

Electoral analysis

Academic Year: (2021 / 2022)

Review date: 26-11-2021

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: ORRIOLS GALVE, LLUIS

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 3 Semester : 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Political actors
Political behaviour

OBJECTIVES

The lectures pursue the following aims:

- The main theories and approaches to political representation.
- The different pieces of electoral systems from a theoretical and applied perspective ; The functioning and political effects of electoral systems.
- The main theories of electoral behavior and the factors that influence voting behavior.
- The relation between the determinants of electoral behavior and theories of democracy and representation.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Democratic theory and political representation: elections as an instrument of political representation
2. The electoral systems: the principle of representation and elements, types of electoral systems and their effects
3. Models of electoral behavior analysis
4. Determinants of electoral behavior: socio-economic position, identities and values, contextual factors
5. Research methods in electoral behaviour

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

In lecture sessions the teacher will explain the main foundations of each unit. Some resources could be assigned to students in order to prepare the course. Work in seminar sessions will deal with comparing and analyzing cases suggested by the lecturer. Some sessions will be developed in the computing laboratories. The lecturer will suggest the resources and references to be used by the students prior to each seminar sesión. Those resources will be written both in Spanish and English.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Final exam: 60% of the final grade. The reading materials will be part of the content for the exam. Students will have to obtain at least a score of 5 in the final exam in order to pass the course.

Essays and case studies / research paper: 40% of the final grade. Students will have to obtain at least a score of 5 on average in the continuous assessments in order to pass the course.

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

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Arzheimer, K., Evans, J. & Lewis-Beck, M. The SAGE Handbook of Electoral Behaviour, SAGE, 2017
- Bermeo, N. and L. Bartels Mass politics in tough times, Oxford University Press , 2014
- Campbell, A., Converse, P. E., Miller, W. E., & Stokes, D. E. The American voter, Wiley, 1960
- Farrell, David M Electoral Systems: A Comparative Introduction. , St Martin's, 2001
- Gallagher, Michael, and Paul Mitchell, eds The Politics of Electoral Systems. , Oxford University Press, 2005

- Penades, A. & J. M. Pavía La reforma electoral perfecta, Catarata, 2016
- Pitkin, H. El concepto de representación, Centro de Estudios Políticos y Constitucionales, 1986
- Przeworski, A. Qué esperar de la democracia. Límites y posibilidades del autogobierno, Siglo Veintiuno Editores, , 2010
- Przeworski, A., S. C. Stokes and B. Manin Democracy, Accountability, and Representation, Cambridge University Press, 1999
- Russel J. Dalton and Hans-Dieter Klingeman (Eds) The Oxford Handbook of Political Behavior, Oxford University Press, 2009
- Taagepera, R. y M. S. Shugart Seats and Votes. The Effects of Electoral Systems, Yale University Press, 1989