Content

Course Code	Course Name	Semester	Theory	Practice	Lab	Credit	ECTS
SP321	Political Parties	7	3	0	0	3	4

Prerequisites	
Admission Requirements	

Language of Instruction	French
Course Type	Elective
Course Level	Bachelor Degree
Objective	This course focuses on political parties, which—benefiting from one of the longest-standing traditions of scholarly inquiry—constitute a structuring object in political science. Political parties will be examined within the frameworks of political science theories and methods, both as full-fledged actors of the political system and as "mediators" between the system and citizens. Through their analysis, the course aims to provide a deeper understanding of the functioning of representative regimes. To this end, a comparative perspective will be adopted, with particular attention to recent transformations (populism, crisis of representation, digitalization, etc.).
Content	outlining a political sociology of parties, we will first attempt to establish definitions that allow us to situate parties within the political system and present efforts to conceptualize the origins, history, functions, and future of the party phenomenon—an element inseparable from liberal democracy. Next, we will examine political parties as organizations and present the various typologies developed based on their modes of organization. We will then offer an analysis of parties based on the logic of their political project and their positioning regarding social and political conflicts, leading to a classification of political families. Finally, we will analyze party systems which enables to decipher the relationships parties establish with one another and their connections to electoral mechanisms.

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GERBAUDO, Paolo, The Digital Party: Political Organisation and Online Democracy, Pluto Press, London, 2019. BARBERÀ, Oscar, SANDRI, Giulia, CORREA, Patricia, RODRÍGUEZ-TERUEL, Juan, Digital Parties. The Challenges of Online Organisation and Participation, Springer, 2021. BRÉCHON, Pierre, « Idéologies et partis politiques », Les partis politiques, Paris, Montchrestien, 1999. SEILER, Daniel-Louis, « Les clivages partisans : typologies multidimensionnelles », Les partis politiques, Paris, Armand Colin, 2000. LIPSET, Seymour Martin et ROKKAN, Stein, « Cleavage Structures, Party Systems and Voter Alignments », Party Systems and Voter Alignments : Cross-National Perspectives, The Free Press, 1967. MARDİN, Şerif, « Center-Periphery Relations : A Key to Turkish Politics ? », Daedalus, Vol. 102, No. 1, Post-Traditional Societies (Winter, 1973), pp. 169-190 (disponible aussi en Turc). AKGÜN, Birol, « « Aspects of Party System Development in Turkey », Turkish Studies, Vol. 1, Spring 2001. 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Theory Topics

Week	Weekly Contents
1	Introduction: framing the problem; presentation of the course and its organization
2	Definition and functions of political parties: agents of conflict and instruments of its integration
3	Political parties as an object of study in political science: historical overview from founding scholars to contemporary research
4	Political parties as organizational phenomena: contemporary approaches and typologies
5	Program, doctrine, ideology: studying parties through the logic of political projects
6	Party families: uni- and multidimensional classifications
7	The cleavage paradigm: an attempt to apply the model to the case of Turkey
8	Parties that forma system: the study of party systems
9	Evolution of the Turkish party system: from the single-party system to presidential alliances
10	Party strategies and electoral competition: the role of small and niche parties
11	Crises of representation and democracy, and political parties
12	Debates on the current state and future of political parties
13	Presentation of research projects (posters)
14	Review and conclusion