Seminar questions

A seminar session is a mandatory form of the educational process that complements the lecture form of training.

The most important questions of the course are submitted to seminars for group discussion, which requires special preparation of the student, preliminary work with the material of lecture classes and the educational literature recommended by the teacher.

Preparation for the seminar session is conducted as follows:

 ознакомиться get acquainted with the plan of the seminar on the given topic, consider the main issues;

 изучить study the recommended educational literature and lecture notes on the topic of the seminar session, highlight those aspects that you need to pay attention to when preparing for the answer in the seminar session. Find additional sources, if necessary.

 выделить highlight the main concepts on the topic, find their definitions in the encyclopedia, reference dictionary, and dictionary of special terms.

 подготовить prepare answers to the seminar questions by drawing up a detailed answer plan or in abstract form.

 отметить note unclear problem aspects in the answer and suggest them as a topic of discussion at the seminar, or directly consult with the teacher.

To consolidate the completed material and better assimilate new ones, it is necessary to review the completed topics before each lesson. Their content is based on their own notes.

The topics of lectures and seminars are available in the syllabus. According to the proposed thematic plan of the discipline, the student will be able to follow the logic of the entire course.

In the process of studying the discipline, it is assumed to make extensive use of available technical means – library catalogs, the Internet, etc.

The list of recommended literature – basic and additional-is offered by the teacher to students as a necessary minimum for preparing for classes: textbooks, manuals, and monographs. The variety of approaches, concepts, and theories indicates that each author has his own view on a particular problem presented in the questions for seminars. Therefore, it is recommended to get acquainted with the point of view and position of different authors in order to critically evaluate the presented material and reasonably defend your vision of the issue. Additionally, students can get acquainted with dissertation research, articles in periodicals, etc. in order to prepare a more complete answer, present their vision and understanding of the problem at the seminar session.

Seminar lesson #1. Introduction to Political Kratology.1.1 . Describe sociogenesis and its factors.

2. Reveal the origins of power and its causes.

3. Compare the existing traditions of interpreting power in the literature.

4. Explore the relationship of power to law and morality.

5. Identify aspects of power.

6. Give a brief description of the power of religion, the power of nature, the power of technology and technology, and the power of culture.

7. Consider the need for an authoritative management mechanism.

8. Identify the main signs of power.

9. Prove that power is an attribute of human life.

Seminar session no.2. Power as the central concept of political science.

1. Explain what politics and political relations are.

2. Justify the necessity and objectivity of power in society.

3. Describe the sources of power.

4. Expand the concept of power as a social relation and describe its main aspects.

5. Identify the factors of power relations.

6. Explore power as domination.

7. Describe power as power leadership.

8. Give examples that prove the validity of identifying the four "faces of power".

9. Consider the relationship between the concepts of "domination", "leadership", and "management".

Seminar lesson #3. From the history of the formation of power and power relations.

1. Describe ideas about the nature of power in Ancient China (Confucius and MoTzu).

2. Explore Aristotle's understanding of power.

3. Describe the theological attitude to power.

4. Analyze the projects of "mixed power" (Polybius, Machiavelli).

5. Highlight the basic principles of "separation of powers" (Locke, Montesquieu).

6. Discover the meaning of the theory of the "social contract" (T. Hobbes, J. Locke, J.-J. Rousseau).

7. Evaluate the legitimacy of the idea of complete elimination of the state-public power system together with the state itself (Godwin and Stirner, Bakunin and Kropotkin).

8. Consider the foundations of the Marxist approach to the phenomenon of power.

9. Show what is the relevance of the problem of power of M. Weber.

10. Give a general description of modern approaches to understanding power.

Seminar lesson #4. Approaches to the definition of power.

1. Explain your opinion about the definition as a logical operation.

2. Describe power as a multidimensional phenomenon.

3. Give a brief description of the biological, anthropological, sociological, psychological, and philosophical approaches to the concept of "power".

4. Give examples of definitions of power. Which of them, in your opinion, most fully reflects its essence?

5. Reveal the specifics of the philosophical approach to the concept of "power".

6. Compare the Marxist (class) and Weberian approaches to understanding the nature of power.

7. Justify your position in relation to the voluntaristic model of government.

8. Identify the features of the communicative model of power.

9. Consider the structuralist model of power and its main aspects.

Seminar lesson #5. Humanitarian norms of the power ethos.

1. Explain the psychological motivations of submission.

2. Define the ethos of power.

3. Conduct a comparative analysis of the concepts of "humanity" and "humanitarianism".

4. Describe the human rights norms and responsibilities.

5. Explore the value system and its hierarchy. in human society.

6. Describe the values of power, justify the value of power itself.

7. Learn the concepts of dispositions, sanctions, and conditions of action as defining aspects of the value of power.

8. Try to build a hierarchy of values for the ethos of power.

9. Offer your humanitarian values of the ethos of power.

Seminar lesson #6. Structural components of power.

