

## LSPOL1125

2010-2011

## Study Skills Seminar in Political Sciences

5.0 credits 30.0 h + 15.0 h

Teacher(s) :	Dorban Michel ; Rihoux Benoît ; Courtois Luc ;
Language :	Français
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes :	Part 1: (for all Bachelors' courses) 15 hours of lectures (15h x 5 lecturers = 75h)  - Presentation of information sources (written, oral, visual, figures)  - Introduction to research tools (library, web, etc.)  - Definition of the rules of critical analysis and how to apply them
	- Formalisation of methods of scientific reasoning Part 2: 15 hours of presentations in large groups (15h x 10 teachers and supervisors = 150h) - Application of these principles and methods to a subject of general interest chosen by degree course (eg.: globalisation, immigration, work and unemployment, European construction) - Presentation of the stages involved in a piece of research - Definition of the subject, the objectives, the methods, relevant information sources - Data compilation and handling - Analysis Part 3: 15 hours (illustration through practical work) These general topics are divided into a number of specific sub-topics (1 topic per sub-group of 30 students) and lead to practical project work supervised by assistants (+ groups of 30 students) - Choice of an individual sub-topic - Delimitation of the object of study - Primary Analysis and explanation - Development of a critical approach and the capacity to formalize reasoning - Communication of results Completion of a piece of personal work related to students' degree course, using an approach specific to the subject area chosen.
Aims :	The aim of this seminar is to equip students with study skills for university, using concrete questions within a subject of their own choosing. Students will come to master the basic skills they need for their university work: using bibliographic references, drawing up critical summaries, using reference conventions, writing skills etc. At the same time, the aim is to make students aware of the concrete issues involved in research, again working within a subject domain of their own choosing. The seminar is conducted in a spirit of openness and will help students to identify the research tools used within their own subject area, in relation to methods used in other subjects taught within the Faculty.  The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".
Content :	The seminar is given in the form of:  - Lectures (presentation of a scientific approach, definition of the concepts, criticism of the sources, etc.)  - Sessions involving active student participation (presentation of a research project, illustration using concrete examples, suggestions as to which methodologies and theories to use and how to use them)  - The seminar ends with each student completing a piece of personal research.  - It will draw on the most appropriate teaching methods (CD-ROM, video, etc.) and will be conducted in close cooperation with the Pedagogy and Multimedia Institute
Other infos :	Evaluation: continuous evaluation and evaluation of personal work
Cycle and year of study :	> Preparatory year fo Master in European Studies > Bachelor in Political Sciences: General
Faculty or entity in charge:	ESPO