

ECTS Syllabus

Course title	The Politics and Governance of Ageing Societies				
Course code	PGT-309				
Course type	Elective				
Level	1 st Cycle				
Year / Semester	3 rd Year				
Teacher's name	Christina Ioannou				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	12	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course purpose and objectives	Course Purpose: This course explores the political and governance challenges posed by ageing societies. It examines demographic trends, pension systems, healthcare policies, and the socio-economic impact of ageing populations. The course critically assesses policy responses at national, regional, and global levels, with a focus on the EU's approaches to ageing. It also explores ethical debates and intergenerational equity in the context of aging populations. Course Objectives: 1. Provide students with an in-depth understanding of the political and social dimensions of ageing societies. 2. Examine the demographic trends driving ageing populations in Europe and beyond. 3. Analyse the impact of ageing on pension systems and healthcare policies. 4. Develop an understanding of intergenerational equity and social cohesion. 5. Critically assess the governance and policy responses to ageing populations at national and EU levels. 6. Investigate the political, economic, and social challenges of an ageing society. 7. Explore comparative perspectives on the policy approaches of different countries. 8. Evaluate the sustainability and future challenges of welfare states in ageing societies.				

	9. Develop students' abilities to critically analyse policy implementations and their outcomes in ageing societies. 10. Prepare students for careers in social policy, public administration, and advocacy in the context of demographic change.		
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course students are expected to be able to: 1. Describe the demographic trends and challenges posed by ageing populations. 2. Identify and explain the key policy areas affected by ageing societies (pension, healthcare, long-term care). 3. Analyse the sustainability of welfare state systems in the face of demographic change. 4. Critically assess the impact of ageing societies on political structures and governance. 5. Evaluate national and EU-level policy responses to the challenges of ageing populations. 6. Assess the role of intergenerational equity in the context of ageing governance. 7. Compare and contrast policy approaches for ageing societies in different countries. 8. Synthesize knowledge to propose innovative solutions for the challenges of ageing populations. 9. Communicate policy analyses effectively in both written and oral formats. 10. Demonstrate critical thinking in evaluating future trends in ageing societies and governance.		
Prerequisites	N/A	Required	N/A
Course content	1. Introduction to Ageing Societies: Trends and Demographic Transition 2. The Economics of Ageing: Challenges for Pension Systems and Welfare States 3. Healthcare Systems and Long-Term Care for Older Adults 4. The Political Economy of Ageing: Economic Challenges and Policy Responses 5. The Role of the State in Ageing Societies: Governance and Welfare State Adaptation 6. Ageing, Social Policy, and Labour Markets: Intergenerational Relationships 7. Ethical Debates on Ageing: Equality, Equity, and Access to Services 8. Comparative Policy Approaches to Ageing Societies in Europe and Beyond 9. The EU's Approach to Ageing: Policies, Regulations, and the European Social Model		

	10. The Challenges of Ageing in the Global South vs. the Global North 11. The Future of Ageing Societies: Technological Innovations and Policy Directions 12. Governance of Ageing Societies: Intergenerational Justice and Social Cohesion
Teaching methodology	Lectures, Student Presentations, Class discussions, Class group exercises
Bibliography	Sarah Harper (2006), <i>Ageing Societies</i>, London: Routledge. John Bond, Sheila M Peace, Freya Dittmann-Kohli, Gerben Westerhof (2007), <i>Ageing in Society</i>, Sage publications.
Assessment	Class Presentations, Class group exercises, Mid-Term Exam, Final-Exam, Projects
Language	English