

INTERNSHIP

Subject code	<i>POL116</i>
Subject name	<i>Internship</i>
Subject type	<i>Compulsory</i>
Study level	<i>First</i>
Department	<i>Bachelor studies</i>
Studies year	<i>Fourth</i>
Semester	<i>Spring</i>
ECTS	<i>15 ECTS; 4 hours of theories, 6 hours of consultations, 35 hours of individual work, 360 hours internship at the company.</i>
Lecturer	<i>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vincentas Vobolevičius</i>
Subject language	<i>English</i>

ANNOTATION

The Economics and Politics Internship is an engaged-learning course, designed to apply knowledge and skills acquired during the studies in the program to real-world processes of economics and politics. Students may complete their internships at:

- 1) the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania and institutions accountable to the Seimas;
- 2) the government of the Republic of Lithuania, and institutions accountable to the government;
- 3) the European Parliament, the European Commission and other European Union (EU) institutions;
- 4) foreign diplomatic representative offices;
- 5) for-profit companies that are involved in economic policy monitoring and / or influencing economic policy;
- 6) non-governmental organizations (NGOs), influencing policy-making process in Lithuania or beyond.

Students, interning at the Seimas or institutions accountable to the Seimas, get acquainted with:

- 1) the role of the legislature in political and economic life of the country; daily activities of elected representatives as well as internal dynamics within the parliament;
- 2) representatives' strategies of formulating economic policy, representing the interests of voters and interest groups and seeking re-election.

Students, interning at the government or institutions accountable to the government, get acquainted with:

- 1) the role of the executive in political and economic life of the country; daily activities of cabinet members and bureaucrats as well as internal dynamics within the government;
- 2) political, bureaucratic and other factors underlying the strategies of cabinet members and bureaucratic processes within state institutions, as they pertain to economic policy.

Students, interning at various EU institutions, get acquainted with:

- 1) the role of the EU institutions in the economic and political life of the country, continent and the world; daily activities and internal dynamics within these institutions;
- 2) political, bureaucratic and other factors underlying the processes of the EU institutions; formulation and implementation of economic policy by these institutions.

Students, interning at foreign diplomatic representative offices, get acquainted with:

- 1) the role of a diplomatic office in representing economic interests of their nations and fostering cross-border economic relations; activities performed by diplomats and internal dynamics within a diplomatic office;
- 2) political, bureaucratic and other factors underlying operational strategies of a diplomatic service.

Students interning at for-profit companies, get acquainted with:

- 1) the role of private businesses in economic and political life of the state; corporate organizational structures and business models;
- 2) processes of formulating private sector's positions on economic policy issues; its strategies of influencing legislative and executive institutions and public opinion on matters of economic policy.

Students, interning at non-governmental organizations, get acquainted with:

- 1) the role of NGOs in the economic and political life of the state; NGOs' organizational structures and funding models;
- 2) processes of formulating NGOs' positions on economic policy issues; strategies NGOs employ to influence on legislative and executive institutions and public opinion on matters of economic policy.

Students may obtain an internship placement through one of the two ways:

- 1) a student may secure an internship by himself/ herself;
- 2) ISM Career Center can assist students in securing an internship.

The total scope of an internship consists of 15 credits (405 academic hours), including:

- 1) internship at an institution – 360 academic hours
- 2) classroom hours – 10 academic hours:
 - a. Lectures and consultations.
- 3) self-study hours – 35 academic hours.
 - a. Preparation of a Thesis Research Proposal (TRP).

AIM OF THE COURSE

While performing their Internships students experience and learn the practical aspects of formulating and implementing economic policy. The aims of internship include:

- 1) deepening of students' understanding of the role that economic and political analysis plays in identification and solution of real-world problems;
- 2) enabling students to apply analytical tools they had learned in the classroom, to identification and solution of real-world problems;
- 3) endowing students with practical skills relevant to the formulation and implementation of economic policy.

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

- 1) Internship at institutions and organizations listed in the annotation;
- 2) An individual work of students in writing an Internship-related Thesis Research Proposal (TRP) of a chosen economic policy.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 1) Consultation during internship (optional);
- 2) Grading of TRP by Internship supervisor (at ISM);
- 3) Discussion of TRP with advisor of a Bachelor Thesis.

CHEATING PREVENTION

Students receive a course credit only after having prepared and defended the TRP. Cheating prevention measures include:

- 1) Grading of TRP by Internship supervisor;
- 2) Discussion of TRP with advisor of Bachelor Thesis.

