

Subject card

Subject name and code	Lecture to choose from - Legal theory, PG_00138629						
Field of study	Law						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	uniform Master's studies		Subject group		Optional subject group		
Mode of study	part-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		1.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Magdalena Glanc-Żabiłowicz				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	15		0.0		10.0	25
Subject objectives	The purpose of the lecture is to indicate the origins, continuity of philosophical currents dominant in contemporary social and political discourse. Particular emphasis is placed on the concepts of dignity, freedom, equality, democracy, power, property and labor in the context of the interplay between the human person, the community and the state.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome		Method of verification		
	[PRAWOJ5_KK02] ability to think critically and solve specific legal problems		-		[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK5] implementation of a problem task		
	[PRAWOJ5_WG02] has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the historical development of various legal systems and institutions		-		[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW5] implementation of a problem task		
	[PRAWOJ5_UW02] is able to use theoretical knowledge to analyse and interpret complex legal problems, generate solutions to them and predict the consequences of planned actions		-		[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work		
	[PRAWOJ5_WG03] has an in-depth knowledge of the legal system, its evolution and the interrelationship between Polish law, European Union law and international law		-		[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW5] implementation of a problem task		

Subject contents	Ancient doctrines1 Introduction to the doctrines of ancient Greece.2. Athenian democracy and the sophist movement.3. Plato - the ideal state.4. Aristotle - the state as the most perfect of communities.5. The Cynic and Epicurean schools - doubt in the value of the civic community.6. Stoic school and Cicero - rehabilitation of the idea of civic community.7. Early Christianity - from the first Christians to the Alexandrian school.8. St. Augustine - the state as the "scourge of God".II. Medieval doctrines1. political theology of the Middle Ages.2. The imperial camp, the papal camp and the doctrine of national monarchy - universalism and particularism.3. John of Salisbury and Dante Alighieri - the medieval dispute over the primacy of authority.4. St. Thomas Aquinas - medieval synthesis of Christian thought.5. Marsilius of Padua - medieval secular doctrine.III. Renaissance doctrines1. Renaissance - spectrum of doctrines of the era: from utopia to political realism.2. Thomas Morus - Renaissance utopia.3. Niccolo Machiavelli - the origins of political realism.4. Political and legal thought of the Reformation.5. Jean Bodin - the concept of sovereignty of power.IV. Doctrines of the 17th century1. school of law of nature - Grotius, Pufendorf, Spinoza.2. Thomas Hobbes - contractualist justification of absolutism.3. John Locke - the beginnings of political liberalism.V. Enlightenment doctrines1. rationalist legitimation of law and political power.2. Charles Louis Montesquieu - the spirit of rights and the tripartition of power.3. Jean Jacques Rousseau- contractualism and republicanism.4. Immanuel Kant- the project of eternal peace and penal retributivism.VI. Between the Enlightenment and the present daya) Doctrines of conservatism1. conservatism - the basic assumptions of the political current.2. Edmund Burke - the idea of continuity of generationsb) Doctrines of liberalism1.Liberalism - basic assumptions of the political current.2.Utilitarianism - Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill.3.Herbert Spencer - between social Darwinism and conservative liberalism.c)Leftist doctrines1. basic assumptions of leftist doctrines2. utopian socialism - development of the Renaissance egalitarian utopia.3. Marxism - formula of "scientific" socialism.4. Reformism and revisionism - evolution of leftist doctrines that form the foundation of social democracy.4. Anarchism - from individual rebellion to mass revolution.(d) Legal thought of the 19th century. - Between positivism and legal iusnaturalism1. by John Austin2. Rudolf Ihering3. Jerzy JellinekVII. Modern doctrines1. totalitarian ideologies and their precursors.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	The student should have knowledge of the basic political and legal institutions and categories of the modern world from history and social studies.The student should demonstrate the ability to think abstractly and associate theories and ideas with social practices and build justifications at a basic level.The student should demonstrate the ability to build correct sentences in literary language in speech and writing.The student should be able to analyze source texts.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	discussion	60.0%	20.0%
	essay	60.0%	80.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. L. Dubel, Historia doktryn politycznych i prawnych do schyłku XX wieku, Warszawa 2012. 2. H. Izdebski, Historia myśli politycznej i prawnej, Warszawa 2013. 3. H. Olszewski - M. Zmierczak, Historia doktryn politycznych i prawnych, Poznań 1994. 4. H. Olszewski, K. Chojnicka, Historia doktryn politycznych i prawnych, Poznań 2004. 5. A. Sylwestrzak, Historia doktryn politycznych i prawnych, Warszawa 2013.	
	Supplementary literature	1. K. Chojnicka, W. Kozub - Ciembroniewicz, Doktryny polityczne XIX i XX wieku, Kraków 2000. 2. L. Dubel, J. Kostrubiec, G. Ławnikowicz, M. Łuszczzyńska, W. Więclaw (wybór i opracowanie), Historia doktryn politycznych i prawnych do początku XX wieku. Materiały źródłowe, Lublin 2003. 3. Z. Rau, Liberalizm. Zarys myśli politycznej XIX i XX wieku, Warszawa 2000. 4. A. Szahaj, M. Jakubowski, Filozofia polityki, Warszawa 2005. 5. Czesław Znamierowski, Szkoła Prawa. Rozważania o państwie, Warszawa 1999	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	1 On various concepts of justice and methods of implementing their principles2. social relationship, social action, action on the collective and group, collective decision, majority decision3. universal good, collectivity, society, community, state4. sovereign power, sole sovereignty, collective sovereign power, sovereign body, executive body, legislative body5. attitude and intention of the ruler, actual ruler, despot or tyrant6. social contract7. democracy, concept of democracy, systemic and social threats to democracy, evaluation of the concept of democracy, society in democracy8. law vs. equity and justice		

Work placement	Not applicable
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