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Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Education
PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA
RUDN University

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
educational division (faculty/institute/academy) as higher education programme developer

FINAL STATE EXAMINATION SYLLABUS

Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field of:

41.04.04 POLITICAL SCIENCE
field of studies / speciality code and title

The final state examination is implemented within the professional education program of higher education:

MA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE, POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND VALUES
higher education programme profile/specialisation title

2026

1. FINAL STATE EXAMINATION GOAL AND TASKS

The discipline «Final State Examination» is part of the program 41.04.04 «Political Science» – «Political Institutions and Values» and takes place «in the 4th semester» of the «2nd years». The FSE is implemented by the «Department of Comparative Political Science».

The goal of the final state examination within the framework of the higher education programme implementation is to check the conformity of the students' training outcomes as the programme results with the relevant requirements of the Federal State Educational Standard of the Higher Education or the RUDN University Educational Standards.

The tasks of the final state examination include the following:

- checking the quality of teaching a person basic humanitarian knowledge, natural science laws and phenomena necessary for professional activities of a graduate;
- identifying the level of theoretical and practical readiness of a graduate to perform professional tasks in compliance with the qualification obtained;
- establishing the degree of a person's desire for self-development, improving his or her qualifications and skills;
- exploring the formation of a graduate's sustainable motivation for professional activities in compliance with the types of tasks of professional activities provided for by the Federal State Educational Standard of the Higher Education or the RUDN University Educational Standards;
- assessing the level of graduates' ability to find organizational and managerial solutions in non-standard situations and evaluating graduates' readiness to bear responsibility for them;
- ensuring the integration of education and scientific and technical activities, increasing the efficiency of scientific and technological achievements use, reforming the scientific sphere and stimulating innovation;
- ensuring the quality of specialists' training in compliance with the requirements of the Federal State Educational Standards of the Higher Education or the RUDN University Educational Standards.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME COMPLETION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

A student who does not have failed tests or exams and who has fully completed the curriculum or the individual curriculum of the higher education programme is allowed to the final state examination.

On the higher education programme completion the graduate is expected to master the following **generic competences** (GC):

Code and descriptor of the generic competences
GC-1. Able to critically analyze problem situations based on a systematic approach and develop an action strategy.
GC-2. Able to manage a project at all stages.
GC-3. Able to organize and manage the work of a team, developing a team strategy to achieve the set goal.
GC-4. Capable of using modern communication technologies in the state language of the Russian Federation and foreign language(s) for academic and professional interaction.
GC-5. Able to analyze and take into account the diversity of cultures in the process of intercultural

Code and descriptor of the generic competences
interaction.
GC-6. Able to determine and implement the priorities of his own activities and ways to improve them based on self-assessment.
GC-7. Able to: search for the necessary sources of information and data, perceive, analyze, remember and transmit information using digital means, as well as using algorithms when working with data obtained from various sources in order to effectively use the information received to solve problems; evaluate information, its reliability, build logical conclusions based on incoming information and data.
GC-1. Able to critically analyze problem situations based on a systematic approach and develop an action strategy.

- general professional competences (GPC):

Code and descriptor of the general professional competences
GPC-1. Able to build professional communication in the state language of the Russian Federation and foreign language(s) according to the profile of activity in a multicultural environment based on the use of various communication technologies, taking into account the specifics of the business and spiritual culture of Russia and foreign countries.
GPC-2. Able to search for and apply promising information and communication technologies and software for comprehensive training and solving problems of professional activity.
GPC-3. Capable of assessing, modeling and forecasting global, macro-regional, national-state, regional and local political-cultural, socio-economic and socio-political processes based on the use of methods of theoretical and empirical research and applied analysis.
GPC-4. Able to conduct scientific research in his field of activity, including in interdisciplinary fields, independently formulate scientific hypotheses and innovative ideas, and check their reliability.
GPC-5. Able to build a strategy for promoting publications on the profile of activity in the media based on the basic principles of media management.
GPC-6. Able to develop and implement organizational and managerial decisions according to the profile of the activity.
GPC-7. Able to independently build strategies for presenting the results of his professional activities, including in a public format, based on the selection of appropriate information and communication technologies and information dissemination channels.
GPC-8. Capable of developing proposals and recommendations for applied research and consulting.
GPC-9. Able to participate in the implementation of basic professional and additional educational programmes.
GPC-10. Able to master the tools for working with large amounts of structured and unstructured information, use modern digital methods of processing, analysis, interpretation and visualization of data in order to solve the tasks of professional and research activities in the field of political science.

