The Masters' Common Academic Curriculum

Department for Studies and Partnerships

TEACHING ASSISTANT POSITION

Sciences Po's Department for Studies and Partnerships is seeking, for the Fall semester 2025-2026:

A PhD student in 2025-2026, interested in a *teaching assistant* position for the introductory lecture course, "Democracy in the Age of Populism", taught in English by professor Yascha MOUNK.

This course is part of the Masters' Common Academic Curriculum.

Course description

Over the past years, so-called "populists" have fundamentally transformed the politics of many democracies, from France to the United States, from Hungary to Argentina, and from Brazil to India. Their remarkable success, combined with their hostility to many longstanding political norms and institutions, has raised serious concerns about the future of the democratic political system. Do populists pose a serious threat to democracy—and, if so, what can be done to stop them?

In this course, we set out to explore this topic—and gain greater clarity about the changes transforming democratic institutions on every continent---with the help of readings drawn from political science, sociology, economics, journalism, and beyond.

Calendar

This course will meet every **Monday from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm**, on the Paris campus, in the Fall semester 2025-2026

Courses will start on Monday, September 1, and end on Monday, December 2, 2025 (Vacation from Monday, October 27 to Sunday, November 3 // Mid-term exams: on Saturdays in October, 11, 18, 25 and November 8 // Final exams: session from December 11 to 17).

Student grades will be submitted by mid-January 2026.

Activities

The teaching assistant' mission, in support of the professor, takes place in Paris, on-campus, and may include the following responsibilities:

- Assisting in the preparation of the course and bibliographic/pedagogical resources;
- Making course materials available to students on the Moodle platform;
- Following up with students by email: answers to questions, bibliographic and methodological advice, reminders of instructions, logistical assistance, etc.;
- Offering collective methodological tutorials, prior to the mid-semester and end-of-semester assessments (4 hours in total);
- Coordinating with the professor the preparation, proctoring, organization and grading of the various assignments and exams.

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This position requires an excellent level of English, as well as the requisite personal qualities (intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, punctuality, availability, ability to listen, analytical clarity, rigor, and a sense of responsibility). Some teaching experience is preferred but not necessary. A good level in French is also appreciated.

Number of hours and compensation

The contractual number of hours is 16 for the semester, with a remuneration set to 65.10 € per hour (pre-tax).

The grading of exams is additionally remunerated, per copy, after the end of the semester. The rate varies depending on the length of the assignment concerned. As part of a contractual teaching service, the compensation for this grading is calculated as 'TD hour equivalent'.

Application

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your application (CV and cover letter, in English) to professor Yascha MOUNK, by **Friday**, **July 11**, **2025**: yascha.mounk@sciencespo.fr (CC) formation.commune@sciencespo.fr