# **STV1555 – The 2024 U.S. Elections in a Global Context**

**Course content**

The upcoming U.S. presidential election is once more one of the dominating issues in global news media. Following the turbulent transition from the Trump to the Biden presidency, including the January 6 attacks on the U.S. capitol, the outcome of the 2024 election can be expected to shape not only U.S. politics for the years to come but also have a significant impact on global politics. Global economic development, policy solutions addressing climate change, tensions with China or Russia, nuclear proliferation – all of these are just some policy issues for which the outcome of the U.S. elections will have relevance. Thus, when on November 5, 2024, the citizens of the United States go to the polls to elect a new president as well as new senators and members of the House of Representatives a large part of the world will be watching.

This course will accompany the build up to the election, election night, and its aftermath by offering a lecture series with different speakers from the Department of Political Science, other departments at the University of Oslo, and from outside the university. Besides the question, who will most likely succeed in the presidential election, the course will introduce students to the way in which the presidential elections work, the role of other electoral races that take place in parallel (e.g. for members of Congress), how the election will shape U.S. politics, and what impact the election will have on different policy fields both in the U.S. and globally.

**Learning outcome**

**Knowledge**

Having completed this course, students:

* Have detailed knowledge on the 2024 U.S. presidential election and can interpret the results
* Have detailed knowledge on other elections happening in parallel (e.g. for Congress)
* Have a detailed knowledge about the U.S. political system including the role of the presidency, checks and balances, and how elections take place
* Are aware how different areas of world politics are affected by the U.S. presidential election
* Have acquired knowledge about contemporary U.S. politics

**Skills**

Having completed this course, students can:

* Apply different analytical lenses as well as general political science knowledge to understand the impact of the election on the U.S. as well as globally
* Explain the outcome of the elections
* Critically assess the media debate on the U.S. presidential election and its impact for world politics

**Competence**

Having completed this course, students can:

* Find and make use of information about contemporary political events
* Critically assess information about contemporary political events
* Understand the significance of elections in a broader democratic context

## Teaching

Lectures

## Examination

Three hour written exam.

Preliminary course plan:

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| Week | Title | Lecturer |
| 1 | Introduction | Jens Jungblut |
| 2 | Democratic developments in the U.S. | Carl Henrik Knutsen |
| 3 | Forecasting of presidential elections | Scott Gates |
| 4 | Over- and Under-Representation in US politics | Jacob Nyrup |
| 5 | The implication of the U.S. presidential elections for global trade and investment policies | Taylor St John (PluriCourts) |
| 6 | Implications of the U.S. elections for international climate policy | Tora Skodvin |
| 7 | The 2024 Election, Nuclear Weapons and International Security | James Cameron (UiO Department of History) |
| 8 | The politics of presidential appointments | Tobias Bach |
| 9 | How do the US elections function (collaboration with US embassy [to be confirmed]) | Jens Jungblut |
| 10 | Polarization, partisanship & putting the election results in perspective | Hilde Restad (Oslo Nye Høyskole) & Jens Jungblut |