UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
ELECTIVE IV - ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Law

2. Course

LAW

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

ELECTIVE IV - ELECTORAL SYSTEMS (023B4)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

4th

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

2nd Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	30,00
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	
Tutorial Guidance:	20,00

9. ECTS Credits

6,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutor MANUEL FERNANDO DA SILVA MONTEIRO

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

As electoral systems are one of the most relevant parts of Electoral Law, this course aims to highlight the importance of the rules for electing political representatives, demonstrating that their choice is never neutral. The aim is for students to understand the concrete implications of electoral systems, both in the party system in particular and in the political system in general.

15. Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of this course unit are to provide an understanding of the specific characteristics of each electoral system, both in terms of the constitution of constituencies and the conversion of votes into seats. This knowledge will enable students to understand how the affirmation and even the survival of parties can depend on the electoral systems in force in a given political order.

16. Skills to be acquired

This course not only contributes to a solid education in a specific area of constitutional law ? electoral law ? but also equips future law graduates with the skills they need to work in the field of electoral litigation.

17. Teaching Methodology

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The teaching of this course will combine theory with the practical application of each of the electoral systems presented, both at national and international level. It will also be linked to the work carried out by the scientific research project ?International Electoral Observatory? of the Centre for Legal, Economic, International and Environmental Studies (CEJEIA) at Lusíada University.

18. Course Unit Program

1. Concept and legal framework of Electoral Law.
2. Political participation, elections and political representation.
3. The right and duty to vote.
4. Electoral registration.
5. Electoral territory and constituencies.
6. Electoral systems and methods of converting votes into seats.
7. Electoral disputes and electoral offences.

19. Assessment Methods

Continuous assessment will comply with the criteria defined and set out in the Lusíada University Assessment Regulations.

20. Didactic Resources

In addition to the bibliography provided, reference materials will be supplied, namely websites, which contribute to the constant updating of national and international studies on Electoral Systems and Political Representation.

21. Sustainability Objectives

Assuming that sustainable teaching is not limited to simply stating syllabus content, we have defined three main objectives here:

1. Promotion of critical analytical thinking

2. Permanent distinction between simple information and training

3. Training aimed at freely defining options for the future

22. Keywords

Electoral Law, Electoral Systems, Political Representation.

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s):	MIRANDA; Jorge		
Title:	Direito Eleitoral		
Edition:	2ª	Year:	2021
Local:	Coimbra		
Publisher:	Almedina		

Author(s):	CORREIA, José de Matos, PINTO, Ricardo Leite		
Title:	Lições de Ciência Política e Direito Constitucional - Eleições, Referendo, Partidos Políticos e Sist		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	2018
Local:	Lisboa		
Publisher:	Universidade Lusíada		

Author(s):	NOHLEN, Dieter		
Title:	Sistemas Electorales y Partidos Politicos		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	1994
Local:	México		
Publisher:	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México		

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s):	MONTEIRO, Manuel		
Title:	Do Recenseamento Eleitoral em Portugal		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	2012
Local:	Coimbra		
Publisher:	Almedina		

Author(s):	HARE, Thomas		
Title:	A Treatise On The Election Of Representatives Parlamentary And Municipal		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	1859
Local:	London		
Publisher:	Longman, Brown, Green, Longmans, & Roberts		

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Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
Título / Title	Course Unit Program 'OPÇÃO IV - SISTEMAS ELEITORAIS': Academic Year 2025/2026
Autor / Author	Prof. Doutor MANUEL FERNANDO DA SILVA MONTEIRO
Classificação / Classification	-
Descritores / Descriptors	-
Colaborador(es) / Colaborator(s)	-
Data Hora / Date Time	
Formato de dados / Data Format	Texto / Text, PDF
Estatuto de utilização / Usage	Acesso público / Public Access
Relação / Relation	Version 1,0

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