

**FACULTY OF SOCIETY AND SCIENCE
STUDY COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Course Title:	Civic Society and Participation				
Course code (LAIS):	KomZ5072				
Study programme:	Strategic Communication and Governance/Media and Information Literacy				
Level of Study programme:	<input type="checkbox"/>	1st level professional higher education			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Bachelor			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Master			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Academic Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	PhD level			
Type of Study programme:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Compulsory course (Part A)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization courses (Part B, compulsory)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization optional courses (Part B, optional)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective courses (Part C)			
Course Workload:	Credits	ECTS	Academic hours	Contact hours	Independent work hours
	2	3	80	24	56
Course Author/ Tutor:	Agnese Dāvidsone				
	Assistant Professor, PhD.				
	Agnese.davidsone@va.lv				
	Consultation: according to the schedule for each semester				
Study Form:	Full time studies				
Study year, semester:	1. year, 1. semester				
Language:	Latvian/ English				
Prerequisites for the Course:	None				
Course Summary:	The aim of the study course is to deepen the students' understanding and knowledge of the concept of civil society, the formation of a global civil society based on consumer choice and politically framed daily practices - political consumerism, the influence of civil society actors on economic and political processes, and ways of participation in the digital media environment. During the course, theories of civic participation studies will be discussed as well as concepts such as civic participation, community, social capital, political activity, political trust, political consumption and political self-efficacy.				
Study methods:	Types of classes: lectures, seminars Methods of study course and types of study work: literature studies, social simulation, presentation, diary about the consumerism practices during the course.				
Assessment:	Test - final presentation				
Requirements for Credits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The analysis of the information collected in the Consumer Practice Diary using the course literature (40%) must be prepared and submitted within the time frame agreed at the beginning of the course. - Observe academic ethics and ethical principles of Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences and regulations of academic ethics. If a student has not adhered to academic ethics, then the study course is not counted and the student fails the course - The final presentation can only be done if an analysis of the diary is submitted. - The final test consists of an oral presentation and participation in the final task of the course (60%). 				
Course Content:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the changing concept of civil society, the theoretical approaches of the 21st century and the perspectives on civic activity; - social capital; - global, market and consumer-driven civic community; - political consumerism; - participation in the digital environment; - political trust and participation; - Political activity and political self-efficacy. 				

Abiding by the Academic Ethics	<p>Students must abide by the academic and research ethics, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences Ethics Regulations, incl.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – study papers must be independently developed; – the study work should reference all statements, ideas and data used that have been authored by someone else; – appropriate data acquisition methods should be used in the acquisition of data, the research ethics must be respected, empirical data must be collected independently and cannot be distorted or falsified; – the examination must be carried out by the student independently, without the use of supporting materials and/or consultations with other students, unless the lecturer states otherwise. <p>In the event of non-compliance with the academic and research ethics, punishment is imposed in accordance with the ViA Ethics Regulations and the study course must be re-taken, unless the punishment is extramarital.</p>		
Learning Outcomes; the evaluation methods and criteria	Learning Outcomes		
	The evaluation methods and criteria		
	Knowledge		
	Students will be familiar with the contemporary theories about civil society, the concept of global participation.	Seminars	
	Will understand the impact of daily consumption practices on economic and political processes	Seminars, test	
	Skills		
	Will be able to analyse their daily choices from the perspective of political consumerism.	Test, seminars	
Demonstrate understanding of the use of the digital media environment for civic activities.	Test- final presentation		
Competency			
Will be able to discuss the topics learned in the course and apply the knowledge acquired during the course in the analysis of complex issues related to the promotion of civic participation, the development of a global civil society.	Test- final presentation		
Course compulsory literature:	<p>Berger, B. (2011). Attention Deficit Democracy. The paradox of civic engagement. Princeton University Press.</p> <p>Carpentier, N. (2011). Media and Participation: A site of ideological democratic struggle. Intellect, Bristol, UK, Chicago, US.</p> <p>Dennis, J. (2019). Beyond Slactivism: Political Participation on Social Media. Springer: Switzerland.</p> <p>Jenkins, H., Shresthova, S., Gamber-Thompson, L., Kligler-Vilenchik, N., Zimmerman, A. (2016). By Any Media Necessary: The New Youth Activism. New York: NYU Press, Full text available online: http://connectedyouth.nyupress.org/.</p> <p>Putnam, R. (2000). Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community. Simon & Schuster: New York.</p> <p><u>Articles:</u></p> <p>Bakardjeva, M. (2009). Sub-activism: Lifeworld and politics in the age of the Internet. The Information Society, 25(2), 91-104.</p> <p>Christensen, H.S. (2018). Knowing and distrusting: how political trust and knowledge shape direct-democratic participation. European Societies, 20(4), 572-594.</p> <p>Crepaz, M., Jazayeri, K., Polk, J. (2016). What's trust got to do with it? The effects of in-group and out-group trust on conventional and unconventional political participation.</p>		

