

Politics Track:

Ideologies on the move: transnational ideas in local intellectual cultures

Course coordinator: Tetiana Zemliakova (Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow, European University Institute, Florence).

This course seeks to introduce students to the intellectual history of principal modern ideologies. It approaches liberalism, socialism, conservatism, and anarchism in their theoretical continuity and historical intermittency. Each module comprises the study of a particular ideology as a complex of transnationally evolving socio-political ideas and then proceed with grounding ideologies in specific case studies presented by leading researchers of Ukrainian and Eastern-European political and intellectual history. This comprehensive approach to the study of ideologies will provide students with the principal skills necessary to distinguish the main currents of political thought, navigate among political debates of the last three centuries, and critically evaluate the historical variety of seemingly detached ideas.

The course will consist of the following components:

1. Problem-oriented introduction to the theory of ideologies: “objectivity” and “subjectivity” of ideology. Ideology and practice, ideology as practice: when political ideas become ideologies.
2. Liberalism. Classical compact theories; three pillars of liberalism: freedom, market, rule of law; private property and individual freedom; common good and utilitarian liberalism; competition and markets; neoliberalism.
3. Conservatism. Criticism of French Revolution and the birth of classical ideologies; conservative, traditional, and reactionary minds; conservatism and nationalism; state and security in modern conservatisms.
4. Socialism. Utopian socialism and its critics; socialism as epistemic system; Marx and Marxisms; conceptualization of communisms; state, party, and revolution; Marxist socialism in the XX century; Marxism and
5. Anarchism. The idea of anarchy as non-domination; paradoxes of equality and freedom — critics of socialism; individual freedom and creative spirit; political and nonpolitical anarchisms (situationism, autonomism).

The course is planned to be co-taught by an international team of scholars. Invited scholars include:

Pavel Kolář (University of Konstanz)

Alexander Dmitriev (University of Bremen)

Oleksandr Zaytsev (Ukrainian Catholic University, Department of History)

Elzbieta Kwiecińska (University of Warsaw)

Sean Patterson (University of Alberta).