

# HUMAS7AC INTRODUCTION into POLITICAL SCIENCE

<b>HUMAS7AC</b> <b>Introduction into political science</b>		<b>ECTS Credits : 2</b> <b>Duration : 24 hours</b>	<b>Semester : S7</b>
<b>Person(s) in charge :</b> Didier PIERRARD, Associate professor, <a href="mailto:didierpierrard@aol.com">didierpierrard@aol.com</a>			
<b>Keywords :</b>			
<b>Prerequisites :</b> None			
<b>Objective:</b> Present some current political sciences-related issues			
<b>Program and contents :</b> <b>Teaching objectives :</b> The objective of this course is to present current issues dealing with political science so as to be sufficiently equipped with some of the fundamentals for understanding our contemporary world. <b>Contents - Program</b> 1. Understand the development and the extreme diversity of the Western model, beyond the common denominators, via a comparative study of different systems and political regimes in Europe and the USA: • Introduction to the main principles (Rule of Law - Constitutional Justice - Universal Suffrage) • Understanding the institutions and the actors (Chief of State – Head of Government - Parliament) • Operating mechanisms and techniques (nomination, responsibility, dissolution, passing laws, referendum, etc.) • Introduction to different state structures (Federal State, Unitary State, region variants) • Comparative politics (France, USA, etc.) 2. Analysis in the form of discussions/debates on certain current issues: • Web-democracy / the Internet as a political resource • Human Rights and Public Liberties • Changing citizenship • Integration or Communitarianism • Sovereignty and national identity • Crisis in representation and political detraction? Toward a revival? • New emergencies and political priorities: Environment, Ecology and Sustainable Development • The institutional question of Europe / the mini treaty / What does being European mean today? • A new elector? / Political behavior • Does the traditional state still have a future? • Political parties and their evolution 2007 / 2008 • Does the left/right division still have a sense? • Should the 5th Republic be reformed?... or change politics?			
<b>Assessment method :</b> The participants of this elective course must submit a 10-page paper, done independently, dealing with a subject related to the issues dealt with in one of the themes studied in class.			
<b>Evaluation :</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Written test	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuous Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral report	<input type="checkbox"/> Project
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written report	