Title of course	**M1. B Political Philosophy**
Responsible instructor	Prof Dr Robert Richert
Learning objectives	▪ Interpret the core elements of ancient Greek, ancient Roman, ancient Indian, ancient Chinese and medieval Islamic political philosophy ▪ Illustrate important aspects of Contractualism, Machiavellianism, Utilitarianism, Liberalism, Socialism, Communitarianism and the Capability approach ▪ Compare the important contract theories of Hobbes, Rousseau, Rawls, Nozick and Buchanan ▪ Compare the important Chinese schools of Legalism, Taoism, Confucianism and Mohism ▪ Interpret the teachings of the medieval Islamic philosophers Alkindus, Avenassar, Avicenna, Avempace, Averroes and Ibn Khaldun in the light of modern Islamic philosophy ▪ Evaluate the importance of political ideas for different forms of governance ▪ Create a set of values that seems to be supportive to democracy ▪ Design a political order that fits to the relevant culture

Course contents	1. Fundamentals
	  1.1 Terminology
	  1.2 Forms of government
	2. Ancient Greek political philosophy
	  2.1 Plato: "Politeia" (378 BC)
	  2.2 Aristotle: "Nicomachean Ethics" (325 BC) and "Politika" (323 BC)
	3. Ancient Roman political philosophy
	  3.1 Cicero: "The Republic" (51 BC) and "The Laws" (50 BC)
	  3.2 Seneca: "Moral Letters to Lucilius" (62 AD)
	4. Contractualism
	  4.1 Thomas Hobbes: "Leviathan" (1651)
	  4.2 Jean-Jacques Rousseau: "The Social Contract" (1762)
	  4.3 John Rawls: "A Theory of Justice" (1972)
	  4.4 Robert Nozick: "Anarchy, State, and Utopia" (1974)
	  4.5 James Buchanan: "The Limits of Liberty" (1975)
	5. Machiavellianism and Utilitarianism
	  5.1 Machiavellianism
	  5.2 Utilitarianism
	6. Liberalism
	  6.1 Classical liberalism
	  6.2 Chicago school
	  6.3 Austrian school
	  6.4 Freiburg school
	7. Socialism
	  7.1 Traditional socialism
	  7.2 Communism
	  7.3 Marxism-Leninism
	  7.4 Maoism
	  7.5 Anarchism
	  7.6 Contemporary socialism
	8. Modern political philosophies

	8.1 Communitarianism
	8.2 Capability approach
	9. Ancient Indian political philosophy
	   9.1 "Upanishads"
	   9.2 "The Vedas"
	10. Ancient Chinese political philosophy
	   10.1 Legalism (*fajia*)
	   10.2 Taoism (*taojia*)
	   10.3 Confucianism (*rujia / more precisely: kongjia*)
	   10.4 Mohism (*mojia*)
	11. Medieval and modern Islamic political philosophy
	   11.1 Al-Kindi [Alkindus] (801-873)
	   11.2 Al-Farabi [Alpharabius, Avenassar] (872-950)
	   11.3 Ibn Sinna [Avicenna] (980-1037)
	   11.4 Ibn Bajja [Avempace] (1085-1138)
	   11.5 Ibn Rushd [Averroes] (1126-1198)
	   11.6 Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406)
	   11.7 Al-Ghazali (1058-1111)
	   11.8 Modern Islamic political philosophy

Teaching methods	▪ Lectures ▪ Exercises ▪ Hermeneutic discourses ▪ Maieutic discourses ▪ Discussion ▪ Project work ▪ Student presentations ▪ Self-study
Prerequisites	There are no formal requirements.
Suggested reading	Preferably most recent edition: ▪ Cahn, S. M.: Political Philosophy – the Essential Texts, New York. ▪ Kymlicka, W.: Contemporary Political Philosophy – an Introduction, Oxford. ▪ Strauss, L. / Cropsey, J: History of Political Philosophy, Chicago. ▪ White, M. J.: Political Philosophy: A Historical Introduction, Oxford.
Applicability	This course is in particular applicable to the following Master programmes: International Business and Economics (M.A.; "IBE"), Finance (M.Sc.). This course is also applicable to other business-oriented Master programmes offered by Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences.

Workload	Total workload: 150 hours, of them:
	▪ Lecture: 36
	▪ Self-study: 114, of them:
	   ▪ Course preparation (in particular reading): 28
	   ▪ Follow-up: 36
	   ▪ Preparation for academic research project: 30
	   ▪ Exam preparation: 20

ECTS credit points and weighting factor	5 ECTS credit points; weighting factor: 5/120 (IBE) or 5/90 (Finance), respectively

Basis of student evaluation	▪ Comprehensive written examination, 90 minutes (80%) ▪ Presentation of student research project (20%)
Time	First academic year
Frequency	Each academic year
Duration	One semester
Course type	Elective course
Remarks	Teaching language is English.