- professional competences (PC):

Code and descriptor of the professional competences
PC-1. Able to provide analytical support for the development and adoption of political decisions, including the use of diagnostic skills, analysis, and forecasting of political processes and problem situations.
PC -2 Able to provide analytical support for the development and adoption of political decisions, including through the use of skills in diagnostics, analysis, and forecasting of political processes and problematic situations.

3. FINAL STATE EXAMINATION PROCEDURE

The final state examination can be conducted both in in-person format (students and the state examination committee are at RUDN University during the examination), and through the use of distance learning technologies available in the RUDN Electronic Information and Educational Environment.

The procedure for in-person or DLT-facilitated final state examination is regulated by the relevant local normative act of the RUDN University.

The final state examination within the framework of the higher education programme includes:

- state exam
- defence of the graduation qualifying paper (degree thesis).

4. STATE EXAM PROCEDURE

The total workload of the State Exam is 3 credits.

The state exam is held in one or more disciplines and (modules) of the higher education programme, whose mastery bears a decisive importance for graduates' occupational performance.

The state exam is held in two stages:

The first stage includes the assessment of the level of a graduate's theoretical training in the form **of computer testing** through the tools available in the RUDN Electronic Information and Educational Environment (EIEE).

The second stage focuses on the assessment of the graduate's practical preparation for future occupational activities in the form **of solving work-related situational problems (cases)**.

In order to prepare students for taking the state exam, the head of the educational programme (no later than one calendar month before the start of the final state examination) shall familiarise the graduate students with the final state examination syllabus, the comprehensive list of theoretical issues included in the state exam, examples of work-related (occupational) situational tasks (cases) that the students will have to solve in the process of taking the state exam, as well as with the procedure for each stage of the state exam and the grading system for evaluating its results (with assessment materials).

Before the state exam, students are offered consultations on issues and tasks included in the state exam (mandatory pre-exam consultation).

The procedure for conducting the computer testing within the final state examination is as follows:

1) The examination is conducted under supervision of compliance with the regulations for the State Final Certification (SFA) using the RUDN TUIS platform (https://esystem.rudn.ru/). Computer testing is carried out by accessing a bank of test tasks. Each examinee completes one of the proposed versions of the computer test (a set of random tasks), selecting one or several correct answers from the provided list. The test may contain from 20 to 50 tasks covering the main content of the educational program 39.03.01 Sociology. When the student completes the test tasks electronically, the duration is up to 100 minutes.

2) The criterion for assessing the examinee's knowledge at the first stage of the state exam (computer testing) is the number of correct answers to the proposed test tasks. Assessment is

performed automatically based on the list of correct solutions stored in the test task bank. The assessment result for a specific examinee is presented after submitting the selected answers to the system as a percentage of correctly solved tasks. The computer testing score is given on a 100-point scale. The test part is considered successfully passed if the student scores 51 or more points based on the test results. Successful completion of the test part by the student is a prerequisite for admission to the main part of the State Final Examination.

The procedure for conducting the second stage of the state exam is as follows:

1) The state exam is conducted using exam tickets, which are reviewed annually at meetings of the Department of Sociology and approved by the head of the educational unit.

2) The state exam is conducted according to an approved program containing a list of questions for the exam and recommendations for students on preparing for the exam, including a list of recommended literature. Before the exam, the department holds pre-exam consultations for students on questions included in the exam program.

3) The State Examination Commission is obliged to provide the graduate with the necessary time for thorough preparation for the oral response, the duration of which is generally no more than 45–50 minutes.

