POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN STUDIES
ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-2014

POLITICS AND SOCIETY
IN CONTEMPORARY SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course investigates major aspects of the contemporary political, economic and social developments in South-Eastern Europe (SEE), covering roughly the era from the end of the Second World War until today, but with special emphasis on the post-communist period. Its central thematic focus is on the process of post-communist democratization, viewed both in the light of the theoretical literature and in comparative perspective. The course aims to promote an understanding of the principal issues of the region's current political, economic and social conditions.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. The Legacy of the Authoritarian and Pre-authoritarian Past
2. Theoretical Debates on Democratisation: Transition, Consolidation, Quality of Democracy
3. Democratic Transition: SEE in Comparative Perspective
4. Different Paths to Democracy: Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia
5. The Evolution of Post-Communist Democratic Regimes in SEE
6. Political Parties and Party Systems in SEE
7. Political Parties and Democracy: SEE and CEEC Compared (Case Studies)
8. Civil Society and the State in Post-Communist SEE
9. The Southeast European Welfare State: Before and After Democratic Transition
10. Public Administration in SEE: Before and After Democratic Transition
11. Prospects for Democracy and Democratic Quality in SEE
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


Electronic sources
1. SEE country profiles, available at [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)
2. Current political developments, reported at the websites [www.balkaninsight.com](http://www.balkaninsight.com) and the website of “South East European Times” [http://www.setimes.com/](http://www.setimes.com/)
3. Electronic publications, uploaded at:
   a. [www.eliamep.gr](http://www.eliamep.gr)
   b. [www.sant.ox.ac.uk/seesox/about.html](http://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/seesox/about.html) - Oxford.
   c. [http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/Home.aspx](http://www2.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/LSEE/Home.aspx)