

Academic Year: (2020 / 2021)

Review date: 16-07-2020

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: ROCH GONZALEZ, JUAN

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : Semester :

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Non specific one.

OBJECTIVES**BASIC COMPETENCES**

CB1 Be able to show that they possess and comprehend facts and contents in an area of study which, based on a previous general secondary school level, have been extended to those included in advanced textbooks and in some aspects proceed from the most advanced studies in this area.

CB2 Be able to show that they have learned how to apply their knowledge professionally to their future jobs or tasks and that they possess the competences needed to develop and defend arguments and solve problems in that area of study.

CB3 Be able to show that they are capable of collecting and interpreting the relevant data (normally within their area of study) needed for formulating judgments which require critical thought on social, scientific and ethical topics of relevance.

CB4 Be able to show that they are able to transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions both to specialized and non-specialized publics.

CB5 Be able to show that they have developed the learning skills required to perform further studies with a high degree of self-dependence.

GENERAL COMPETENCES

CG1 Understand social, political, legal and economic realities from a comparative perspective.

CG2 Be able to approximate and analyze the intrinsic values contained in equal opportunities, multi-cultural society, political ideological and cultural pluralism, human rights, and the international community.

CG3 Know quantitative and qualitative research techniques and possess the ability to choose which is most adequate to apply in the field of Social Sciences.

CG4 Be able to manage information: identify, organize and analyze relevant information critically and systematically within the context of international relations.

CG6 Be able to apply scientific method to the economic, social and political questions of a global society; be able to formulate problems in this context, identify a possible explication or solution, and a method to contrast them by sensibly interpreting the data.

OVERLAPPING COMPETENCES

CT1 Acquire the capacity to communicate knowledge in oral and written form, both to specialized and to non-specialized publics.

CT2 Acquire the capacity to establish good interpersonal communication and to work both in interdisciplinary and international teams.

CT3 Acquire the capacity to organize and plan workloads, taking correct decisions based on the available information, collecting and interpreting relevant data in order to provide assessments in that area of study.

CT4 Develop the motivation and capacity to perform independent continuous learning for life, with an endowment to adapt to change and new situations.

SPECIFIC COMPETENCES

CE1 Be familiar with the principal political and social theories. Be capable of analyzing and comparing contemporary policies.

CE2 Be familiar with and understand the processes of political, social, economic and cultural change in society and contemporary policy.

CE6 Understand the socio-political impact of empires, religions and cultures in historical perspective.

CE7 Understand the main dynamics which generate inequality and its consequences, and comprehend

the principles on which equal opportunity policies are based.

CE9 Be familiar with and comprehend the relevance of technological change for economic and social development.

CE10 Be able to discern the differentiating elements in international problems in accordance to the development stages of a country.

CE11 Be able to critically relate present and past events and processes.

CE12 Be able to formulate and solve basic economic, social, political problems in an international context.

CE16 Be able to carry out case studies and apply comparative method to analyze institutions, processes and policies in different countries.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester the student is expected to critically analyze the main environmental challenges in relation to political and social actors and processes and engage with the following questions: What are the main causes and political processes involved in environmental problems? How the main international actors respond to these challenges use and what are some of the ways forward? How are environmental issues related to other problems such as inequality, security, or economic development?

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

I Triggers and political processes and actors:

- Political and social processes and causes.
- State and non-state actors
- Transnational actors and movements in environmental politics
- Economic development, social inequality and environmental challenges.

II: Unpacking Important Themes in Global Environmental Politics

- Climate change
- The loss of biodiversity
- Delving into resources exploitation and waste
- Food supply and water

III: Global and local change: Ways forward

- The role of China in international environmental politics
- International regimes and their limits.
- Consumerism, life style and new movements
- The green new deal and the role of technology

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

The course will provide the theoretical and empirical foundations for understanding the major environmental challenges facing humanity. The lectures and seminars are designed to be very dynamic and the active participation of students is encouraged. The tasks that students will undertake range from short quizzes or questions in class; the presentation and discussion of texts; the identification of problems, causes, effects, consequences and impact of policies; and the proposal and defense of political positions.

Students will be expected to read all assigned readings and prepare for class discussions. Discussion groups will be an important part of the course and their final grade. This is a practical course and attendance at all lectures, seminars and discussions is expected.

There will be office hours every week although it is recommended to confirm them with the professor via email.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The final grade will be determined by two elements. All in-class assignments and the presentation will determine 60% of the final grade. The final exam will determine 40% of the final grade.

To successfully complete the course, students are expected to:

- Reading the required texts.
- Participating actively in the Seminar sessions (15% of the overall grade).
- Presenting and/or leading a discussion on the basis of one or several texts.

This assignment will be 25% of the final grade

- Additionally, students have to submit a paper or essay. Each essay has to be coauthored by two students and represents the 20% of the overall grade.

- There will be a final exam to complete the evaluation of the course. It will amount to 40% of the overall grade.

% end-of-term-examination: 40

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

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Jeffrey Sachs The Age of Sustainable Development , Columbia University Press, 2015
- Kate O'Neill the Environment and International Relations. , Cambridge University Press, 2017
- Pamela S. Chasek Global Environmental Politics, Routledge, 2016
- Simon Nicholson and Sikina Jinnah New Earth Politics: Essays from the Anthropocene, MIT Press, 2016

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Axelrod, Regina S., Leonard Downie, David and J. Vig, Norman The global environment: institutions, law and policy, CQ Press, 2014
- Sosa-Nunez, G. y Atkins, Ed Environment, Climate Change and International Relations, E-International Relations Publishing, 2016