

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE  
SIMON KUZNETS KHARKIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS

"APPROVED"

Vice-rector for educational and methodical work

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Democracy: from theory to practice

**syllabus of the discipline**

Field of knowledge	<i>All</i>
Specialty	<i>All</i>
Educational level	<i>First (Bachelor)</i>
Educational program	<i>All</i>

Discipline Type	<i>selective</i>
Teaching, learning and assessment language	<i>English</i>

Department Head  
*International Economic Relations*

*Iryna OTENKO*

Kharkiv  
2021

APPROVED

At the meeting of the *International Economic Relations Department*  
Protocol № 5 from 22 November 2021

Compiled by

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**Letter of renewal and re-approval of the syllabus of the educational discipline**

Academic year	Date of the meeting of the department - the developer of syllabus	Number of Protocol	The Department Head's signature

## Abstract of the discipline

In recent decades, democracies have faced, and will continue to face, old and new challenges; these are threats that test the determination of citizens and the stability of established institutions and norms. Scholars generally agree that citizens should play an integral role in the prosperity of a healthy democracy. Despite the fact that the structure and activities of the country's authorities determine the "type" of government, citizens play a role in determining the way these bodies act. In democratic societies, citizens are encouraged to make decisions and take measures to promote and protect the interests of society as a whole and individuals in particular. In order to do this effectively, citizens need to acquire knowledge on a specific topic and develop a range of skills and attitudes that support democracy.

The discipline "Democracy: from theory to practice" belongs to the list of disciplines of free choice of the student. The discipline consists of theoretical and practical components. The theoretical part includes the following topics: democratic governance, human rights, civil society and citizen participation in public and political life. The course examines the following topics: gender equality, minority rights, the rights of persons with disabilities, civil rights, good governance, corruption, the rule of law, media literacy, the use of digital technologies, and more. In order to develop students' skills, interactive teaching methods ("Seminars on the method of Socrates", "Human Barometer", "Walk through the gallery" and many others), developed with the participation of Ukrainian and international experts, are used during the study. The main component of the course is a student project that students implement during the course. In a gradual, guided process, students work in groups to identify issues in society that they find problematic and that they will explore in the future, linking them to the course topics. Finally, students are faced with the task of developing an action plan aimed at the practical solution of these problems. In their own experience, students develop knowledge, develop skills and attitudes necessary for a socially active and conscious citizen.

The goal of the discipline "Democracy: from theory to practice" is to form and strengthen the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes associated with effective civic activity of students.

The main tasks of studying the discipline "Democracy: from theory to practice" are:

mastering the main causes of stress, adapting yourself and team members to a stressful situation, finding ways to neutralize it in modern conditions;

development of skills of independent work, flexible thinking, openness to new knowledge, to be critical and self-critical;

organization to act socially responsibly and socially consciously on the basis of ethical considerations (motives), respect for diversity and interculturalism.

### Characteristics of the discipline

Year of study	2
Semester	4
ECTS	5
Form of final control	Pass

### Structural and logical scheme of studying the course

Prerequisites	Post requisites
Introduction to the specialty	Management
History	Economics
Philosophy	Socio-psychological orientated disciplines
Law	Other professional orientated disciplines
Information Technology	

## Competences and discipline results

Competencies	Results
Ability to exercise one's rights and responsibilities as a member of society, to realize the values of civil (free democratic) society and the need for its sustainable development, the rule of law, human and civil rights and freedoms in Ukraine	Treat professional self-improvement responsibly, aware of the need for lifelong learning, show tolerance and readiness for innovative change
Ability to preserve and increase moral, cultural, scientific values and achievements of society based on understanding the history and patterns of development of the subject area, its place in the general system of knowledge about nature and society and in the development of society, techniques and technologies. active recreation and a healthy lifestyle	Systematize and organize the received information on processes and phenomena in the world economy; assess and explain the impact of endogenous and exogenous factors on them; formulate conclusions and develop recommendations taking into account the peculiarities of the national and international environment
Ability to communicate in foreign languages	Communicate freely on professional issues in state and foreign languages orally and in writing, professionally use economic terminology
Ability to communicate with representatives of other professional groups of different levels (with experts from other fields of knowledge / types of economic activity)	
Ability to work in a team	Plan, organize, motivate, evaluate and increase the effectiveness of teamwork, conduct research in a group under the leadership of a leader, taking into account the requirements and features of today in a limited time

## Course Content

### **Content Module 1. Theoretical principles of democracy and human rights, mechanisms of their implementation**

#### **Theme 1. Philosophical principles of democratic governance.**

- 1.1. T. Hobbes on democracy.
- 1.2. J.-J. Rousseau on democracy.
- 1.3. J. Locke on democracy.

#### **Theme 2. Principles of democracy.**

- 2.1. Formation of society and the state.
- 2.2. Functions of the state.
- 2.3. Principles of democracy.

#### **Theme 3. Human rights. Introduction.**

- 3.1. The evolution of human rights.
- 3.2. Creation of the United Nations.
- 3.3. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 3.4. Development of the idea of human rights in Ukraine.

