

Political Science

Objectives and tasks of the discipline

1.1. Basic goals of the course are the following

- introduce students to a comprehensive review of the field of political science
- Introduce students to the substantive issues and methodological approaches across political science
- introduce students to the main subfields of political science and to train them in the methods necessary for analyzing modern political situation
- to help students to adopt the values and democratic practice of the world political experience, the problems of actualization of this practice;
- to give knowledge of political mechanisms in solving social problems on the basis of constitutional and democratic principles;
- to formulate the theoretical backgrounds of political cognition and culture on the basis of human values;
- to direct students within democratic convictions for them to acquire the independent political behavior in the framework of democratic options;
- to teach students to evaluate democratic institutions activity.

The main objectives for students are:

- to know the object, the subject and methods of investigation, basic terms, notions and concepts;
- to understand the essence of politics, its social, legislative and moral grounds;
- to have an outlook on the key point of power and political life, political relationship and processes, on subjects of politics and consequences of participation in politics;
- to know human rights, the grounds of political and constitutional structure of society, basic trends of activity and functioning of a state and a civil society;
- to be ready to highlight the theoretical applied, axiological and instrumental components of political knowledge, to apprehend their role and functions in adjusting some political solutions;
- to identify the role of political ideology, political culture and political communication in the life of society, to know political and ideological schools, concepts, dimensions;
- to pay attention to international political life processes, to geopolitical situation, to the Belarusian political process, to Belarus's status in contemporary political situation;
- to have an idea about the role of a specialist in political science, his functions and moral responsibility;
- to obtain political analysis skills, to be able to apply political knowledge in professional and public activity according to the law and moral norms.

Knowledge

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Demonstrate familiarity with concepts, theories, and analytical methods of political science. A familiarly basic understanding of major political ideas will be

related to the study of government and politics of modern states, with particular reference to the current political development of Belarus.

Skills

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Develop their ability of thinking independently and politically;
- Reflectively analyze political issues of contemporary world; and
- Interpret the political developments in Belarus and world.
- Appraise the complexity and interconnectedness of concepts, theories, and analytical methods of political science;
- Evaluate the acquired knowledge and skills when observing the daily developments in politics; and
- Efficiently integrate the understanding of the political developments into the framework of general knowledge to be acquired in succeeding years of university studies.