

Topics in Comparative Politics

Academic Year: (2020 / 2021)

Review date: 10-07-2020

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: LAVEZZOLO PEREZ, SEBASTIAN

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 4 Semester : 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Comparative Politics I

OBJECTIVES

Skills related to the development of analytical and critical thinking.
 Communication skills and writing skills in carrying out work, case studies and exams.
 Public speaking and presentation skills.
 Interpersonal skills such as the ability to work in teams or use of the technique of role play.
 Theoretical and practical knowledge concerning different dimensions of today's political systems.
 Ability to link theoretical debates in comparative politics with an analysis of one, several or many cases -whether these political systems or parts thereof-.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Introduction: theories and facts in comparative politics.
2. Comparing and contrasting forms of government and state in Western Europe.
3. Presidentialism in the Americas.
4. Post-communism and institutional design.
5. Dependence, economic development and democracy.
6. Social revolution, class struggle, energy and neo-authoritarianisms.
7. Ethnic conflict.
8. Political institutions and economic performance.
9. Democracy and socioeconomic inequalities.
10. The Arab world.
11. China and liberal democracy.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Lectures given by the teacher and activities done by students who will test the knowledge acquired and develop their skills.

The training activities aim to involve students in the learning process. To this end, the teacher will provide basic knowledge and tools needed to strengthen their analytical ability and encourage their critical spirit. In this regard, the reading of selected materials and essays written by students will be fundamental. Likewise, the professor will encourage discussions on current topics, presentations and role play so that students expand their communication and interpersonal skills. This will be complemented by screenings of documentaries / films relating to any matter relevant to the subject. This latter is intended to capture students' interest on issues that sometimes may seem too abstract, without a clear empirical referent.

6 ECTS credits, 150 hours approximately.

Lectures and other activities in class: 42 hours

Study of the subject by the student: 50 hours

Preparation of presentations and essays by students: 48 hours Make-up classes, office hours, hand-in of papers, etc.: 8 hours

Exam: 2 hours

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Practicals	40%
Class participation	10%
Final exam	50%

% end-of-term-examination:	50
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	50

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Boix, C. y S.C. Stokes (eds.) The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics, Oxford University Press. 2007..
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- Chávarri, Sidera, P. e I. Delgado Sotillos (coords.) Sistemas políticos contemporáneos, UNED. 2013.
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- Colomer, J.M. (ed.) Comparative European Politics, 3ª ed., Routledge. 2008..
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- Kesselman, M. Readings in Comparative Politics., Cengage Learning. 2009..
- Kesselman, Mark, Joel Krieger y William A. Joseph (eds.) Introduction to Comparative Politics, 7ª ed., Houghton Mifflin. 2015..
- O'Neil, P. H., K. Fields y D. Share Cases in Comparative Politics, 4ª ed., W.W. Norton & Company. 2012..
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- Sodaro, M. Comparative Politics. A Global Introduction. , McGraw Hill Higher Education. 2007.
- Zhang, Y. Pacific Asia. The Politics of Development., Routledge. 2003..

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Goodin, R.E. y H-D. Klingemann (eds.) Nuevo Manual de Ciencia Política, 2 vols., Istmo. 2001..
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- Lijphart, A. Modelos de democracia, Ariel. 2000..
- Martín Muñoz, G. El Estado árabe, Bellaterra. 1999..
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- Taibo, C. Las transiciones en la Europa Central y Oriental: ¿Copias en papel carbón?, Catarata. 1998..
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