#### **Theme 4. International conventions and covenants on human rights.**

- 4.1. International conventions and covenants on human rights.
- 4.2. Mechanisms for the protection of human rights.
- 4.3. Implementation of human rights and problems in this area.

### **Theme 5. Constitutionalism, liberal democracy and their development in Ukraine.**

- 5.1. Understanding the concept of "constitutionalism".
- 5.2. Challenges for constitutional democracies.
- 5.3. Ukraine and constitutionalism.
- 5.4. The system of public administration in Ukraine.

### **Theme 6. Mechanisms of democracy in Ukraine.**

- 6.1. System of checks and balances.
- 6.2. Transparency.
- 6.3. Government as a service provider.
- 6.4. Elections and political parties.

## **Content Module 2. The role of civil society and the citizen in a democracy**

### **Theme 7. Characteristics of civil society.**

- 7.1. Key characteristics of civil society.
- 7.2. Conditions for the prosperity of civil society.
- 7.3. Freedom of association and freedom of expression.
- 7.4. Delegation of social responsibilities and decentralization of power.
- 7.5. Culture of trust and cooperation.

### **Theme 8. Civil society in democratic reforms in Eastern Europe.**

- 8.1. An overview of the history of civil society in Europe.
- 8.2. Democratic functions of civil society.
- 8.3. The strength of civil society in democratic reforms in Eastern Europe.

### **Theme 9. Challenges related to civil society.**

- 9.1. Challenges caused by the activities of civil society.
- 9.2. Challenges facing the authorities.
- 9.3. Challenges caused by the activities of the authorities.

### **Theme 10. Citizenship and democracy.**

- 10.1. Understanding the concept of "citizenship".
- 10.2. Responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society.
- 10.3. Advantages of involvement in public participation.

### **Theme 11. Types of citizens.**

- 11.1. Classification of types of citizens.
- 11.2. Informed citizens.
- 11.3. Volunteer services or activities.

### **Theme 12. Active citizens.**

- 12.1. Factors influencing citizen participation in democratic processes.
- 12.2. Civic participation in Ukraine.
- 12.3. Civic action at the local level.

The list of practical classes, as well as questions and tasks for individual work, is given in the table "The rating plan of the discipline".

### **Teaching and learning methods**

Among the teaching methods used are various methods aimed at activating and stimulating educational and cognitive activities of higher education, namely: work with an interactive platform (themes 1-12), video lectures (themes 1-12), animations (themes 6-9), podcasts (themes 11-12), articles (themes 6), infographics (themes 5, 8), group exercises (debates, public hearings, mediation) (themes 1-12), project activities (project development and protection for the community) (themes 1-12).

### **The procedure for evaluating learning outcomes**

The evaluation of the results of the study of the discipline "Democracy: from theory to practice" is carried out according to the accumulative (100-point) evaluation system.

Evaluation is carried out by the following types of control:

current control, which is carried out during the semester during lectures, practical and seminar classes and is estimated by the amount of points scored (maximum amount - 100 points, minimum - 60 points).

The test is set as the total amount of points obtained during the current control.

Ongoing monitoring includes student assessment during:

lectures - mastery of theoretical material is assessed by the results of student testing on the platform of an interactive course in civic education (<https://demcourse.theworkademy.com/uk/#intros>) (total - 30 points), active work during practical classes (2 point for each lesson, a total of 36 points), project activities - development of a public action project (14 points for project preparation and 20 points for its presentation, a total of 34 points). The total number of points is 100.

The maximum possible score for a specific task is set provided that the individual task of the student or his oral response to all these criteria. The absence of one or another component reduces the number of points.

The student's independent work includes: search, selection and review of literary sources on a given topic; preparation for practical classes; processing of video lectures, animations, podcasts, infographics and interactive platform.

The final grade for the discipline is calculated as the sum of points obtained by the student during the current control. A student should be considered certified if the sum of points obtained as a result of the final examination is equal to or exceeds 60. The total score in the semester is: "60 or more points - credited", "59 or less points - not credited" and entered in credit "Statement of performance" of the discipline.

The final grade is provided according to the rate presented in table "The grading rate: national rate and ECTS".

#### **National and ECTS scale of evaluation**

Total score on a 100-point scale	ECTS assessment scale	Assessment on the national scale	
		for exam, differentiated test, course project (work), practice, training	for pass
90 – 100	A	excellent	pass
82 – 89	B	good	
74 – 81	C		
64 – 73	D		
60 – 63	E	satisfactory	not pass
35 – 59	FX	unsatisfactory	

The forms of evaluation and point allocation are given in table "The rating plan of the academic course".