INTERNSHIP DOCUMENTS

At the beginning of an internship students must submit a signed Trilateral Agreement. Bearing signatures of the student, the Internship Venue and a representative of the University to ISM Career Center. At the end of an internship students must submit two documents: a Certificate of Internship Completion and a **sealed** Evaluation by intern's supervisor at an Internship venue to ISM Career Center. All the forms are available for download on the E-learning system.

SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Week	Description of Activity	Classroom Hours	
		Theory	Seminars
1 st	Introductory session. Presentation of Internship requirements. Discussion of requirements for TRP.	4	0
2 nd or 3 rd	Consultation (<i>not compulsory, organized according the schedule</i>).	0	6
Total:		4	6

INDIVIDUAL WORK AND ASSESSMENT

Type of the finished assignment	Total number of hours	Percentage of the final grade
Preparation of a TRP	35	80%*
Supervisor's evaluation at Internship Venue	360	20%
Total:	395	100%

*In the case of a late submission of a TRP, or in the case of re-submission after the initial negative evaluation, the share of Proposal's grade in the final Internship evaluation is **70%**.

The Thesis Research Proposal is designed to enhance student's understanding of the actual content of the chosen economic policy; its impact on national, regional and global economy; and economic policy formulation and implementation processes. The TRP is also a valuable opportunity to collect theoretical and empirical material and summarize it for use in the writing of the Bachelor Thesis. Data for the TRP are collected during internship at an institution indicated in the annotation. A student prepares a written TRP and submits two bound copies of the Study to the Studies Department by the time specified in Table 1. Failure to submit the TRP on time, results in reduction of the final grade by one point for each day following the deadline. The scope of the written TRP is 10-15 pages (without appendices). The TRP is defended in an auditorium. A student shall be evaluated for the content and presentation of the TRP as well as for the questions answered.

The final grade for the subject is calculated using a cumulative formula. If the final grade is negative (less than 5), the student presents a revised Thesis Research Proposal at a time indicated on the Internship Schedule. A revised Thesis Research Proposal constitutes 70% of the final mark.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE THESIS RESEARCH PROPOSAL

The Thesis Research Proposal contains the following structural parts:

TITLE PAGE

I. RESEARCH PROBLEM

1. DEFINITION OF AN ECONOMIC POLICY (1 PAGE)
2. DESCRIPTION OF A VARIATION IN ECONOMIC POLICY: PROCESS OR OUTCOME (1 PAGE)
3. DESCRIPTION OF THE RELEVANCE OF UNDERSTANDING THE VARIATION IN THE CHOSEN ECONOMIC POLICY (1 PAGE)

II. AIM OF A THESIS

1. A PRELIMINARY PROPOSITION OF A HYPOTHESIS
2. A PRELIMINARY EXPLANATION OF THE LOGIC BEHIND HYPOTHESIS (1 PAGE)

III. THE OBJECTIVE OF A THESIS

1. A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THEORIES TO BE COVERED BY LITERATURE REVIEW ON ECONOMIC POLICY (0.5 PAGE)
2. A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THEORIES TO BE COVERED BY LITERATURE REVIEW ON POLITICAL PREDICTORS OF ECONOMIC POLICY (0.5 PAGE)
3. A PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF A METHOD FOR CONSTRUCTING A HYPOTHESIS – IF NECESSARY (1 PAGE)
4. A PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF A POSSIBLE SAMPLE OF EMPIRICAL DATA AND DATABASES (1 PAGE)
5. A PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF POSSIBLE METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS (1 PAGE) REFERENCES

REFERENCES

RECOMMENDED LITERATURE

(The list – not exhaustive by far):

- Krugman P.R. and M. Obstfeld. *International Economics: Theory and Policy*. Addison Wesley
- McGillivray F. *Privileging Industry*. Princeton University Press.
- Clark W.R. *Capitalism, Not Globalism: Capital Mobility, Central Bank Independence, and the Political Control of the Economy*. University of Michigan Press
- Strauch R.R. and J. von Hagen, eds. *Institutions, Politics and Fiscal Policy*. Springer
- Bueno de Mesquita B. *Principles Of International Politics: People's Power, Preferences, and Perceptions*. CQ Press
- Clark W.R., Golder M., Golder S.N. *Principles of Comparative Politics*. CQ Press
- Bozoki A. and J. Ishiyama. *The Communist Successor Parties of Central and Eastern Europe*. M.E. Sharpe
- Gandhi J. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship*. Cambridge University Press
- Gallagher M., Laver M. and Mair P. *Representative Government in Modern Europe*. McGraw Hill Higher Education