

Title:	CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL SYSTEMS
Lecture hours:	20 h
Study period: (summer/winter)	Winter / summer
Number of credits:	6 ECTS credits
Assessment methods:	Presence and active participation in classes, familiarization with the content of the readings, engagement in discussion, students presentations. Student final evaluation: comparison of the institutions of power in three selected political systems (oral exam)
Language of instruction:	English - Knowledge of English at intermediate level (B1)
Prerequisites:	None
Course content:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Induction meeting (schedule, timetable, assessment criteria, prerequisites). 2. The theory of contemporary political systems. 3. Review of political systems: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The political system of the United States of America (The Constitution, The Executive Power, The Parliament and party system). b) British political system (The Constitution, The Executive Power, The Parliament and party system). c) French Political system (The Constitution, The Executive Power, The Parliament and party system). d) The political system of the Federal Republic of Germany (The Constitution, The Executive Power, The Parliament and party system). e) The political system of Switzerland (The Constitution, The Executive Power, The Parliament and party system). f) Spanish political system (The Constitution, The Executive Power, The Parliament and party system). 4. Transformation of political systems in Eastern Europe and Polish political system. 5. Comparison of the institution of power (president, queen, king, parliament or prime minister) in three selected contemporary political systems – final presentations.
Learning outcomes:	Recognising the problems concerning the functioning of political systems, making a review of political systems, providing a comparative analysis of political regimes
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Literature:

1. R. Heineman, Political Science, McGraw-Hill Education 1995.
2. Steffen W. Schmidt, Mack C. Shelley, Barbara A. Bardes, American Government and Politics Today - Texas Edition, 2009-2010.
3. The British political process: an introduction, ed. A. Wright, Routledge 2020.
4. G. Peele, Governing the UK: British politics in the 21st century, Wiley-Blackwell 2004.
5. D. S. Bell, French politics today, Manchester University Press 2002.
6. G. K. Roberts, German politics today, Manchester University Press 2009.
7. M. Spinner, The concept of democracy in the Political Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe
8. The Central and East European Politics. From communism to democracy, S. Wolchik, J. L. Curry eds.,
9. J. Bugajski, Political parties of Eastern Europe
10. Internet – official websites of the institution of power in the analysed states.
11. American politics, media and elections: contemporary international perspectives on US presidency, foreign policy and political communication, ed. T. Płodowski, Toruń 2005.
12. Politics UK, ed. Bill Jones et al., Harlow: Pearson ed. 2007.
13. Contemporary British politics, C. W. Norman, New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2003.
14. Making democracy in 20 years: media and politics in Central and Eastern Europe, ed. by B. Dobek-Ostrowska, M. Głowacki, Wrocław 2011.
15. Representative government in modern Europe, M. Gallagher, M. Laver, P. Mair, New York: McGraw Hill 2006.
16. The changing French Political System, R. Elgie, Routledge 2005.
17. The Review of Politics.
18. Transformation, development and integration – Belarus, Poland and Germany, ed. A. Chmielak, B. Mazur, P. Pysz, Białystok 2003.