

Faculty of Economics and Political Science

Civil Society

Information :

Course Code : PSC 207

Level : Undergraduate

Course Hours : 3.00- Hours

Department : Department of Political Science

Instructor Information :

Title	Name	Office hours
Lecturer	Sarra Mohamed Moneir ElSayed Ahmed	2

Area Of Study :

This course presents the concept of civil society within a critical context. The course explains first of all differences between the concepts of: civil society, social movement, civic culture and NGOs. Secondly, the focus is given to the notions of public and private spheres with respect to civil society and social capital. This is carried out through paying special attention to prime literatures such as Heidegger, de Tocqueville as well as contributions from the Egyptian literature. Thirdly, the course presents alternatives to current events in different case studies. This includes revising the validity of the concept of civil society and what more suitable alternatives are in academia today in light of current affairs.

Course Goals:

Review important literature in political theory and social science on the topics of civil society, social capital, and voluntary association, beginning with classical political theorists.

Develop a broad, even-handed understanding of issues and controversies, preparing students to stake out their own beliefs while fully understanding and appreciating the merits of opposing views.

Description :

This course presents the concept of civil society within a critical context. The course explains first of all differences between the concepts of: civil society, social movement, civic culture and NGOs. Secondly, the focus is given to the notions of public and private spheres with respect to civil society and social capital. This is carried out through paying special attention to prime literatures such as Heidegger, de Tocqueville as well as contributions from the Egyptian literature. Thirdly, the course presents alternatives to current events in different case studies. This includes revising the validity of the concept of civil society and what more suitable alternatives are in academia today in light of current affairs.

Course outcomes :

a.Knowledge and Understanding: :

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| 1 - | Identify key vocabulary and methods of political science in the field of civil society. |
| 2 - | Recognize the conceptual framework in the field of civil society. |

b.Intellectual Skills: :

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| 1 - | Differentiate between public and private spheres. |
| 2 - | Distinguish the differences among the concepts of civil society, social movement, social capital, civic culture and NGOs. |
| 3 - | Explain the conditions for democratization. |

c. Professional and Practical Skills: :

1 -	Locate and use sources for credible information.
2 -	Develop effective communication skills.

d. General and Transferable Skills: :

1 -	Practice the process of organizing a major group project, while fairly evaluating individual effort and achievement.
2 -	Develop skills in academic writing.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Introduction and Syllabus	3	1	
The definition of state and civil society	3	1	
The effect of civil society on democracy.	3	1	
NGOs in the Contemporary World Order	3	1	
Civil Society in Egypt	3	1	
NGOs in Egypt	3	1	
Human rights NGOs	3	1	
Midterm Exam		1	
Arab civil society and Political Parties	3	1	
Political Parties	3	1	
Social Movements	3	1	
The democracy movement in Egypt	3	1	
Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt	3	1	
Non- state actors	3	1	
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

Data show and computer in lectures
Group discussion
Research Paper & weekly reports

Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Course Work (Assignments, Attendance and Participation)	30.00		To assess understanding, and to assess theoretical background of the intellectual and practical skills.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills.
Midterm Exam (s)	30.00	8	To assess professional skills.

Recommended books :

Jessica Mathews, Power Shift, Foreign Affairs, 76, 1 Jan-Feb, 1997 (50-66).

Vickie Langohr, Too Much Civil Society, Too Little Politics: Egypt and Liberalizing Arab Regimes, Comparative Politics, 36, 2, Jan, 2004 (181-204).