

Politics of the Internet

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE NAME	POLITICS OF THE INTERNET
Course Code	DE-4019
Course Type	Optional
Level of Course	Undergraduate (first cycle)
Year of Study	3 rd year – 6 th semester
Term	Spring Semester
ECTS Credits	5
Name of Instructor	Dimitrios Vagianos
E-mail	vagianos@uom.edu.gr
Office Hours	Meeting in the Lecturer's office 435 KZ or Video Call upon arrangement via email
In-Classroom Study	3 hours per week
Out-of-Classroom Study	1 hour per week
Objective of the Course	At the end of the course students will be expected a) to have a basic familiarity with the Internet's underlying technology and b) to have an in-depth understanding of the most salient political and policy issues involved.
Prerequisites	None
Course Contents	<p>This course aims to provide students with a general introduction to some of the most salient issues surrounding the relationship between the Internet and Politics. It is structured around two broad but interrelated questions. Firstly, how has politics affected the evolution of the internet both in the past and in the present? And secondly, how does the internet affect traditional forms of political activity and mobilization?</p> <p>To this end the course focuses on three substantive domains: 1) Internet's Political Prehistory and Access principles; 2) Internet's Institutions and the use of the Internet as a potential tool for enhancing participation and democratic governance; 3) the governance of the internet's technological architecture.</p> <p>The course is open to students from a variety of backgrounds and does not presuppose any particular technical knowledge.</p> <p>The course lectures are divided in 3 sections: the Introductory lectures, the Politics of the Internet area lectures and the Internet Policy area lectures.</p>
Recommended Readings	<p>Mainly lecture notes and selected chapters of the instructor's book (free online):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Digital Media and Society: Convenient Regulators of Society, Politics and Economic", Vagianos D., Open academic textbooks KALLIPOS+, graphic design in progress, (due to be published in 2023), ISBN 978-618-5726-25-6, DOI: 10.57713/kallipos-221. <p>Available at http://dx.doi.org/10.57713/kallipos-221</p> <p>Further reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andrew Chadwick (2006) "Internet Politics: States, Citizens and New Communication Technologies", Oxford University Press. - Andrew Chadwick & Philip N. Howard (2009) "The handbook of InternetPolitics", Routledge International Handbooks.
Teaching Methods	Seminar (face to face)
Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 60% written essay, thematic areas are published by lecture 5, exact title of the essay is proposed by the student by specific deadline posed in the middle of the semester, upload of the project in electronic form by specific deadline in the end of the semester, compulsory presentation in class - 15% oral presentation of essay - 15% participation in class - 10% working within deadlines

Language of Instruction	English
Course Schedule	
Week 1	Introduction to Internet Politics
Week 2	A political Prehistory of the Internet
Week 3	Concepts and themes of Internet Politics-Part I
Week 4	Concepts and themes of Internet Politics-Part II
Week 5	Understanding the Digital Divide
Week 6	E-Democracy: Community, Deliberation & Participation
Week 7	E-mobilization- Part I: Interest Groups & Social Movements
Week 8	E-mobilization- Part II: Hacktivism
Week 9	E-Campaigning
Week 10	E-Government-Part I: Improving public administration
Week 11	E-Government-Part II: Democratization
Week 12	Internet <i>Governance</i>
Week 13	Revision