### The rating plan of the discipline

Theme	Forms and types of assignments		Forms of assessment	Max points
1	2		3	4
<b>Content Module 1. Theoretical principles of democracy and human rights, mechanisms of their implementation</b>				
<b>Theme 1</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 1.1. T. Hobbes on democracy. 1.2. J.-J. Rousseau on democracy. 1.3. J. Locke on democracy.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Philosophical principles of democratic governance	Active work during class	2
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll		
<b>Theme 2</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 2.1. Formation of society and the state. 2.2. Functions of the state. 2.3. Principles of democracy.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Principles of democracy	Active work during class	4
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll		
<b>Theme 3</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 3.1. The evolution of human rights. 3.2. Creation of the United Nations. 3.3. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 3.4. Development of the idea of human rights in Ukraine.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Human Rights	Active work during class	4
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll		
<b>Theme 4</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 4.1. International conventions and covenants on human rights. 4.2. Mechanisms for the protection of human rights. 4.3. Implementation of human rights and problems in this area.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	International conventions and covenants on human rights	Active work during class	2
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll	-	

1	2	3	4	5
Theme 5	<b><i>Class work</i></b>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 5.1. Understanding the concept of "constitutionalism". 5.2. Challenges for constitutional democracies. 5.3. Ukraine and constitutionalism. 5.4. The system of public administration in Ukraine.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Constitutionalism, liberal democracy and their development in Ukraine	Active work during class	2
	<b><i>Individual work</i></b>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll	-	
Theme 6	<b><i>Class work</i></b>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 6.1. System of checks and balances. 6.2. Transparency. 6.3. Government as a service provider. 6.4. Elections and political parties.	Testing on the portal	4
	Practical lesson	Mechanisms of democracy in Ukraine	Active work during class	2
	<b><i>Individual work</i></b>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Project development	14	
<b>Content Module 2. The role of civil society and the citizen in a democracy</b>				
Theme 7	<b><i>Class work</i></b>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 7.1. Key characteristics of civil society. 7.2. Conditions for the prosperity of civil society. 7.3. Freedom of association and freedom of expression. 7.4. Delegation of social responsibilities and decentralization of power. 7.5. Culture of trust and cooperation.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Characteristics of civil society	Active work during class	4
	<b><i>Individual work</i></b>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll		
Theme 8	<b><i>Class work</i></b>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 8.1. An overview of the history of civil society in Europe. 8.2. Democratic functions of civil society. 8.3. The strength of civil society in democratic reforms in Eastern Europe.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Civil society in democratic reforms in Eastern Europe	Active work during class	4
	<b><i>Individual work</i></b>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll	-	



1	2	3	4	5
<b>Theme 9</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 9.1. Challenges caused by the activities of civil society. 9.2. Challenges facing the authorities. 9.3. Challenges caused by the activities of the authorities.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Challenges related to civil society	Active work during class	2
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll	-	
<b>Theme 10</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 10.1. Understanding the concept of "citizenship". 10.2. Responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society. 10.3. Advantages of involvement in public participation.	Testing on the portal	2
	Practical lesson	Citizenship and democracy	Active work during class	4
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Express poll	-	
<b>Theme 11</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 11.1. Classification of types of citizens. 11.2. Informed citizens. 11.3. Volunteer services or activities.	Testing on the portal	4
	Practical lesson	Types of citizens	Active work during class	2
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education. Work on the project	Project presentation	20	
<b>Theme 12</b>	<i>Class work</i>			
	Lecture	Lecture on questions: 12.1. Factors influencing citizen participation in democratic processes. 12.2. Civic participation in Ukraine. 12.3. Civic action at the local level.	Testing on the portal	4
	Practical lesson	Active citizens	Active work during class	4
	<i>Individual work</i>			
Questions and tasks for individual work	Study of lecture material, preparation for classes, elaboration of materials of an interactive course in civic education.	Express poll	-	

### Recommended literature

#### Primary

1. Democracy: from theory to practice. Course reader / edit. By Dr Greer Burroughs. 2018. 284 p.
2. Democracy: from theory to practice. A guide for students. / edit. By Dr Greer Burroughs. 2019. 104 p.

### **Secondary**

3. Daniel Innerarity. (2018) Democracy in Europe: a political philosophy of the EU, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018, 283 p.
4. André Bächtiger, John S. Dryzek, Jane Mansbridge, Mark E. Warren. (2018). The Oxford Handbook of Deliberative Democracy, Oxford University Press, 976 p.
5. Leonard Weinberg, Elizabeth Francis, Eliot Assoudeh. (2020). Routledge Handbook of Democracy and Security, Taylor and Francis, 340 p.

### **Internet resources**

6. Commissioner for Human Rights of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. URL: <http://ombudsman.gov.ua>
7. The Constitutional Court of Ukraine. URL: <http://www.ccu.gov.ua> Supreme Court <https://supreme.court.gov.ua/supreme>
8. Center for Combating Corruption. URL: <https://antac.org.ua/>
9. Council of Europe. URL: <http://hub.coe.int>
10. International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). URL: <https://www.ifes.org/ukraine>
11. Course “Democracy: from theory to practice” on Moodle: URL : <https://pns.hneu.edu.ua/course/>