uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Political Regimes: Historic Evolution and Current Forms

Academic Year: (2019 / 2020) Review date: 06-07-2020

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department Coordinating teacher: SANCHEZ-CUENCA RODRIGUEZ, IGNACIO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 1 Semester: 2

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

PART 1. POLITICAL REGIMES IN THE HISTORY OF HUMANITY

- 1. Clan and Tribal Authority. First processes of social segmentation and political centralization: Egypt, Mesopotamia, Mesoamerica, Tahuantinsuyo.
- 2. Tyranny, oligarchy and democracy in Greece. Monarchy, republic, princedom and dominion in Rome.
- 3. The practise of feudalism
- 4. National monarchies of the High Modern Age. Absolutism and its manifestations.
- 5. The first representative systems: England and the United Provinces. Theory and practice of illustrated despotism
- 6. The French and American revolutions. Political positions
- 7. Revolutions in the 19th Century. Liberal and authoritarian regimes.
- 8. Totalitarianisms and parliamentary democracies until World War II
- 9. Political regimes at the time of the Iron Curtain.
- 10. Perestroika and political evolution.

PART 2. CURRENT POLITICAL REGIMES

- 11. Democracies I: Concept of democracy, minimalist and substantive definitions of democracy. Democracy Indexes. Classifying political regimes.
- 12. Democracies II:Governments in parliamentary systems (formation, fall, early elections). Type of cabinets. Presidential systems (clash between le- gislative and executive branches, parliamentarization of presidential systems). Semi-presidentialism.
- 13. Dictatorships: The monarchy. The military regimes. The civil dictatorships (dominant party and personalist dictatorship). The electoral authoritaria- nism.

PART 3. THE DYNAMICS OF POLITICAL REGIMES

- 14. Resources and economy: The legitimacy of political systems. Economy and democracy. La curse of natural resources.
- 15. Transitions to democracy I: Top-bottom transitions. Models of negotiation in transitions to democracy. Liberalization, transition and democratic con-solidation.
- 16. Transitions to democracy II: Revolutionary processes. Collective actions dilemma. Structural and subjective explanations to revolts.

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