

Title and Code of Course: Introduction to the Political Ideologies of the United States (BAN 4570)

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Credit Point Value: 6	Number of Lessons per Week: 2	Type of Course: Seminar ☒ Lecture ☐	Method of Evaluation: Oral Examination ☐ In-Class Presentation ☒ Other ☒
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Course Description:

The aim of this course is to enhance the students' critical thinking skills and political awareness by introducing the three major Western political ideologies (liberalism, conservatism, socialism), as well as anarchism and then describing the major trends in the history of ideas in the United States in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The primary emphasis is on the contrastive analysis of the two liberal interpretations of freedom and justice, detailed discussion of the ideology of neo-conservatism, and the interplay between these interpretive frameworks. In the second half of the semester, students will be introduced to ideologies that are still relevant today, such as the ideology of equality of outcome, or equity; it will analyze the practical feasibility or impossibility of its implementation, and will also provide an insight into the main ideology of consumer societies, consumerism, and other increasingly popular ideologies such as animal rights and environmentalism, and finally, it will introduce the basic elements of the thinking of radical green movements and green activists (deep ecology).

Bibliography:

- Crane, Jeff, *The Environment in American History: Nature and the Formation of the United States*, Routledge, 2014.
- Deneen, Patrick J. *Why Liberalism Failed*, Yale University Press, 2019.
- Frank, T. and Magyarics, T., *Handouts for US History*, Budapest: Panem, 1999.
- Heywood, Andrew. *Political Ideologies: An Introduction*, London / New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.
- Montello, Daniel R., Michael T. Applegarth, Tom L. McKnight. *Regional Geography of the United States and Canada*. Waveland, 2023.
- Nozick, Robert. *Anarchy, State and Utopia*, Basic Books, 2013.
- Panichas, George E. (ed.) *The Essential Russel Kirk: Selected Essays*. Wilmington: ISI Books, 2007.
- Rawls, John. *A Theory of Justice*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015.