



JAGIELLONIAN
UNIVERSITY
IN KRAKÓW

Political Theory of the Anthropocene

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Field of study Joint Bachelor in Sustainability		Education cycle 2025/26	
Speciality Social Sciences & Humanities		Realization year 2027/28	
Organizational unit Faculty of Law and Administration		Subject code UJ.WPAJBSSSHS.810.16602.25	
Study level first cycle (joint degree programme)		Lecture languages english	
Study form full-time degree programme		Subject related to scientific research Yes	
Education profile General academic		Disciplines Political and Administrative Sciences, International Relations	
Mandatory elective		ISCED classification 0312 Political sciences and civics	
		USOS code	
Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo		
Lecturer	Victor Alonso Rocafort, Reyes Herrero, Isabel Wences		
Period Semester 5	Examination graded credit	Number of ECTS points 3.0	
	Activities and hours Discussion class: 20		

Goals

C1	This course addresses the Anthropocene and the crises associated with it, mainly climate and biodiversity, from the perspective of Political Theory. We will engage in normative and conceptual work, reflective on the very concept of science that will accompany us in this inquiry, opening ourselves to the inter- and transdisciplinary transfers that the matter requires. In this way, we will study issues such as ecological democracy and political representation, ecological justice and the right of nature, or the new limits of the political community, in line with the main challenges of our time's central crisis, the dominance of capitalism, and the menace of green colonialism or eco-fascism.
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Subject's learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Effects	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student knows and understands:			
W1	the main political dilemmas of the planetary crisis and are able to refer to them in the framework of contemporary science and in the context of sustainability challenges.	JBS_K1_W01, JBS_K1_W03, JBS_K1_W06, JBS_K1_W07	essay
Skills - Student can:			
U1	analyze the complexity of the eco-social crisis from the perspective of political theory, relying on a necessary pluri-, inter-, and transdisciplinary openness and rigorously using the concepts of the current theoretical discussion.	JBS_K1_U03	credit with grade
U2	present arguments around the dilemmas of the eco-social crisis with theoretical and conceptual soundness.	JBS_K1_U02	credit with grade
Social competences - Student is ready for:			
K1	to evaluate experientially and theoretically the degree of eco-social transformation of his or her own institution within the framework of the planetary crisis.	JBS_K1_K01, JBS_K1_K03	credit with grade

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Discussion class	20
preparation for classes	32
essay preparation	38
Student workload	Hours 90
	ECTS 3.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	Module 1. Sustainability Science and Political Theory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 21st-century science and the tradition of Political Theory. · New paradigms and concepts for Political Science. · Pluri-, inter-, and transdisciplinarity in the face of the systemic and urgent super-wicked public problems of the eco-social crisis. · New political objects of study and the expansion of community: post-anthropocentrism and the relational turn. 	W1, U1, U2, K1
2.	Module 2. Politics, Justice, and Rights in the Anthropocene <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Citizenship, public policies, and the political in the Anthropocene. · Ecological justice. · The rights of nature and its representation. 	W1, U1, U2, K1
3.	Module 3. Capitalocene, Political Representation and Ecological Democracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fossil capitalism, green colonialism and the modern state. · Political representation in the midst of a planetary emergency. · Ecological democracy. 	W1, U1, U2, K1
4.	Module 4. Climate Obstruction and Eco-Political Imagination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Denialism, delay, and the menace of eco-fascism. · The theoretical cultivation of the political imagination: ecotopias. 	W1, U1, U2, K1
5.	Module 5. Case study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Evaluation of the university's eco-social transformation based on the theory studied. 	W1, U1, U2, K1

Course advanced

Teaching methods :

text analysis, lecture with multimedia presentation, discussion, case study, practicals

Activities	Examination methods	Credit conditions
Discussion class	credit with grade, essay	Essay (individual); active participation in class discussions and group activities.

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

1. Gabrielson, T., Hall, Ch., Meyer, J.M. and Schlosberg, D. (eds.) (2016) *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental Political Theory*. Oxford University Press. Pellizzoni, L., Leonardi, E., & Asara, V. (Eds.). (2022). *Handbook of Critical Environmental Politics*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781839100673>

Effects

Code	Content
JBS_K1_K01	The graduate can encourage sustainability-driven practices in the workplace and appraise sustainability of own values, perceptions, roles, and actions, with a special focus on environmental wellbeing.
JBS_K1_K03	The graduate can consider different visions of the future and develop own evidence-based opinions in reference to the balance of values linked to economic development, social welfare, and environmental protection.
JBS_K1_U02	The graduate can present and report knowledge, methodologies, ideas, problems and solutions, clearly and comprehensively, in different forms destined for different audiences - including discussions and debates which require defending a substantiated opinion, as well as conversations in a foreign language at the CEFR B2 level.
JBS_K1_U03	The graduate can apply adequate methods and tools, including selected IT tools, to solve problems related to data collection, analysis, and management in the context of sustainability.
JBS_K1_W01	The graduate can describe the concept of sustainability and recognize the differences in relevant definitions, models and approaches.
JBS_K1_W03	The graduate can give examples of sustainability-related dilemmas and hypothesize on the optimal course of action.
JBS_K1_W06	The graduate can describe interconnections between various aspects of sustainability and identify their significance in the context of natural and social sciences, with a special focus on disciplines included in the selected specialisation track (law and politics; chemistry and physics; chemistry and biology; economics and geography; economics, management and engineering; humanities).
JBS_K1_W07	The graduate can apply the theory and methodology of disciplines included in the selected specialisation track to sustainability-related problems, taking into consideration practical limitations such as protection of intellectual property.