Social and political theory

Academic Year: (2020 / 2021) **Review date: 10-05-2017**

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: DIEZ MEDRANO, JUAN

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : Semester :

OBJECTIVES

Ability to solve problems, through both analysis and synthesis. Development of team work skills and of the skills for both oral and written expression. Improvement of critical reasoning skills and development of a commitment to upholding ethical standards. Development of the motivation to accomplish high quality work.
This course provides students with tools to learn classic sociological theory, including its major schools. It also stresses the teaching of major concepts in classical approaches to sociology, when they refer to human society. It also develops the necessary skills to identify problems and different sociological perspectives.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

This module covers the work of the founding "fathers" of sociological theory. It discusses the most influential sociologists in the mid-19th-early 20th century period, in a way that emphasizes those conceptual and analytical contributions that remain relevant today. To demonstrate this relevance, the module refers to contemporary texts that update the work of the founders of sociology as a discipline. The module includes Tocqueville, Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and Simmel.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

It will be developed through:
Theoretical classes (2 credits ECTS) for the adquisition of skills related to learning social theory and its main schools.
Practical classes (2 credits ECTS) that include practical tasks and individual activities: searching for references at the library, oral presentations, and other practices; All these tasks are oriented to the adquisition of skills directly related to the modlue that is taught, in particular, the capacity to identify problems and sociological perspectives, as well as the ability to utilize conceptual tools from classical theorists.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The evaluation will be based on the student's work during the course, which will count for 40% of the final grade, and on a final exam at the end of the quatrimester, which will count for 60% of the final grade.

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

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alexis de Tocqueville The Old Regime and the FrenchRevolution, University of Chicago Press.
- Antonio Gramsci Selections from the Prison Notebooks, International Publishers.
- Emile Durkheim The Division of Labor in Society, Free Press.
- Emile Durkheim The Elementary Forms of Religious Life, Free Press.
- Karl Marx The Marx-Engels Reader, Norton.
- Max Weber The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, Penguin Books.
- Max Weber From Max Weber, Oxford University Press.
- Michel Foucault Discipline and Punish, Vintage Books.

- Simone de Beauvoir The Second Sex, Vintage.