SPS 303: Law and Ethics

Instructor: Faruk Aksoy (faruk.aksoy@sabanciuniv.edu)
Office hours: Fridays 13.30-15.00 or by appointment
TA: Zeynep Özge Iğdır
Time of Lectures: Monday 09:40-11:30 (FASS 1099), Thursday 09:40-11:30 (FASS 1099)

Course description
This course is a survey of some of the main concepts that shape academic and non-academic debates about politics. The aim of the course is to equip students with a basic understanding of the key concepts and theories in political philosophy and the critical skills that will put them in a position to rationally make up their own minds about political questions. Topics covered include the law, the rule of law, democracy, hybrid and authoritarian regimes, civil rights, justice, and the institutions of social justice.

Grading
A. Midterm exam (35 %)
B. Final exam (40 %)
C. Participation in the discussion sections (10%)
D. Quizzes (10%)
E. Lecture attendance (5%)

Discussion sections
The aim of section meetings is to achieve a deeper and more critical understanding of the subjects covered through discussion, based on the lectures and a careful reading of the texts, with your peers. It is therefore essential that you do all your readings and attend your lectures. You are expected to treat other students and your TA’s with respect.

Your participation grade will be based on how well you contribute to the discussions. You will not receive no extra points for just attendance in discussion sections. You are expected to actively participate the discussion. However, you will get 5 points with respect to your lecture attendance.

You cannot change your discussion sections.
Quizzes
There will be five pop-up quizzes during the semester. Best of four will be counted. They will be held during the discussion section. There will be no make up for quizzes.

Make-up Policy
Only students who have missed an exam with a legitimate excuse can take the make-up exam. There will be only one make-up exam, which will be after the finals and cumulative.

Academic Integrity
Familiarise yourself with Sabanci University’s Academic Integrity Statement which is binding for all members of the university. There will be zero tolerance for cheating and plagiarism.

Recommended Readings
Here are some books that are useful for getting oriented with the questions we’ll be looking at and for further study. They are available on reserve in the library.


Schedule of Class Meetings and Required Readings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 July</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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28 July


1 August


4 August


8 August

First Midterm

11 August


15 August


18 August


29 August  Holiday. No classes