

Academic Year: (2018 / 2019)

Review date: 07-05-2018

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: TORRE FERNANDEZ, MARGARITA

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 3 Semester : 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Research methods in social sciences

OBJECTIVES

After completing this course students will:

1. Know the quantitative and qualitative techniques of particular interest for political analysis and research in empirical political science.
2. Develop the methodological framework applicable to empirical political research

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Elements for design, development and results presentation of a empirical research in political science.
2. The elements of scientific research: research question, theory, hypothesis, measurement, data recollection, data analysis.
3. The methodological problems of causality.
4. Public opinion data and aggregated data.
5. Data analysis, hypothesis testing.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

- Formal lectures and case studies in class, design a project of empirical research in the field of Political Science, individually and in teams, formulation and testing of hypothesis with data analysis; and required and recommended readings.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

- Research project and exercises or case studies: 60%
- Final exam: 40%

% end-of-term-examination: 40

% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): 60

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Brians, C.L.; Willna, L.; Manheim, J.B.; Rich, R.C. Empirical Political Analysis, Pearson, 2011
- Kellstedt, Paul.M & Whitten, Guy. D. The Fundamentals of Political Science Research, Cambridge University Press, 2009
- King, Gary, Robert Keohane & Sidney Verba Designing Social Inquiry, Princeton, 1994
- Schutt, Russell K. Investigating the Social World: The Process and Practice of Research. , Peine Forge Press, 1999

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- King Designing social inquiry: scientific inference in qualitative research, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994
- Marsh, D.; Stoker, G., eds., Theory and Methods in Political Science, Palgrave MacMillan (second edition), 2002

