

**Antalya Bilim University**

**Global Politics and International Relations Master's Program**

**POLS 707**

**SEMINAR IN GLOBAL POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**Spring 2023**

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**Class time: Tuesday 14.00-17.00**

**Office Hour: Tuesday: 10.00-12.00**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course aims to provide guidance for students at the stage of writing their master's thesis. It also aims to help graduate students explore their research interests, develop these ideas into a consistent and systematic research agenda. First, the course instructor will provide a general overview of research design elements. Thereafter, students are expected to submit their first thesis proposal draft in the mid-term week.

Course instructor will provide detailed feedback on each and every step of the proposal-writing. Participants are expected to present their proposal and submit a second draft in the end of the semester. Being a seminar, POLS 707 requires very active involvement of the students. Upon the successful completion of this course; the students will be able to write a well-founded proposal for their own research.

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE: THIS SEMINAR IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN THE EARLY STAGE OF THESIS-WRITING PROCESS. THE FINAL DECISION ON YOUR PROPOSAL'S SHAPE AND CONTENT WILL BE GIVEN BY YOUR THESIS SUPERVISOR.**

**COURSE STRUCTURE:**

This course gathers in a bi-weekly schedule, 5-6 times throughout the semester. Students are required to read the necessary material, do the assignments and be prepared to discuss them before every gathering. Course gathering schedule is provided below.

The course is designed in a manner the participants get feedback not only from the instructor but also from their peers. Therefore, students are assigned as eachother's discussants for particular assignments. This course should be considered as an important early stage of the MA thesis process. By the end of the semester, students are supposed to have a clear idea about their thesis-writing pathways and general topic of their master's thesis.

## **COURSE POLICIES:**

- **ANNOUNCEMENT POLICY:** All information regarding the course will either be announced in class or be sent to your ABU e-mail address. Check your e-mail regularly. It is your responsibility to beware the information announced through e-mail.
- **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is mandatory and will be taken at each class.
- **CLASSROOM CONDUCT:** In the classroom and you are expected to act according to the rules of class conduct and courtesy. Any form of hate speech, discriminatory discourse and disruptive behavior are not welcome and tolerated.
- **MAKE-UP POLICY:** Requests for assignment make-ups will be considered only for students with a medical condition. If an emergency arises, student needs to contact me before or immediately after the midterm exam.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

There will be zero-tolerance to any form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism, cheating in the exams, assignments and presentations. Cheating any other attempt of academic dishonesty will result in disciplinary action. Note that all your assignments will be submitted to Turnitin software for plagiarism check. Please see the Departmental Student Handbook for specific information about academic honesty and plagiarism. Please note that there is no difference between deliberate and undeliberate plagiarism. Students are responsible for making sure that their assignments do not contain any form of academic dishonesty. Please consult the instructor for situations that you are not certain about your references in your assignments.

## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

This course is graded with a pass-fail grading scale. Your success will be assessed with reference to four criteria:

- Your performance in the in-class interaction tasks.
- Quality of the proposal and early stages of it (assignments).
  - Clarity of the research question.
  - Quality of the literature review.
  - Clarity of the methodology.
  - Originality of the research.
- Your responsiveness to the feedback.
- Your proposal presentation.
  - There will be a presentation session in the end of the semester. Professors from POLS department as well as other MA students will join this session. You are all required to present your research proposal in this session and you will receive feedback from the professors and general audience.

## **READING MATERIAL**

Chambliss, D. F. and Schutt, R. K. (2016). *Making Sense of the Social World: Methods of Investigation* (5th ed.). California: Sage Publications.

Babbie, E. (2014). *The Basics of Social Research* (6th edition). Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

Brady, H. and Collier, D. (2004). *Rethinking Social Inquiry, Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers Inc.

Bryman, A. (2012). *Social Research Methods* (4th edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

King, G., Keohane, R. and Verba, S. (1994) *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Kumar, R. (2011). *Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners* (3rd. edition). London: Sage Publications.

Creswell, J.W. (2009) *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. (3rd edition) Los Angeles: Sage Publications.

Neuman, W. L. (2006). *Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Boston: Pearson.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

First Meeting: 28.02.2023

Second Meeting: 21.03.2023

**-Assignment:** Writing a concept note about the research topic and research question. What is the general research topic in your mind? How do you narrow it down? What is your research question? Is there a particular case study or multiple case studies? Is there a temporal domain? What is the preliminary ideas about research methodology? The concept note should answer these questions in a general sense.

**-Reading:** All relevant chapters from the reading list.

Third Meeting: 4.04.2023

**-Assignment:** Literature Review.

**-Reading:** All relevant chapters from the reading list. Additional readings will also be sent by the instructor.

Fourth Meeting: 18.04.2023

**-Assignment:** Revised version of Literature Review. Theoretical section. Methodological section.

**-Reading:** All relevant chapters from the reading list. Additional readings will also be sent by the instructor.

Fifth Meeting: 2.05.2023

**-Assignment:** Revised version of previous texts. Full draft of the research proposal.

Presentations: 16.05.2023