



College of Europe
Collège d'Europe

Brugge



Natolin

ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2022-2023

COURSE TITLE

From the Greek Agora to the Ukrainian Euromaidan: the History of Ideas of Democracy in Europe

SEMESTER

1

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

CICHOCKI Marek Aleksander

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

SZATTERS Konrad

COURSE TYPE

Masterclass

MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

ECTS CREDITS

no ECTS

TEACHING HOURS

8

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

not applicable

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The course's objective is the analysis of the classical and modern texts on democracy in order to identify the path of the evolution of democratization process and democratic thought in Europe in last two centuries till the current state.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students are able to identify and to present the main stages of the democratic evolution in Europe in the course of its history.
- They are able to describe the main theories of democracy and the most significant examples of the democratic order in European history by explaining the key differences and similarities between them (ancient and modern).
- After completing the course students should be able to understand the link between the processes of democratization, institution building and the formation of national identities. They should be also aware of the role of economy, globalization and new forms of social communication for the shaping of the future of democracy in Europe.
- Students understand the variety of approaches to the democratic tradition in Europe, the importance of the regional, historical and national context to the different forms of democratic government. They are able to reconstruct the main ideas, values and rules of democracy by autonomously gathering evidence and data and critically interpreting primary and secondary literature.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Readings (see below).

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Seminar including an introduction to the key problems, common interpretation of text and discussion. Part of the course will be delivered through asynchronous, pre-recorded lectures providing fuel for live discussions.

Importantly, students are expected to do the required readings and watch recordings before each session of the class.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

No formal assessment.

COURSE CONTENTS

1) Democracy – ancient and modern:

- a. Benjamin Constant, *The Liberty of Ancients Compared with that of Moderns* (1819)

2) Democratic society and the quest for freedom:

- a. Alexis de Tocqueville, *On Democracy*, Vol. 1, Part I, Chapter IV, Part II, Chapters V-VIII; Vol. 2, Part II, Chapters I - III, Part IV, Chapters I - VI.
- b. Giuseppe Mazzini, *Thoughts upon Democracy in Europe*, in: *Life and Writings of Joseph Mazzini* Vol.6, p. 98-215 (available [here](#))

3) The crisis of democratic capitalism:

- a. Colin Crouch, *Post-Democracy*, Chapter 1, 2 and Conclusions.

4) Future of liberal democracy

- a. Fareed Zaharia, *The Rise of the Illiberal Democracy*, *Foreign Affairs* November/December 1997.

5) The peril of new despotisms

- a. John Keane, *The New Despotism*, Chapters: *Why Despotism? & Democracy's Future*.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

Articles and chapters listed in “Course Contents” section, recordings.