UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA

Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
MIR-616DE	Case Studies in Political Sociology	10
Prerequisites	**Department**	**Semester**
70 ECTS (completion of core courses)	Politics and Governance	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	**Field**	**Language of Instruction**
Elective	Political Science	English
Level of Course	**Lecturer(s)**	**Year of Study**
2nd Cycle	Dr Giorgos Charalambous Dr Yiannos Katsourides	1st/2nd
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Corequisites**
Distance Learning	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are:
- To provide students with essential theoretical knowledge in the sub-field of political sociology, and assess its relevance and main topics.
- To specifically illustrate to students how such topics as gender, immigration and new technologies are studied in the realm of politics and international relations.
- To equip students with the tools necessary to examine how society evolves and changes over time, including in technological, demographic and political terms.
- The study and analysis of specific contemporary cases in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able:
• To discuss specific concepts of political sociology in a critical manner.
• To apply these concepts through empirical discussion of the interconnections between social and political forces.
• To illustrate the relevance of society and social phenomena for political conflict.
• To have concrete knowledge of relevant, academic and social debates on gender and immigration.

• To be able to discuss recent digital innovations and their effects on society and democracy, as well as matters of practical education among diversified social fields.
• To demonstrate substantial knowledge regarding the specific cases that were analysed in the later part of the course and to be able to explain their particular characteristics and their impact and consequences, in conjunction with the theoretical knowledge that they will receive in the first part of the course.

Course Content:

Part I. Issues in political sociology: a theoretical debate

- Political sociology and contemporary affairs

- Diversity versus discrimination

- Debates on Gender Equality

- Gendered violence

- Debates on immigration

- The immigrant subject

- Technology and Digitalities

- Digital democracy

Part II. Case studies in the Eastern Mediterranean

- Gender and patriarchy in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

- Arab Spring and social media

- Political and social implications of migration flows on the Eastern Mediterranean route

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Power Point (PPT) presentations, online interaction, personal guidance

Assessment Methods:

Weekly assignments, research essay, final exam

Readings*:

Clemens, E. (2016) What is Political Sociology? London: Wiley Blackwell.

Calhoun, C. et al (eds) (2012) Contemporary Sociological Theory. 3rd edition. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell

Giddens, A. (2009) Sociology. 6th edition. Cambridge: Polity Press

Guillaume, X. and Bilgin, P. (eds.) (2017) Routledge Handbook of International Political Sociology. London and New York: Routledge.

Solati, F., Women, Work and Patriarchy in the Middle East and North Africa (2017). Cham: Palgrave Macmillan

Moghadam, V. M., "Gender Regimes in the Middle East and North Africa: The Power of Feminist Movements," *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society*, Volume 27, Issue 3, Fall 2020, 467–485

Wolfsfeld, G., Segev, E., Sheafer, T., "Social Media and the Arab Spring: Politics Comes First," *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 18(2), 115–137

Ribas-Mateos, N. (ed.) (2017) Migration, Mobilities and the Arab Spring: Spaces of Refugee Flight in the Eastern Mediterranean. Chetlenham, UK: Edward Elgar

Tziampiris, A., Asderaki, F. (eds.) (2021) The New Eastern Mediterranean Transformed : Emerging Issues and New Actors. Cham: Springer.

*Additional readings will be uploaded on the course Moodle platform (journal articles, databases and reports)