

# COURSE DETAIL

## DEMOCRACY: REPRESENTATIVE CRISIS AND DELIBERATIVE INNOVATIONS

**Country**

France

**Host Institution**

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

**Program(s)**

Sciences Po Paris

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science

**UCEAP Course Number**

117

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

D

**UCEAP Official Title**

DEMOCRACY: REPRESENTATIVE CRISIS AND DELIBERATIVE INNOVATIONS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

DEMOCR:CRISIS&INNOV

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

**Course Description**

This interdisciplinary course is divided into two parts. The first part explores the history, theories, and realities of democracy. If, from Ancient Athens to the Modern Revolutions, democracy was associated with direct self-rule, the invention of the representative government puts elections at the core of politics. The theory of representation is complex, and its concrete practices are plagued by crisis: elitism, corruption, and backsliding. The second part of the course analyzes, from a comparative perspective, the role of democratic innovations in renewing democracy and shaping public policy. It focuses on five types: referendum, participatory budgeting, e-democracy, collaborative governance, and deliberative mini-publics.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

DHUM 25A45

**Host Institution Course Title**

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**Host Institution Course Details**<https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/fr/?202510%2F286215=>**Host Institution Campus****Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree**

Seminar

**Host Institution Department**

Humanities

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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