PSY280 Political psychology and intergroup conflict

Fall 2018   Thursdays 10.00-11:30   Room: P22 (2nd floor, Joštova 10)

Study level: Bc. (Undergraduate)   Credits: 3 ECTS

Course is offered to both Masaryk University and exchange students.

Teaching starts on September 27th, 2018.

Course objectives

The purpose of this course is to acquire the basic knowledge of psychological theories and approaches that help to explain politically motivated intergroup conflict, intolerance, and collective action. The course interconnects traditional theories in social and political psychology (social identity, social cognition, socialization) with their recent extensions to the areas of civic identity, civic/political participation, or intolerant online communities. It also emphasizes the applications to current political events in the Czech Republic and other European countries.

Course guarantor and contact person

Dr. Jan Šerek
E-mail: serek@fss.muni.cz
Office: Joštova 10, room 2.51

Lecturers

Dr. Jan Šerek
Dr. Hana Macháčková

Course format

Course is conducted in the combined form of lectures and seminars. Active participation of students in lectures and discussions is required. During the semester, students have to submit three assignments and pass a final exam. Students are expected to follow updates in the Information System and check their student e-mail accounts regularly. All required reading materials will be available online in the Information System.

Topics

27. 9. **Theories of intergroup conflict I (Šerek)**
Lecture

4. 10. **Theories of intergroup conflict II (Šerek)**
Lecture

11. 10. **Intergroup conflict in politics: The case of populism (Šerek)**
Seminar with reading

Reading: Reicher, S. D., & Haslam, A. (2017). Trump's appeal: What psychology tells us. *Scientific American.* Retrieved from:
https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/trump-rsquo-s-appeal-what-psychology-tells-us/

18. 10. **Extreme forms of intergroup conflict – terrorism and genocide (Šerek)**
Lecture

25. 10. **Reducing intergroup conflict I (Šerek)**
Lecture

1. 11. **Reducing intergroup conflict II (Šerek)**
Seminar with reading

Reading: Paluck, E. L. (2012). Interventions aimed at the reduction of prejudice and conflict. In L. R. Tropp (Ed.), The Oxford handbook of intergroup conflict (pp. 179-192). New York: Oxford University Press.

8. 11. *Reading week*
No teaching

15. 11. **The role of information and materials in media and on the internet I (Macháčková)**
Lecture

22. 11. **The role of information and materials in media and on the internet II (Macháčková)**
Seminar with reading

Reading: Feldman, L. (2011). Partisan differences in opinionated news perceptions: A test of the hostile media effect. *Political Behavior, 33*(3), 407-432.

29. 11. **Cyberhate and online hateful communities I (Macháčková)**
Lecture

6. 12. **Cyberhate and online hateful communities II (Macháčková)**
Seminar with reading

Reading: McNamee, L. G., Peterson, B. L., & Peña, J. (2010). A call to educate, participate, invoke and indict: Understanding the communication of online hate groups. *Communication Monographs, 77*(2), 257-280.

Evaluation and grading

The final grade depends on the following criteria:

1) **Attendance**   **maximum 20 points**
   Student's attendance at seminars/lectures is awarded with maximum 20 points:
   8 or more seminars/lectures = 20 points
   7 = 16 points
   6 = 12 points
   5 = 8 points
   4 = 4 points
   3 and less = 0 points.

2) **Assignments**   **4 x maximum 10 points**
   Before each "seminar with reading," students have to submit an assignment. The assignment must be based on the reading material for the specific seminar (please see above). In the assignment, (1) briefly describe main points of the reading material (100-150 words), (2) evaluate the reading material in terms of its clarity and cogency, pinpoint its strengths/weaknesses and consider its implications – your own opinion (supported by arguments) is highly expected here (200-250 words), (3) ask questions if something from the reading material is unclear (optional). Overall, the assignment must have between 300-500 words. One assignment meeting all criteria and submitted in time is awarded with 10 points. Points will be deducted if the assignment does not meet required criteria, has a poor quality, or is submitted after deadline (4 points will be deducted for every day).
   In total, four assignments have to be submitted (8. 10., 29. 10., 19. 11., 3. 12.).
   Submit your assignments <u>online</u> in the Information System (see link below).

3) **Exam**   **maximum 40 points**
   There will be one exam (multiple choice quiz) at the end of the semester, covering the lectures and assigned readings (all presentations and required readings will be available online in the Information System).

Grades will be assigned based on the final summary score:

A   100-93
B   92-85
C   84-77
D   76-69
E   68-61
F   60 and less

Schedule

Date	Time	Teaching format	Task
27. 9.	10:00-11:30	Lecture	
4. 10.	10:00-11:30	Lecture	
11. 10.	10:00-11:30	Seminar with reading	Submit your assignment by

			Monday 8. 10.
18. 10.	10:00-11:30	Lecture	
25. 10.	10:00-11:30	Lecture	
1. 11.	10:00-11:30	Seminar with reading	Submit your assignment by Monday 29. 10.
8. 11.		**Reading week (no teaching)**	
15. 11.	10:00-11:30	Lecture	
22. 11.	10:00-11:30	Seminar with reading	Submit your assignment by Monday 19. 11.
29. 11.	10:00-11:30	Lecture	
6. 12.	10:00-11:30	Seminar with reading	Submit your assignment by Monday 3. 12.
13. 12.	10:00	Exam	

Important links

Study materials: https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1423/podzim2018/PSY280/um/

Assignment submissions: https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1423/podzim2018/PSY280/ode/

Recommended (optional) literature

Abrams, D., Hogg, M. A., & Marques, J. M. (2005). The social psychology of inclusion and exclusion. New York: Psychology Press.

Azzi, A. E., Chryssochoou, X., Klandermans, B., & Simon, B. (2011). Identity and participation in culturally diverse societies: A multidisciplinary perspective. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

Barrett, M., & Zani, B. (2015). Political and civic engagement: Multidisciplinary perspectives. London: Routledge.

Bar-Tal, D. (2011). Intergroup conflicts and their resolution: A social psychological perspective. New York: Psychology Press.

Dovidio, J. F., Hewstone, M., Glick, P., & Esses, V. M. (2013). The SAGE handbook of prejudice, sterotyping and discrimination. London: SAGE.

Jones, J. M., Dovidio, J. F., & Vietze, D. L. (2014). The psychology of diversity: Beyond prejudice and racism. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

Loader, B. D. (2007). Young citizens in the digital age: Political engagement, young people and new media. London: Routledge.

Nelson, T. D. (2016). Handbook of prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination. New York: Psychology Press.

Sullivan, J. L., & Transue, J. E. (1999). The psychological underpinnings of democracy: A selective review of research on political tolerance, interpersonal trust, and social capital. Annual Review of Psychology, 50, 625-650.

Tropp, L. R. (2012). The Oxford handbook of intergroup conflict. New York: Oxford University Press.

Tropp, L. R. (2012). The Oxford handbook of intergroup conflict. New York: Oxford University Press.