



Philadelphia University
Faculty of law
Department of -----
----- semester, 2007/2008

Course Syllabus

Course Title: : Political systems and constitutional law	Course code: 420151
Course Level: first year	Course prerequisite (s) and/or corequisite (s) : Constitutional law
Lecture Time:	Credit hours: 3 Credit Hours

Academic Staff Specifics

Name	Rank	Office Number and Location	Office Hours	E-mail Address
Issa Dabbah	Assistant professor	310		idabbah@philadelphia.edu.jo

Course module description:

5- (420151) Political Systems and Constitutional Law

Module name: Political systems and constitutional law No prerequisite required

Module number: 420151

This course treats the nature of constitutions and constitutional law by means of elucidating the nature of constitutional law and its relation to the other branches of law, and an expounding of the proofs of constitutional legal provisions, and also includes an explanation of the meaning of a constitution, types of constitutions, and also addresses the origins and termination, and the means for safeguarding their prevalence (sovereignty) . This is through studying monitoring and its applications, whether political or judicial, . Moreover, the course includes a study of the state, in particular, its concept and constituent elements, and also its legal attributes and its types, and also a study of political systems, and an elucidation of their various constitutional and political foundations, and an expounding of the concept of the democratic government alongside its various forms. Furthermore, an elucidation of types of political regimes existing in our contemporary world. The conclusion of the course addresses the position of the Islamic Legislator, particularly insofar as constitutional matters, and familiarizing the student with constitutional law, and the sources of the constitutional precept and principle.

Course module objectives:

1. provide students with the principles and basic concepts and its different types and constitutional codes and its characteristics and historical development
2. develop students cognitive and scientific skills in the political and constitutional systems
3. develop students skills in writing legal research papers both theoretic as well as practical through the use of sources of knowledge and learning
4. enable students to enhance and develop their written and oral skills as well as encourage them to work effectively on both an individual as well as a team work basis

Course/ module components

- Books (title , author (s), publisher, year of publication)

Book Title	Author	Edition	Publisher	Publishing Year
Al-waseet in political regimes and constitutional law	Dr. Numan A. alkhatib		Al-thaqafa publishers/Husseini Mosque yard	Amman,1999

- Support material (s) (vcs, acs, etc).
- Study guide (s) (if applicable)
- Homework and laboratory guide (s) if (applicable).
Discussion of selected texts from the Jordanian Constitution and inferring rules
an outside lecturer or guest speaker
Field visit
Research paper

Teaching methods:

Lectures, discussion groups, tutorials, problem solving, debates, etc.

Methods	Number of Lectures	Scores' distribution
Lectures	38	80%
Multipurpose room and field visits	---	---
Student's involvement in seminars, tutorials, and group discussions	10	10%
Quizzes and Assignments	---	---
Paper research & Essays (maximum of 3000words)	---	10%
Total	48	100%

Learning outcomes:

- Knowledge and understanding

At the end of this module, a student will be able to:

A/1 express the principles and basic concepts of the political system of countries, particularly that pertaining to the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan, in addition to illustrating the formation of the three authorities in the country, functions and its intra-relations

A/4 become aware of the topics related to the political system, especially those pertaining to social and economic aspects along with other topics which exceeds the legal border, in addition to illustrating basic freedoms guaranteed by the constitution in addition to ways to protect

- Cognitive skills (thinking and analysis).

- Communication skills (personal and academic).

- Practical and subject specific skills (Transferable Skills).

Assessment instruments

- Short reports and/ or presentations, and/ or Short research projects
- Quizzes.
- Home works
- Final examination: 50 marks

<u>Allocation of Marks</u>	
Assessment Instruments	Mark
First examination	20%
Second examination	20%
Final examination: 50 marks	50%
Reports, research projects, Quizzes, Home works, Projects	10%
Total	100%

Documentation and academic honesty

- Documentation style (with illustrative examples)
- Protection by copyright
- Avoiding plagiarism.

Course/module academic calendar

Week	Subject	Notes
1 st	Defining the Jordanian constitution in relation to other branches of Law	
2 nd	Defining the sources of the constitutional basis	
3 rd	Types of written, oral, ready and compound constitutions	
4 th	The principles of constitution prominence and supervision of the constitutionality of the Laws	
5 th	The methods of the establishment and termination of constitutions	
6 th	Defining state and illustrating its basis	
7 th	Defining the root of supremacy	
8 th	The origins for establishing a state	
9 th	Types of states	
10 th	Functions of states	
11 th	State public authorities and intra-relations	
12 th	Defining government and its different forms	
13 th	Democracy	
14 th	The ascription of power in democratic regimes	
15 th	Illustrating examples of modern democratic regimes along with a glimpse of parties and its impact on the political systems	
16 th	The United Kingdom, the United States, France	

Expected workload:

On average students need to spend 2 hours of study and preparation for each 50-minute lecture/tutorial.

Attendance policy:

Absence from lectures and/or tutorials shall not exceed 15%. Students who exceed the 15% limit without a medical or emergency excuse acceptable to and approved by the Dean of the relevant college/faculty shall not be allowed to take the final examination and shall receive a mark of zero for the course. If the excuse is approved by the Dean, the student shall be considered to have withdrawn from the course.

Module references

Books

Book Title	Author	Edition	Publisher	Publishing Year
Constitutional law and the Jordanian constitutional system	Dr. Adel Al-Hiyari		Ghanim Abdu Press	Amman, 1972
Political systems (state and government)	Dr. Muhammad		Egypt's emergence Press	Fajalah/Egypt, 1967

K. Lailah

**Constitutional law and
political system**

**Dr. Ahmad
Sirhan**

Al-Hadatha Press

Beirut, 1980

Journals

Dirasaat Journal/ Jordan University

Law Society Journal

Jordanian constitution texts

Websites

www.uchastings.edu/clq/index.htm

www.direitopublico.com.br

www.law.upenn.edu/conlaw