

Syllabus

Course description

Course title	Political Economics
Course code	27217
Scientific sector	ECON-04/A (ex SECS-P/06)
Degree	Bachelor in Economics, Politics and Ethics
Semester and academic year	1 semester a.y. 2025/2026
Year	3rd year
Credits	7
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	42
Total lab hours	--
Total exercise hours	--
Attendance	suggested, but not required
Prerequisites	The frequency of the courses Macroeconomics and Microeconomics is warmly suggested, in order to properly follow these lectures
Course page	https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/bachelor-economics-politics-ethics/

Specific educational objectives	<p>The course refers to the typical educational activities and belongs to the scientific area of Economics.</p> <p>This course analyses the main up-to-date topics on political economics, with a particular emphasis on the institutional environment. The aim is to show how the quantitative toolkit of the modern economist may be used to analyse political decisions and outcomes.</p>
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Lecturer	<p>Giacomo De Luca Office E5.09 E-mail Giacomo.DeLuca@unibz.it Tel. 0471 013 537 Lecturer's page https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/39855-giacomo-de-luca</p>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	ECON-01/A (ex SECS-P/01)
Teaching language	English
Office hours	<p>21 hours Cockpit – students' zone – individual timetable Webpage: https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&department=26&degree=13182%2C13324</p>
Lecturing assistant	--
Teaching assistant	--

List of topics covered	1. The importance of Institution 2. Institutions in democratic and non-democratic societies 3. Institutional reforms 4. Vote coercion 5. Conflict 6. Media and politics
Teaching format	Frontal lectures, students' class contributions (in form of presentations)

Learning outcomes	<p><u>Knowledge and understanding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of the role played by institutions in the context of economics; <p><u>Applying knowledge and understanding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to evaluate the role of institutions and the need for political and economic interventions in market economies; <p><u>Making judgments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> on the appropriate theoretical frameworks and tools to evaluate relevant political issues; <p><u>Communication skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to present in a consistent and clear way the role of economic incentives in political decisions; <p><u>Learning skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ability to understand the economic theoretical framework to assess relevant political issues; ability to evaluate the empirical evidence for the various hypotheses considered.
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Assessment	<p>For attending students: Written exam with review questions (60%) and groups presentation during classes (40%)</p> <p>For non-attending students: Written exam with review questions (100%)</p> <p><i>NOTE: Project work and classroom contributions are valid for 1 academic year and cannot be carried over beyond that time-frame.</i></p>
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	For the written exam: understanding, clarity of answers, mastery of language (also with respect to teaching language), ability to summarize, evaluate, and establish relationships between topics, evidence of independent research.

	For class contributions: understanding, clarity of answers, mastery of language (also with respect to teaching language), ability to summarize, evaluate, and establish relationships between topics, evidence of independent research, ability to work in a team, creativity, skills in critical thinking, ability to summarize in own words
Required readings	A list of recent papers and book chapters will be proposed at the start of the module.
Supplementary readings	