

Course code	ÁKINTV09
Course title	INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMS THINKING
Course head	Péter Koronváry PhD (assoc. prof.)
Programme	International Public Management BA
Faculty	Public Governance and International Studies
Department	Public Management and Information Technology
Term	any
Type	elective
Full-time class/term	28
Full-time lecture/seminar	0/28
Credit	2
Assessment	examination
Objectives	The course offers an introduction into the world of 21st century social systems and systems thinking. It gives an overview of the principles of General Systems Theory and Complexity Theory and their evolution, in relation to the emergence of 21 st century organisation patterns in public and other organisations. Also, short case studies and simulations will help the students understand how to assess opportunities and threats in various organisational contexts and the opportunities of creative and critical methodologies to reach an understanding and solution of present issues of organisation management.
Competences – Knowledge	The student will get acquainted with the most necessary professional concepts and their connections in the field of systemic thinking.
Competences – Capabilities	The student will be able to interpret duties, tasks and procedures arising in the process of public management and apply them as necessary in the decision-making procedure of the public organisation.
Competences – Attitude	Systems theory furthers both critical thinking, decision-making skills and creativity.
Competences – Autonomy and responsibility	Systems thinking helps participants learn how organise their work and that of their co-workers with autonomy, responsibility in line with the expectations of their organisation.
Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions. 2. Rational, pragmatic, systemic – the way towards the coming of modern scientific thinking. 3. The founding fathers. 4. An outline of General Systems Theory. 5. The principles and beyond ... 6. The systems school of management. 7. Other approaches: decision-making, cybernetics ... 8. Chaos theory and the coming of contingency. 9. A system of systems: TSI. 10. TSI organisational analysis. 11. TSI and creativity. 12. TSI and power. 13. Complexity and beyond.

14. Postmodern systems.

Attendance	Two missed occasions are tolerated. Attendance is otherwise obligatory. In case of students exempted for any reason from under attendance, the accomplishment of a successful oral examination from the literature plus the submission of a home assignment in the form of a 15-page article-style essay (following APA7 requirements) before the end of the education weeks is expected IN ADDITION TO the weekly homework requested at class by the lecturer.
Assignments	Course assignment, weekly homework, quick tests. Oral and/or written examination in case coursework FAILS might be offered only if class attendance and participation is acceptable (as defined by the instructor). Following APA7 standards is expected and highly advisable in case of each written task.
Conditions of signature	Attendance plus on-time submission of the home assignments/essays etc. Home assignment topics will be provided by the instructor on a weekly basis.
Marking	<p>Active participation and attendance: max. 28 points. In-class tests, small tasks, homework etc.: 1-5 points each. Own solutions for cases etc.: 1-10 points each.</p> <p>Home assignment: max. 60 points. If a student has collected fewer than 61 points in the course of the education weeks, s/he may request an oral examination (0-20 points) to avoid failing the course.</p> <p>Grades:</p> <p>0-60 points FAIL (F or 1); 61-70 points: PASS (D or 2); 71-80 points: AVERAGE (C or 3); 81-90 points: GOOD (B or 4); 91-100 points: EXCELLENT (A or 5).</p>
Compulsory readings	Gharajedaghi, Jamshid <i>Systems Thinking: Managing Chaos and Complexity</i> (Elsevier 2011) OR Daellenbach, Hans G. -- McNickle <i>Management Science; Decision Making Through Systems Thinking</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2005) Further readings may be provided by the instructor.
Recommended readings	Addison, Herbert J, -- Carey, Andrew <i>Systems Thinking for Curious Managers</i> (Triarchy 2010) Burgess, Mark <i>Thinking in Promises; Designing Systems for Cooperation</i> (O'Reilly 2015) Further readings may be provided by the instructor.