

Title:	POLITICAL PARTIES AND PARTY SYSTEMS
Lecture hours:	20 h
Study period: (summer/winter)	Winter / summer
Number of credits:	5 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 three selected political parties (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, testing conditions, prerequisites) 2. The theory of contemporary party systems. 3. Political party models. 4. The electoral function of political parties. 5. Review of party systems: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) United States of America – electoral systems in the USA, main political parties, party system. b) United Kingdom – electoral systems in the UK, main political parties, party system. c) France – electoral systems in France, main political parties, party system. d) Germany – electoral systems in Germany, main political parties, party system. e) Italy – electoral systems in Italy, main political parties, party system. 6. Final presentations: the comparison of three political parties chosen by students.
Learning outcomes:	Students recognize the problems concerning the functioning of party systems, review party systems, provide a comparative analysis of political parties.
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Literature:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M. Gallagher, M. Laver, P. Mair, Representative government in modern Europe, Boston 2006. 2. Handbook of party politics, ed. by R. S. Katz, W. Crotty, London SAGE Publications 2009. 3. American politics, media and elections: contemporary

	<p>international perspectives on US presidency, foreign policy and political communication, ed. T. Płodowski, Toruń 2005.</p> <p>4. Politics UK, ed. Bill Jones et al., Harlow: Pearson ed. 2007.</p> <p>5. The changing French Political System, R. Elgie, Routledge 2005.</p>
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