

**UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES**  
**FALL SEMESTER 2019-2020**

Political Science

**SPS 272 International Organizations (6 ECTS)**

The course examines the typologies and role of international organizations in the post-Cold War era, in dealing with international problems such as poverty, AIDS, disputes, environmental destruction, small arms proliferation, gender inequalities, violence against women prostitution and trafficking, etc. The role of NGOs, their relationship to the states and other regional organizations in a changing world, will also be studied

**SPS 405 Contemporary Issues in Sociology (6 ECTS)**

In this class, students will analyze contemporary social issues, trends and movements under conditions of rapid change, often on a global level. Students will focus on specific topics to gain an in-depth understanding of the material, and will be taught through lectures, presentations and discussions of sources drawn from a variety of media. The class strives to create possibilities for reflexivity and critical defamiliarization.

Sociology

**SPS 394 Politics of Authoritarian Regimes (6 ECTS)**

The course invites students to think critically about all kinds of political systems, but primarily non-democratic ones. In exploring politics in authoritarian regimes, we reflect on fundamental questions about politics. What is power? How do we know who has power? How do governments hold onto power and how do they lose it? Is liberal democracy an inevitable outcome of social change? In the first part of the course, we explore important concepts, theories, and paradigms in the study of regimes and regime change. In the second part, we consider some important non-democratic countries/regions of the world and explore how autocrats there come to power and hold on to power. In the third part, we examine the nuts and bolts of the authoritarian political machine: who governs in autocracies and how? Topics include repression, cooptation, redistribution, propaganda and censorship.