



Front Page – OpEd 1 (Short Version Part 1)

(Resource ID: 365)

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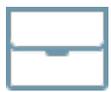
This teaching resource is allocated to following University:

UL – University of Limerick

Institution:

University of Limerick

<http://www.sustainicum.at/en/modules/view/365.Front-Page-OpEd-1-Short-Version-Part-1>



Individual work



**11 to 30
students**



**Up to 3 lecture
units**



English, Shqip

The teaching resource outline Front Page – Op Ed (Short Version – part 1, 2, and 3) describes the draft of a teaching resource consisting of 3 parts, that has been developed to teach students about political parties and the limitations that politicians face in real life. These teaching resources will incorporate Mental Mapping, Debating, a Focus Group, a Discussion and Reflection. The set describes three independent teaching resources, which are designed to be completed one after another (but not necessarily), these include: 1. Mental Maps – Ideal Political Party 2. Debate – what does the Ideal Political Party look like? 3. Focus Group with Political Parties The outline " Front Page – Op Ed (Short Version Part 1, 2, 3)" is based (and slightly modified) on the Teaching Resource, Front

Page –OpEd from UET. The original teaching resource was split into several parts to make it easier to introduce innovative teaching methods at different points in the lectures. There is no need to complete all parts.

Part 1 – Mental Maps – Ideal Political Party

At the beginning of the lesson the students will work individually and will be asked to create a mental map of their ideal political party, the attributes they have, their ideals and values, and the issues that they feel are the most important and aren't looked at enough by politicians.

Main Text:

Politics is a topic that is relevant to everyone and effects everyone in different ways. This teaching resource aims to get the perspectives of our young people on politics both locally and globally, and gives them the opportunity to identify what they feel are the most important issues that the political parties should be working for.

The students will use both their previous knowledge and knowledge learned in lectures and put these skills learned into practice. They will be given the opportunity to analyse the political parties attitudes' towards policy making and compare to the ideals of their own political party. They will also have the opportunity to see the limitations that are faced by politicians everyday, and begin to realise that it is not possible to please everyone in politics.

It is also important to note that everyone in the lectures will have different views on political parties and it is the role of the lecturer to ensure that the group dynamics are kept at ease and to emphasise that it is a task.

Teaching Tools & Methods



Mini-project



Written material

Integration of Social Stakeholders

Stakeholders (members of political parties) are invited to participate in the focus group and this allows students to explore the real life roles of the

stakeholders (politicians, NGOs, political activists, lawyers) in relation to current political events.

Strength

- Students learn to work in a team
- Students learn to solve real-life relevant problems
- Students practice and develop skills of listening, discussion and persuasion
- It encourages greater understanding taking the focus off rote learning
- Develops lifelong learning skills

Weakness

- Group dynamics issues may compromise the effectiveness of the method.
- It may be difficult to get members of political parties to attend the focus group

Learning Outcomes

- Create a mental map
- Identify the values and attributes of the ideal political party

Relevance for Sustainability

The students learn skills that allow them to think critically, to foster imagination and discuss controversial issues. Not to rote learn but use logic and this is essential to achieve sustainable knowledge.

Related Teaching Resources

Some knowledge of Politics both locally and globally

Preparation Efforts

Low

Preparation Efforts Description

N/A

Access

Free

Assessment

N/A

Credit/Certification Description

N/A

Sources and Links

Original Teaching Resource - <http://sustainicum.at/en/modules/view/337>

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