

MSc Political Science

Democracy and Representation



Parties and representation

The Democracy and Representation specialisation explores who represents citizens and what representation means in modern democracies. You'll examine how parties shape preferences and whether representatives act in the public interest. Combining theory and empirical research, you critically assess the evolving role of parties, voter engagement, and wider issues of representation.

Challenges in modern democracy

Explore the strengths and weaknesses of representative democracy, including populism's impact, institutional trust, and the media's role in campaigns. You will study the causes and consequences of these developments and consider solutions to today's key democratic challenges.

Why Leiden University?

- Leiden's Institute of Political Science has an excellent reputation for its research and educational programmes. You will study in an international classroom, with engaged and knowledgeable instructors.
- You will study key themes and master current Social and Political science research and methods.

Facts and figures

Language	English
Location	Leiden
Duration	1 year
Admission start September	1 April non-EU 15 May EU
Admission start February	15 October non-EU 15 November EU



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Diversity meets political insight

'I was fascinated by how this programme not only offers a multicultural environment where we thoroughly explore modern political and electoral systems and their structures, but also critically interrogate these systems to explain the crucial shortfalls in representation we face today.'

Fotis Giannousas • Student Democracy and Representation

Course overview

Semester I		Semester II	
Democracy, Political Parties and the Challenges of Representation	10 EC	Elective seminar	10 EC
Great Debates in Political Science	5 EC	Master's thesis	20 EC
Methods in Political Science	5 EC		
Elective seminar	10 EC		

Career possibilities

- Politics and management: policy officer, policy adviser
- Consultancy: consultant, commercial adviser, project manager
- Research: analyst, researcher
- HRM: human resources officer, international markets coordinator
- Media and communication: public affairs assistant, communications assistant
- Finance: financial trainee, adviser

Contact

Study advisers:

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Curious about studying Political Science from a student's view? Reach out to our **student ambassador**:
info.mscpoliticalscience@fsw.leidenuniv.nl.



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