4) The duration of the student's oral response at the state exam should generally not exceed 30 minutes. While preparing for the oral exam, the student takes notes on an oral response sheet. After completing the response, the oral response sheet, signed by the student, is submitted to the Chair of the State Examination Commission. For the purpose of objectively assessing the student's knowledge, members of the State Examination Commission may ask additional questions within the framework of the state exam program.

The assessment of the state exam results is conducted in accordance with the methodology outlined in the assessment materials for the State Final Certification program, which are developed by the graduating educational unit and posted in the TUIS before the start of the final year of study.

The state exam results evaluation is carried out in accordance with the methodology set forth in the assessment toolkit that is specified in the Appendix to this syllabus.

(The state exam procedure is not included in the final state examination).

5. REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION QUALIFYING PAPER (DEGREE THESIS) AND PROCEDURE FOR ITS DEFENCE

The degree thesis is a graduation qualifying paper that the student (several students in a team) prepare to demonstrate his/her/their level of competence and work readiness.

The list of degree theses themes offered to students for further work is approved by the order of the head of the educational division (faculty/institute/academy) that runs the higher education programme, the respective information is delivered to the students by the programme head no later than six months before the date of the final state examination start.

The students are allowed to suggest their own themes for the theses, under the set procedure.

The student who has passed the state exam is admitted to defend the graduation degree thesis *(if there is a state exam in the final state examination procedure)*.

The student (students) is/are allowed to defend his/ her/their thesis only if this fully completed degree paper is signed by the respective graduate (s), the supervisor, the consultant (if any), the heads of the educational department and educational division; the thesis is also subject to the external review procedure (mandatory for master's and specialist’s programmes) and the plagiarism check (in the "Antiplagiarism" system). The review of the graduation qualifying paper supervisor shall be attached as well, with a specific emphasis laid on the graduate’s activities in the course of the degree thesis drafting.

No later than 14 days before the date of the thesis defence, a rehearsal of the procedure is held at the presence of the degree thesis supervisor and other academic staff of the educational department, in order to timely identify and eliminate shortcomings in the structure, content and design of the degree thesis.

The degree theses are introduced to the State Examination Board members at the public defence procedure. It includes the students' oral reports with mandatory multimedia (graphic) presentations that introduce the thesis main content.

At the end of the reports, the students reply orally to the State Examination Board members' questions regarding the subject, structure, content of the paper and the profile/ specialisation of the higher education programme. The reports and / or answers to the Board members' questions may be delivered in a foreign language.

The stages of the graduation qualifying paper preparation, the requirements for its structure, volume, contents and design, as well as the list of mandatory and recommended documents submitted for defence are specified in the relevant guidelines.

The evaluation of the degree thesis defense results is carried out in accordance with the methodology set forth in the assessment toolkit that is specified in the Appendix to the syllabus.

(The procedure of the graduation qualifying paper (degree thesis) defence is not included in the final state examination).

6. REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT FOR FINAL STAE EXAMINATION

The infrastructure and technical support necessary for the examination implementation include: classrooms equipped with… (computers, specialsed software, other devices, if any, etc.).

7. RESOURCES RECOMMENDED FOR FINAL STATE EXAMINATION

Main readings to prepare for the state exam and/or degree thesis defence:

