Course Descriptions

PSIR 101 Introduction to Political Science (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

Introduction the Political Science aims to introduce the basic concepts of Political Science. It is the pre-requisite of the Political Institutions. It is designed to introduce principle notions and categories in political science as practical and theoretical tools to understand better the prevalent processes in the country and, by extension, the world through broadening perspective of students majoring in political science.

PSIR 102 Political Institutions (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

Political Institutions Course aims to introduce the basic mechanisms, organs and institutions of Government. It intends to give a fair sense of these as tools to identify and distinguish the principal political structures and systems worldwide. By the completion of this course, the students are expected to grasp the underlying concerns and principles of major current political processes and regimes in the world.

PSIR 111 History of International Relations I (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This introductory course is about the theory and contemporary history of international relations. This course surveys the history of Europe from approximately from the end of the Middle Ages to end of the French Revolution and until beginning of the Great War 1914. During this period, intense conflicts – political, religious, social, and intellectual – tore through European society, in the process changing it from something ‘‘medieval’’ to something almost ‘‘modern.’’ The major periods, events, and diplomatic historical perspectives will be covered and the most important details of each will be discussed.

PSIR 112 History of International Relations II (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This introductory course is about the theory and contemporary history of international relations since 20th century. This course surveys the history of Europe from beginning of the World War I until now. The main aim of the course is deepen our understanding of current political, religious, social and intellectual conflicts by examining the modern history of European nations, whose institutions and ideologies have influenced the development of human societies throughout the world. This course is designed to provide an introduction to World History from 20th century to present in political, economic and military fields with respect to global developments. The main aim of the course is to deepen our understanding of current political and cultural conflicts by examining the modern history of European nations.

PSIR 182 Introduction to Academic Research Writing (Credit:3, ECTS:3)

This course concentrates on various essay types such as comparison and contrast, argumentative, Cause and effect essays and the research papers. Styles of academic writing such as MLA, APA, Harvard and Chicago are introduced.

PSIR 201 History of Political Thought (Credit:3, ECTS:5)
This course is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the classical texts and themes of political thought. The course concentrates upon the ideas and approaches of great thinkers in order to provide a theoretical framework for grasping the concepts related to political thought.

PSIR 202 Contemporary Political Ideologies (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

The primary goal of this class is to introduce the students to the basic contemporary political ideologies. Emphasis will be placed from Karl Marx through National Socialism. These ideologies will be examined with an analytic approach, considering the historical conditions that help them to rise.

PSIR 211 Introduction to International Relations (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course aims to familiarize its participants with the terminology and concepts of mainstream IR perspectives of realism and liberalism as well as provide students with theoretical tools and frameworks of analysis helping to understand the international system.

PSIR 212 Theories of International Relations (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the Post-Positivist/Critical Theories of International Relations. The course concentrates upon the basic assumptions, conceptions and methods of more recent theoretical approaches to International Relations: Social Constructivism, Critical IR Theory, Post-Modernism and Feminism.

PSIR 281 Sosyal Bilimler İçin Bilgisayar Teknikleri (Credit:3, ECTS:4)

This course aims to familiarize its participants with the basic computer skills and techniques for the social sciences research.

PSIR 282 Research Methods and Statistics (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course is designed to expose students to the joy and rewards of research. The course aims to make students familiar with political science methods so that they will be able to evaluate existing literature more critically. By underlining the variety of methodological alternatives, another purpose of the course is to enable students to make the appropriate methodological choice that best fits to their research interest. We will start with a general introduction on how do we get a science of politics. We will then move onto issues of research question, literature review, data collection, and data analysis. The application of research techniques will establish particular focus of the course, which we will explore through the examination of actual research projects. Finally, the course will entail the students developing their own research proposals towards their graduation projects as required in the new curriculum.
PSIR 290 Social Communication (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course aims to familiarize its participants not only with the social communication skills but also with awareness on social issues.

PSIR 302 Contemporary Political Thought (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course is designed to provide students with a grounding in contemporary political thought and ideologies. Students will encounter various views on liberalism, conservatism, socialism, nationalism, anarchism, fascism, feminism, ecologism, religious fundamentalism, and multiculturalism. Additionally, each lecture will provide students with perspectives from Turkish political thought. At the end of each lecture, there will be a Q&A session during which critical thinking and current and historical examples from Turkey and elsewhere are strongly encouraged.

PSIR 305 Political Sociology (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course aims to analyze the relationship between state, society, and the individual. Topics include globalization, nationalism, identity, the state, civil society, citizenship, the self and individuation, and democracy.

PSIR 311 Central Issues in International Politics (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

The primary goal of this course is to introduce the student to the key themes and institutions affecting international politics, focusing primarily on the period from the end of the Cold War to the present. This class will especially explore various ideologies that make claims for societies of universal justice and peace, analyzing both their prospects for success and failure. The first half of the class will focus on Humanitarian issues, and the second half of the class we will focus on Conflict and Security issues. The student will be challenged to think about the issues from various perspectives, and engage in formulating contrasting arguments using critical thinking, both in class discussion and on examinations.

PSIR 331 International Organizations (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course will introduce students to key concepts and theories of international organizations and their dynamics in international relations and world politics. This course will focus upon the legal and policy issues raised by the development and functioning of intergovernmental organizations. Issues relating to rulemaking, trusteeship, human rights, dispute settlement, and enforcement will be central to this course.

PSIR 332 European Union (Credit:3, ECTS:5)

This course aims to analyze main concepts of the European Union, such as the integration theories, historical development, institutions and key policies. This course concentrates on the history of the EU as well as its integration process and related theories. The EU institutions and their functioning procedures will be covered. EU-Turkey relations will also be discussed through analyzing the historical background
and the current situation of the accession process including the progress and the crisis areas.

**PSIR 341 Turkish Political Life I (Tanzimat-1980) (Credit:3, ECTS:5)**

This course aims to teach the impact of socio-economic changes on the attitudes, behavior, and political culture of the Turkish people starting from the early days of the Ottoman Empire to present day Turkey. Students will encounter various views on the rise and decline of the Ottoman Empire, the birth of the Republic, construction of the Turkish nation, Kemalism, civil-military relations, the Armenian Issue.

**PSIR 342 Turkish Political Life II (1980 onwards) (Credit:3, ECTS:5)**

This course aims to teach the impact of socio-economic changes on the attitudes, behavior, and political culture of the Turkish people starting from 1980 to present day Turkey. Students will encounter various views on European Union conditionality, political Islam, Kurdish question, civil society, migration, poverty and social policy, party system and elections, women and politics, and international relations of Turkey.

**PSIR 360 Turkish Foreign Policy (1919-1990) (Credit:3, ECTS:5)**

Major issues in Turkish foreign policy, from Cold War era- the evolution of Turkish foreign policy towards the problems in the region and its involvement in the resolution of disputes.

**PSIR 361 Current Issues in Turkish Foreign Policy (Credit:3, ECTS:5)**

This course is designed to inform students on the various foreign policy issues that confront Turkey. The course concentrates to identify and analyze the consequences of the various crises and regional problems between Turkey and its neighbors. Turkey’s Transatlantic ties, and its relations with the EU and European countries, Turkey’s relations with the countries in the Balkans, Middle East and North and Sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Caucasus, Central Asia will be examined.

**PSIR 480 Applied Research in Political Science (Credit:3, ECTS:5)**

Within this course the student is expected to focus on a political science topic, conduct a research and write a full-fledged research paper.