STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE COMPLETED

Due to the fact that Comparative Sociology is an introductory class, no other class is necessary to enroll in it.

COMPETENCES AND SKILLS THAT WILL BE ACQUIRED AND LEARNING RESULTS.

To acquire knowledge and comprehension to:
- Students will be able to know the main analytical approaches in comparative social science
- Students will be able to know the main objectives of comparative sociology
- Students will be able to know the main dimensions of contemporary societies.
- Students will be able to distinguish between structural, economic, cultural and political approaches.
- Students will be able to identify cross-national differences based on descriptive evidence.
- Students will be able to link theoretical models and socioeconomic and political indicators.

Transferable aims:
- To increase the capacity to deal with abstract concepts.
- To improve the ability to formalize theoretically an economic problem.
- To acquire agility in solving practical problems.
- To foster teamwork ability.
- To be able to perform critical analysis of arguments and theories.
- To improve oral and written communication.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

PART I: CONCEPTUAL INTRODUCTION

Topic 1 - Week 1: What is Sociology?
Wednesday September 6: Lecture: Introduction
Friday September 8: Seminar: What is Sociology?
Compulsory readings:

Topic 2 - Week 2: What is Comparative Sociology?
Wednesday September 13: Lecture: What is Comparative Sociology?
Friday September 15: Seminar: Debate on the ¿sociological imagination¿
Compulsory readings:

Optional readings:
Rezaev, Andrey, Valentin S. Starikov and Natalia D. Tregubova. 2015. ¿Comparative Sociology as an
Inquiry and as a Teaching Discipline: An Attempt of Comparative Analysis, Comparative Sociology, 14, 143-175.

Topic 3 - Week 3: Theoretical Approaches in Sociology and Comparative Sociology
Wednesday September 20: Lecture: Major Theoretical Approaches in Comparative Sociology
Friday September 22: Seminar: Debate on the theoretical approaches of sociology

Compulsory readings:

Optional readings:

Topic 4 - Week 4: The Practice of Sociology
Wednesday September 27: Lecture: Analytical Strategies and Data in Sociology
Friday September 29: Seminar: Research Design in Sociology

Compulsory readings:

Optional readings:

PART II: DEMOGRAPHY AND MIGRATION
Topic 5 - Week 5: Comparative Demography
Wednesday October 4: Lecture: Comparative Demography
Friday October 6: Seminar: Data Sources for the Essays

Compulsory readings:

Optional readings:

Topic 6 - Weeks 6 and 7: International Migration
Wednesday October 11: Lecture: International Migration
Wednesday October 13: Holiday
Wednesday October 18: Mid-term Exam
Friday October 20: Seminar: Figures and Data Analysis

Compulsory readings:

Optional readings:

PART III: CORE SOCIAL DIVIDES
Topic 7 - Week 8: Social Class, Concept and Class Structure
Wednesday October 25: Lecture: Social Class Inequalities
Friday October 27: Seminar: Debate on social class inequalities

Compulsory readings:
Rose, David and Eric Harrison. 2007. ¿The European Socio-Economic Classification: A New Social Class Schema for Comparative European Research¿, European Societies, 9, 459-490.

Topic 8 - Week 9: Race and Ethnicity
Wednesday November 1: Holiday
Friday November 3: Lecture: Race and Ethnicity in US and France

Compulsory readings:

Topic 9 - Week 10: Gender Inequalities
Wednesday November 8: Lecture: Gender Inequalities
Friday November 10: Seminar: Debate on gender inequalities; Introduction to academic writing.

Compulsory reading:

Optional readings:

PART IV: INTEGRATIVE STRUCTURES, CULTURE AND SYMBOLS
Topic 10 - Week 11: Family Structures
Wednesday November 15: Lecture: Comparative Sociology of the Family
Friday November 17: Seminar: Debate on Family Structures

Compulsory readings:

Optional readings:

Topic 11 - Week 12: Social Value Change
Wednesday November 22: Lecture: Social Values in Comparative Perspective
Friday November 24: Seminar: Debate on Social Values
Compulsory reading:

Optional readings:

Topic 12 - Week 13: Education
Wednesday November 29: Lecture: Education Expansion in Comparative Perspective Friday December 1: Seminar: Review

Compulsory reading:

Optional readings:

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY
Lectures:
In the lectures we will discuss the readings and the critical evidence needed to test the main theories.

Reduced lectures:
Each week we will have presentations, debates based on the readings and discussions of the essays. Students will have to participate actively in class.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM
The final exam will represent 60% of the grade. The continuous assessment part will represent 40% of the final grade.

% end-of-term-examination: 60
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): 40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY
- Brady, David Poor People in Rich Countries: How Politics Explain Poverty. , Oxford, 2009
- Immerfall, Stefan and Göran Therborn. Handbook of European Societies. , Springer, 2010
- Sümer, Sevil European Gender Regimes and Policies: Comparative Perspective. , Ashgate, 2011