1. Gadzhiev, K. S. (2025). *Politologiya: Uchebnik dlya vuzov* [Political science: Textbook for universities] (6th ed., rev. and suppl.). Moscow: Yurayt Publishing. https://urait.ru/bcode/559576
2. Emelyanova, I. N. (2022). *Osnovy nauchnoy deyatelnosti studenta. Magisterskaya dissertatsiya: Uchebnoe posobie dlya vuzov* [Fundamentals of student research activity. Master's thesis: Textbook for universities]. Moscow: Yurayt Publishing. (Higher Education series). https://urait.ru/bcode/494080
3. Isaev, B. A. (2025). *Politologiya: Uchebnik dlya vuzov* [Political science: Textbook for universities] (7th ed., rev. and suppl.). Moscow: Yurayt Publishing. https://urait.ru/bcode/556904
4. Seletkov, S. G. (2022). *Metodologiya dissertatsionnogo issledovaniya: Uchebnik dlya vuzov* [Dissertation research methodology: Textbook for universities]. Moscow: Yurayt Publishing. (Higher Education series). https://urait.ru/bcode/496644
5. Pugachev, V. P., & Solovyov, A. I. (2022). *Vvedenie v politologiyu* [Introduction to political science]. Moscow: Aspekt Press. Chapter 2.
6. Achkasov, V. A., & Gutorov, V. A. (Eds.). (2022). *Politologiya: Uchebnik i praktikum dlya srednego professionalnogo obrazovaniya* [Political science: Textbook and practicum for secondary vocational education] (2nd ed.). (Title appears incomplete: "на англ" suggests an English version or supplement may exist but was not fully provided).

Additional readings to prepare for the state exam and/or degree thesis defence:

1. Zelenkov, M. Yu. (2017). *Politologiya: Uchebnik* [Political science: Textbook]. Moscow: Publishing and Trading Corporation "Dashkov and Co." (Educational publications for bachelors series). http://biblioclub.ru/index.php?page=book&id=450794
2. Abramov, A. V. (2021). Nezapadnaya politologiya: Natsionalnye nauchnye shkoly [Non-Western political science: National scientific schools]. *Bulletin of Moscow State Regional University*, 1-17. http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=asn&AN=154510421&site=edslive
3. Solovyov, A. I. (2017). *Politologiya: Politicheskaya teoriya, Politicheskie tekhnologii* [Political science: Political theory, Political technologies]. Moscow: Aspekt Press.
4. Shestopal, E. B. (2022). *Politicheskaya psikhologiya* [Political psychology]. Moscow: Aspekt Press.
5. Karadzhe, T. V. (2022). Paradoksy metodologii sovremennoy politicheskoy nauki: vozmozhnosti i predely [Paradoxes of the methodology of modern political science: opportunities and limits]. *Sotsialnye i gumanitarnye znaniya* [Social and Humanitarian Knowledge], 8(1/29), 32-43.

Internet sources

1. Electronic libraries (EL) of RUDN University and other institutions, to which university students have access on the basis of concluded agreements:

- RUDN Electronic Library System (RUDN ELS) http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/Web
- EL "University Library Online" http://www.biblioclub.ru
- EL "Yurayt" http://www.biblio-online.ru
- EL "Student Consultant" www.studentlibrary.ru
- EL "Lan" http://e.lanbook.com/
- EL "Trinity Bridge"
- …….

2.*Databases and search engines:*

- electronic foundation of legal and normative-technical documentation http://docs.cntd.ru/
- Yandex search engine https:// www .yandex.ru/
- Google search engine https://www.google.ru/
- Scopus abstract database http://www.elsevierscience.ru/products/scopus/
- ……..

The training toolkit and guidelines for student's self-studies to prepare for the state exam and /or to draft the degree thesis and defend it:*

1. The guidelines for drafting and formatting the degree thesis within the higher education programme final state examination
2. The procedure for the degree thesis check in the "Anti- plagiarism" system.
3. The procedure for conducting the final state examination under the higher education programme final state examination through the use of DLT and proctoring system.

*The training toolkit and guidelines for the student's self-studies are placed on the final state examination page in the university telecommunication training and information system under the set procedure.

8. ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT AND GRADING SYSTEM* FOR EVALUATION OF GRADUATES' COMPETENCES LEVEL

The assessment materials and the grading system* to evaluate the graduate's level of competences (competences in part) formation as the results of the higher education programme completion are specified in the Appendix to this syllabus.

* The assessment materials and the grading system are formed on the basis of the requirements of the relevant local normative act of RUDN University (regulations / order).

HEAD OF DUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

The Department of Comparative Politics		Mchedlova M.M.
educational department	signature	name and surname

HEAD
OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME:

Professor		Pochta Yu. M.
position, department	signature	name and surname