

Interdisciplinary Seminar II

Academic Year: (2019 / 2020)

Review date: 05-05-2020

Department assigned to the subject: Economics Department, Humanities: Philosophy, Language, Literature Theory

Coordinating teacher: FERREIRA GARCIA, JOSE LUIS

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 2 Semester : 2

OBJECTIVES

Knowledge:

- Understand the application of the scientific method to the social sciences.
- Situate in a logical, coherent framework the topics covered in the Seminar.
- Understand the best arguments in each side on the covered topics.

Capacities:

- Separate facts from opinions and from the valuations of the different policies.
- Apply the scientific method to the social sciences.
- Find the relevant bibliography for the study of a topic.

Attitudes:

- Being able to place in the position of some one that maintains a different opinion or holds different values.
- Learn and find documentation in an autonomous way.
- Use critical reason.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The Seminar has a general content around the idea of "evidence-based policies". After some introductory sessions on the scientific method on the social sciences, we will cover different topics that may change slightly from year to year.

1. The scientific method applied to the social sciences
2. Linguistic policies
3. Education
4. Health
5. Transitional justice and historic memory
6. Democracy and representation
7. Round table

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

The Interdisciplinary Seminar II will meet once a week in sessions lasting one and a half hours. During the course several topics will be covered. Typically, a topic will last for two weeks. The first one will be dedicated to the presentation of the topic, and the second one will include a debate in class. For each topic, several reading material and tasks will be assigned for the students to participate in class. The discussions will be complemented in the forums in Aula Global. Presentations and debates will be conducted in groups, previously formed. Each professor will attend the students in Aula Global and in person during the office hours.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The grade will be based on class and forum participation, on work presentations and papers (two by group) and on a final exam.

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

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- François Grin Diversity as paradigm, analytical device, and policy goal, Oxford University Press, 2003
- ICTJ Report Challenging the Conventional: Can Truth Commissions Effectively Contribute to Peace Processes?, Kofi Annan Foundation , 2013
- John Stuart Mill Considerations on Representative Government, Batoche Books, Reedición: 2001
- José Luis Ferreira Reflexiones acerca de la ciencia, Notas de clase.
- Karl Popper Science: conjectures and refutations, Routledge Classics.
- Mark Stabile and Sarah Thomson The Changing Role of Government in Financing Health Care: An International Perspective. Journal of Economic Literature, American Economic Association, 2014
- OECD Report Education GPS, the World of Education at your Fingertips, OECD Publications, 2015
- Tim Lewens The Meaning of Science, Pelican, 2015