

Information sheet for the course Political Strategies

University: <i>Alexander Dubček University of Trenčín</i>	
Faculty/Department: <i>Political Science and Global Studies</i>	
Course unit code: <i>PLTPV10</i>	Course unit title: <i>Political Strategies</i>
Type of course unit: <i>compulsorily optional</i>	
Planned types, learning activities and teaching methods: <i>Seminar: 2 hours weekly/26 hours per semester of study; face to face (classroom mode)</i>	
Number of credits: 3	
Recommended semester: <i>3rd semester in the 2nd year (full-time)</i> <i>3rd semester in the 2nd year (part-time)</i>	
Degree of study: <i>Masters´s</i>	
Course prerequisites: <i>none</i>	
Assessment methods: <i>include evaluation of activities below:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Term paper writing project (5-8 pages) 30%</i> <i>2. Active participation 20% (attendance, class activities, consultation)</i> <i>3. Presentation 20%</i> <i>3. Test 30%</i> <i>Passing grade: 60% and above.</i>	
Learning outcomes of the course unit: <i>On successful completion of the course, students will be able to appraise acquired knowledge concerning the connection of strategy with politics the same way it is connected with wars and economic activities. They will be able to use formal theory as a technique for analyzing strategic interactions. They will be familiar with the principles of decision theory, so would they be equipped with the logic of game theory and they will be able to predict the outcome of simple games, outcomes of elections, wars, and economic activities. They will be able to analyze particular historical events and assess its implication to, or impact on, current domestic and global political climate.</i>	
Course contents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Introduction to strategy of politics, war and economics</i> <i>2. Definition and concept of political strategy and tactic</i> <i>3. Tactics often utilized in politics to win over rivals (Compromise, Discrediting, Heroism, Religion, Placating, Creeping normalcy, Obstructionism)</i> <i>4. Major campaign tactics (Insight, Motivation, Organization, Communication)</i> <i>5. The Americanization of election campaigns (Baby kissing, Battle bus, Campaign bus, Barbeque)</i> <i>6. Political Strategy, tactic and political communication</i> <i>7. Developing and implementing strategy and tactics in politics, war and economics</i> <i>8. Game theories in light of strategy and tactic realization</i> <i>9. Political strategy in international politics (Terrorism, war, weapons of mass destruction...)</i> <i>10. American grand strategy in international politics</i> <i>11. Pre-emptive and Preventative War</i> <i>12. The theory of deterrence and nuclear blackmail</i> <i>10. Conventional strategy in the precision age (Coercive Air Power in Vietnam, Iraq 1991, Bosnia and Kosovo, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria, Air power and Iran)</i> <i>11. Rationality, Decision Theory, and Elements of Games</i> <i>12. Presentations</i> <i>13. Evaluation</i> 	

Recommended of required reading:

Rose, Chris, How To Win Campaigns: Communications for Change 2nd Ed. 2010.

Paquette, Laure. Political Strategy and Tactics: A Practical Guide.2002.

How to Prepare Strategy and Strategic Plans: Guidelines and Checklist for Practitioners, 2010. Pdf.

Barry R. Posen and Andrew L. Ross, "Competing Visions for U.S. Grand Strategy," International

Security, Vol. 21, No. 3 (Winter 1996/97), pp. 5-53.

Richard B. Andres, Craig Wills, and Thomas Griffith, Jr., "Winning with Allies: The Strategic Value of the Afghan Model," International Security, Vol. 30, No. 3 (Winter 2005/06), pp. 124-60

Richard K. Betts, Nuclear Blackmail and Nuclear Balance, ch. 1, 4.

Robert Pape, "When Duty Calls: A Pragmatic Standard of Humanitarian Intervention" International Security Vol. 37, No. 1 (Summer 2012).

David Edelstein, "Occupational Hazards: Why Military Occupations Succeed or Fail," International Security Vol. 29, No. 1 (Summer 2004), pp. 49-91.

International Crisis Group, In Heavy Waters: Iran's Nuclear Program, the Risk of War and Lessons from Turkey, Middle East and Europe Report N°116, 23 Feb 2012.

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/middle-east-north-africa/iraq-iran-gulf/iran.aspx>

Dixit, Avinash and Susan Skeath. 2004. Games of Strategy. New York: Norton, SECOND EDITION (Very different from first edition)

Shepsle, Kenneth and Mark S. Bonchek. 1997. Analyzing Politics. New York: Norton.

Downs, Anthony. 1957. An Economic Theory of Democracy. New York: Addison Wesley
E-materials relevant to the course would be utilized.

Language: *Slovak/ English*

Remarks: *The course is provided only in the case it is chosen by at least 16 students.*

Evaluation history:

A	B	C	D	E	FX
0	0	0	0	0	0

Lectures: *Mgr. Getnet Tamene, PhD.*

Last modification: *June 30, 2014*

Supervisor: *Prof. PhDr. Samuel Čelovský, DrSc. – guarantor of the study program "Political Science"*