科目ナンバリング	U-LAS06 20051 LE41				
授業科目名 <英訳>	Introduction to Political Science-E2 Introduction to Political Science-E2	担当者所属 職名・氏名	法学研究科　特定准教授 Tian Yunchen		
群	人文・社会科学科目群	分野(分類)	法・政治・経済(各論)	使用言語	英語
旧群	A群	単位数	2単位	週コマ数	1コマ	授業形態	講義（対面授業科目）
開講年度・開講期	2026・後期	曜時限	木3	配当学年	主として1・2回生	対象学生	全学向

[授業の概要・目的]

No one can escape from the consequences of political decisions. However, politics is not just elections, prime ministers, presidents, and endless scandal. Instead, politics may be better thought of as the process of determining "who gets what, when, where, and how". This course introduces students to the basic concepts used and major perspectives of the scientific analysis of politics. Students will begin to think about politics like a social scientist, using the conceptual ‘prisms’ of power, institutions, and ideas. This introductory course will challenge students to reflect upon how political processes have impacted their lives and prepare them to identify the political arena as they begin their lives as adult members of a democratic society.

[到達目標]

Students will learn the basic vocabulary and concepts for describing political phenomena. Students will develop an understanding of the main research approaches used in the empirical study of politics as well as major examples of their application.
Students will learn the basics of media literacy, such as identifying the sources of their information and reflecting on how the sources of their media consumption may impact how they view and think about the world.
Students will continue to practice strategies for reading college-level English-language materials and practice advanced literacy skills with the goal of reading professional-level texts with comfort. In this section, students will practice methods of deciphering less-familiar texts, consulting reference materials, and other strategies to efficiently engage with a variety of texts.

[授業計画と内容]

(15 sessions)

Topic 1 Power
1. Course Intro: What is Politics?
2. Legitimacy and Sovereignty
3. Political Violence
4. Power in International Relations. Does Might Make Right?

Topic 2 Institutions
5. The Social Contract
6. The Constitution as a Foundational Institution
7. Nationalism and the Development of the Nation-state
8. Informal Institutions: Studying Behavior
9. Institutions and International Cooperation

Topic 3 Ideas
10. Soft Power, or Why Do Japanese Prime Ministers Wear Funny Costumes?
11. What was the End of History? Globalization and the Triumph of Liberal Capitalism

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12. What is Ideology? Do we live in a post-ideological moment?
13. The Search for New Alternatives
14. Course Conclusion: Facing Contemporary Challenges to Governance.

≪Exam≫
15. Feedback

[履修要件]

College-level English proficiency is required. This is an introductory-level class and assumes no prior knowledge of political science or law.

[成績評価の方法・観点]

Reading and Participation
Students are expected to read and prepare notes to discuss in class. Students will also be asked to bring at least one prepared question to class each period. There will be a range of opportunities to demonstrate active participation. 40pts

Students will be asked to submit four short reflections throughout the semester. For each reflection, they will discuss a term or theory introduced in class and relate it to examples from recent media or news events in English or Japanese. 20pts (4 x 5pts each)

In-person exams
Students will sit two in-person exams with a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. 40pts (2 x 20 pts each)

Total 100 pts

[教科書]

No textbook is required for the course.
Readings will be provided as handouts or through course e-reserve.

[参考書等]

（参考書）
Rom, Hidaka, and Walker 『Introduction to Political Science』（OpenStax Publishing,2022）（Students interested in additional reading may benefit from:）
Free open-source textbook: https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/1179

[授業外学修（予習・復習）等]

Students should be prepared to spend 2-3 hours reading and studying each week. They will be asked to read assigned texts carefully, identify areas they do not understand or find issues with, and be prepared to discuss them in class.

[その他（オフィスアワー等）]

Open office hours will be held for four hours each week. I will share a link and QR code for students to make appointments ahead of time. Walk-ins will be accepted although appointments will be given priority. Students will be encouraged to come (alone or with a group of classmates) and make use of these hours as opportunities to discuss the course or associated topics. I will also respond to email inquiries within two working days.

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[主要授業科目（学部・学科名）]