populism and clockwise liberalism, open Democracy Fund Rev. Vol XXII, 2006
11.	M. Canovan, Political Studies, 1 (1999) 2.
12.	C. Mudde, East European Politics and Societies, 2 (2005) 161
13.	F. Panizza, Introduction, Populism and the Mirror of Democracy, in Populism and the Mirror of Democracy, F. Panizza (ed.), Verso, London, 2005
14.	P. Taggart, Introduction to Populism, Open University Press, Philadelphia, 2000
15.	C. Mouffe, The 'End of Politics' and the Challenge of Right-wing populism, in Populism and the Mirror of Democracy, F. Panizza (ed.), Verso, London, 2005
16.	M. Shafir, Neopopulismul în zodia postcomunismului, in Populismul Contemporan, S. Gehrghina, S. Mişcoiu and S. Soare (eds.), Institutul European, Iaşi, 2011
17.	Y. Meny and Y. Surel, The Constitutive ambiguity of Populism, in Democracies and the Populist Challenge, Y. Meny and Y. Surel (eds.), Palgrave, Basingstoke, 2002
18.	C. Mudde, Populist Radical Right Parties in Europe, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2007
19.	T. Pauwels, Political Studies, volum (2010) 1009
20.	C. Mudde, In the name of the Peasantry, the Proletarian, and the People: Populism in Eastern Europe, in Democracies and the Populist Challenge, Y. Meny and Y. Surel (eds.), Palgrave, Basingstoke, 2002
21.	R. Griffin, Journal of Political Ideologies, 2 (2003)
22.	M. Michael, East European Politics and Societies, 2 (2002)
23.	K. Weyland, Comparative Politics, 4 (1999) 379
24.	R.H. Dix, Latin America Research Review, 2 (2002) 29.

25	MUDDE Cas, ROVIRA KALTWASSER Cristobal, Populism: a very short introduction, Oxford University Press, Oxford & New York, 2017.
26	MULLER Jan-Werner, What is Populism?, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 2016.

Estimated Total Time (Hours per Semester) of Individual Study (please indicate with "0" the activities that are not required)			
1. Reading and studying lecture notes	50	8. Preparation of oral presentations	0
2. Studying textbook/course materials	22	9. Final exam preparation	50
3. Studying minimum required bibliography	50	10. Tutoring	0
4. Additional library research	10	11. Field research	0
5. Seminar/laboratory preparation	10	12. Internet research	10
6. Preparation of assignments, papers, essays, translations, etc..	20	13. Other activities.....	0
7. Preparation for mid-term papers	0	14. Other activities.....	0
Total individual study hours per semester = 222			

Completion date: 17.02.2026

Course Coordinator's Signature

IOSUD Director's Signature