	<p>Social Science Quarterly, 1-21.</p> <p>Kaun, A., Uldam, J. (2017). Volunteering is like any other business: civic participation and social media. <i>New media & society</i>, 20(6), 2186-2207.</p> <p>Martens, H., Hobbs, R. (2013). How media literacy supports civic engagement in the digital age. <i>Atlantic Journal of Communication</i>, 23(2), 120-137.</p> <p>Mihailidis, P., Viotty, S. (2017). Spreadable spectacle in digital culture: civic expression, fake news, and the role of media literacies in “post-fact” society. <i>American Behavioural Scientist</i>, 61(4), 441-454.</p> <p>Mihailidis, P. (2018). Civic media literacies: re-imagining engagement for civic intentionality. <i>Learning, Media, and Technology</i>, 43(2), 152-164.</p> <p>Nonomura, R. (2017). Political consumerism and the participation gap: are boycotting and “boycotting” youth-based activities? <i>Journal of Youth Studies</i>, 20(2), 234-251.</p> <p>Rheingold, H. (2008). Using Participatory Media and Public Voice to Encourage Civic Engagement. In W. L. Bennett (Ed.), <i>The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation series on digital media and learning. Civic life online: Learning how digital media can engage youth</i> (pp. 97-118). Cambridge, MA, US: MIT Press.</p> <p>Stolle, D., Hooge, M., Micheletti, M. (2005). Politics in the supermarket: Political Consumerism as a form of political participation. <i>International Political Science Review</i>, 26(3), 245-269.</p> <p>Halpern, D., Valenzuela, S., Katz, J. (2017). We face, I tweet: how different social media influence political participation through collective and internal efficacy. <i>Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication</i>, 1-17.</p>
Course additional literature:	<p>Acik, N. (2013). Reducing the participation gap in civic engagement: Political consumerism in Europe. <i>European Sociological Review</i>, 29(6), 1309-1322.</p> <p>Bennet, W.L., Wells, C., Rank, A. (2008). Young citizens and civic learning: two paradigms of citizenship in the digital age. A report from the civic learning project.</p> <p>Bennet, W.L. (2012). The personalization of politics: Political identity, social media, and changing patterns of participation. <i>ANNALS, AAPSS</i>, 644.</p> <p>Mihailidis, P., Thevenin, B. (2013). Media literacy as a core competency for engaged citizenship in participatory democracy. <i>American Behavioural Scientist</i>, 57(11), 1611-1622.</p> <p>Layder, D. (2003). <i>Modern Social Theory: Key debates and new directions</i>. Routledge: London and New York.</p> <p>Lindgren, S (2017). <i>Digital Media and Society</i>. Sage: London, California, New Dephi, Singapore.</p> <p>Park, C.S. (2015). Pathways to expressive and collective participation: usage patterns, political efficacy, and political participation in social networking sites. <i>Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media</i>, 59(4), 698-716</p> <p>Ward, J. (2008). The online citizen-consumer: addressing young people’s political consumption through technology. <i>Journal of Youth Studies</i>: 11 (5), 513-526.</p>
Course confirmation date:	December 11, 2019.
Date of course description update:	

Study Course Plan:

Date	Theme	Academic hours		Study Form/ Organization of independent work of students and task description
		Contact hours	Independent work hours	
<i>The date is specified before the implementation of the course</i>	The changing concept of civil society, the theoretical approaches of the 21st century and the perspectives of civic activity	2	4	Lectures
	Global, market and consumer choice-based civil society - political consumerism	4	6	Lectures, seminar
	Participation in the digital environment and media literacy	4	8	Lectures, seminar

	Political exercise, political self-efficacy and civic participation	4	8	Lectures, seminar
	Political trust and participation	4	6	Lectures, seminar
	Practical task - final task and presentation	4	16	Final test - presentation
	<i>Hours total:</i>	24	56	