1. Learn the concept of "structure" and the triad "element-structure-system".

2. Give a description of the subjects of power.

3. Describe the objects of power and their main characteristics.

4. Reveal the relationship between subjects and objects of power.

5. Explore areas of authority and levels of authority.

6. Consider examples of acts of civil disobedience, their causes, and ways to prevent them.

7. Explain what the resources of power are and why the resources of society are limited and unevenly distributed.

8. Describe the resources of power: psychological, national and religious, cultural, mass media, etc.

9. Reveal the meaning of the stages (forms) of the process of power determined by the use of resources: domination, leadership, organization and control.

Seminar lesson #7. Psychological approach to understanding the nature and essence of power.

1. Try to explain the reason for the ambiguity of attitudes to power among different people.

2. Justify a sociobiological approach to the problem of power.

3. Prove the relevance of the theory of hierarchical distance reduction in modern society.

4. Explore the compensatory concept of power.

5. Discover the essence of power as a value in itself.

6. Learn the political-personal approach to power motivation.

7. Identify the components of the"I" concept of a political leader.

8. Consider the problem of the psychological profile of a political leader's personality.

9. G. Lasswell developed a theory of motivation for political activity. "People strive for power, pursuing this value as a means of compensating for any inferiority...". Explain their position and justify your attitude to it.

Seminar lesson #8. Evolution of power relations.

1. Identify the criteria for typologizing political power.

2. Describe the features of the functioning of political power.

3. Reveal the essence of the term "public authority".

4. Explain whether power is always monocentric.

5. Explore the ideological nature of political power.

6. Prove that delegation of authority is possible.

7. Consider the hierarchy of power relations.

8. Describe the limits of power.

9. Study shadow power and its manifestations.

Seminar lesson #9. Genesis of political power.

1. Consider the concept of sociogenesis.

2. Describe the natural prerequisites for the emergence of power.

3. Study the natural and civil rights of the individual.

4. Reveal the socio-economic prerequisites for the emergence of political power.

5. Explore the social and moral prerequisites for creating power.

6. Describe the geographical background of the emergence of power.

7. Identify the stages of development of political power.

8. Explain the importance of contradictions existing in society as a driving force for the development of political power.

Seminar lesson #10. Features of political power.

1. Identify the universal features that unite political power with other types of social power.

2. Reveal the asymmetry of power relations.

3. Explain the inversion of power relations.

4. Explore the tiering of political power.

5. Study the concept of cumulative political power.

6. Identify the distinctive features of political power.

7. The diversityofpolitical and political forces.

8. Prove the importance of ideology as an attribute of political power.

Seminar lesson #11. Conceptual approaches to the interpretation of political power.

1. Describe power as an attribute of the subject.

2. Describe power as an attribute of social relationships.

3. Reveal attributive and substantive approaches to understanding power

4. Explore potential-volitional concepts of power.

5. Describe the models of reproduction and concentration of power: Marxist, Weberian, behaviorist, and relationist. Identify the pros and cons of these models.

Seminar lesson #12. Specifics of the principles of power.

1. Explain what the principleis.

2. Justify the legitimacy of the principles of power.

3. Give a brief description of one of the principles of power.

4. Explore the hierarchy of power principles.

5. Reveal the essence of unscrupulousness, whether such a phenomenon is legitimate in society.

Seminar lesson #13. Activity aspect of political power.

1. Describe power as a powerful managerial resource and a resource of influence.
2. Explain whether the purpose and meaning of power coincide.
3. Briefly describe the functions of power and identify their relationship.
4. Conduct a comparative analysis of the concepts of "public power"," public power", and"state power".
5. Identify signs of civil society.
6. Briefly describe the characteristics of power that determine its diverse functions of political power.
7. Criteria for the effectiveness of political power
8. Consider the features of power relations in totalitarianism, authoritarianism, and democracy.

Seminar lesson #14. The Doctrine of Separation of Powers.

1. Consider the main milestones in the history of the theory of separation of powers.

2. Compare approaches to the separation of powers by Sh.Montesquieu and J.Locke.

3. Learn the difference between horizontal and vertical separation of powers.

4. Describe the executive branch of government.

5. Research the legislature and its functions.

6. Identify the features of the judiciary.

7. Justify the effectiveness of the government, the possibilities of its improvement.

8. Evaluate the system of checks and balances and prove that it is relevant for our time.

Seminar lesson #15. Legitimacy as a property of political power.

1. Briefly describe the historical genesis of political legitimation (from the Ancient world to Modern times)

2. Consider the structure of the legitimation process.

3. Identify the attributes, sources, levels, and mechanisms of legitimacy

4. Identify the types of legitimacy of power in modern political science.

5. Explore the similarities and differences between the concepts of legitimacy and legality of power.

6. Open up the concept of legal power and its possibilities.

7. Evaluate the psychological basis of legitimacy.

8. Study the causes and main sources of the legitimacy crisis.

9. Analyze the legitimacy of political power in the Republic of Kazakhstan.