# uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

# Bachelor Thesis (International Studies)

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 24-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department Coordinating teacher: VILLAMIL FERNANDEZ, FRANCISCO

Type: Bachelor Thesis ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 5 Semester:

## REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

In order to apply for registering in the Bachelor Thesis, students must be registered in all remaining courses that they need to pass to complete their Bachelor studies.

To submit and defend the Bachelor Thesis, students must have passed all required courses included in the Study Plan. As an exception, they can have only one course still to pass as a maximum.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

#### **BASIC AND GENERAL COMPETENCES**

- -Understand social, political, legal and economic realities from a comparative perspective
- Know quantitative and qualitative research techniques and possess the ability to choose which is most adequate to apply in the field of Social Sciences
- Be able to debate and formulate critical reasoning, using precise terminology and specialized resources, when analyzing international and global phenomena, employing both the concepts and knowledge from different disciplines as well as the methods of analysis, paradigms and concepts pertaining to the Social Sciences
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Be able to show that they are able to transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions both to specialized and non-specialized publics
- Be able to show that they have developed the learning skills required to perform further studies with a high degree of self-dependence

## **OVERLAPPING COMPETENCES**

- Acquire the capacity to communicate knowledge in oral and written form, both to specialized and to nonspecialized publics.
- Acquire the capacity to establish good interpersonal communication and to work both in interdisciplinary and international teams.
- 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.

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

# SPECIFIC COMPETENCES

- Be able
- stages of
- Be able
- Be able
- Be able

services.

- Be able

policies in different countries.

to discern the differentiating elements in international problems in accordance to the development a country. to critically relate present and past events and processes.

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

to design and evaluate programs to improve the management and quality of public and private to carry out case studies and apply comparative method to analyze institutions, processes and

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Ability to analyze, from a pluridisciplinary perspective, the principal aspects of international relations on different levels: aggregate (states, societies and economies), individual, and collectives (organizations, firms, interest groups). Capacity to recognize and contrast key facts, processes and historical factors and to determine the relationships between the political, social and economic aspects in the societies under study.
- Capacity to elaborate with clear and well-reasoned arguments the connections between the different disciplines within established theoretical frameworks.
- Capacity to determined, contrast and analyze the social, economic and political determinants of structures and developments in an international environment, and to reflect about

#### **DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME**

The objective of the Bachelor Thesis is to allow students to carry out a research project in International Studies. For that purpose, students will apply the scientific methodology learned during their Bachelor studies. In order to write a Thesis, students will first choose a topic of their interest, then they will identify a research problem that can be approached on the base of one or different questions.

In the Thesis, students will offer answers based on a logic reasoning and using the analytical methods learned during their Bachelor studies.

- -Length: 8.000 (optimal)-10.000 words. Longer thesis must be approved. -Style: Times New Roman, size 12
- -Margins: By default
- -Line Spacing: 1.5
- -Graphs & Tables: Original, only included in the main text if necessary
- -Appendix: Tables, graphs, etc. providing supplementary information about the research.

Do not include essential information here to save space.

- -References: Harvard citation style
- -Cover page: Containing Name, Last Name, Title of the Thesis, Advisor, Department, Topic in which the project is included or if it is a specific thesis, Degree -for which the project is for, date and academic year. An official sample is also available at Biblioteca UC3M
- -File format: Thesis must be handed in through Aula Global and checked for plagiarism by Turnitin. Therefore, MSWord.docx or Adobe.pdf will be fine

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

All the activity will take place during the official dates of the semester in which the student is being enrolled in the course.

Any further activity or assistance by the advisor will be on his/her own.

Office hours: Individual or group sessions, so the advisor will employ 5 hours attending each student's needs. Individual research task. The student will develop the competences and skills acquired along the degree and will apply his/her knowledge into the task of developing a research project in the field of International Studies and, in case of a double degree, Economics, Politics, Business or Law areas, presenting as a result a written manuscript. Student load work: 150h.

Advisor's guidance and attendance:

The advisor will attend and guide the student in the research process, making suggestions and comments that will help the student to understand, manage, and solve the challenges presented along the process.

The office hours could take place either physically or by any remote platform, both would agree on.

#### ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

There are two submission periods for the TFG. In the first call both the submission of the TFG and its public defense will be in June, and in the second call the Final Degree Project will be submitted in July and its public defense will be in September. Students must choose between one of these two calls and only those students who have passed 85% of the ECTS credits of their degree can defend the Final Degree Project.

Those students who have enrolled in the course and do not meet this requirement at the end of the academic year may waive the call, and must submit the Final Degree Project in the following academic year or, if applicable, in the next submission period corresponding to their degree. In this regard, there is an early call, to which certain students who meet certain requirements may apply, to carry out the Final Degree Project during the first four-month period, the evaluation of which takes place in February.

The final grade of the Final Degree Project will be the result of combining in a weighted way the evaluation given by the tutor with the final evaluation carried out by an evaluation panel. The percentage weight of each of them is as follows:

Tutor's grade: 30%.

Evaluation by the examining board: 70%.

In due time, students will be able to consult the evaluation matrix in which the competences established for this subject and the way to evaluate the level of acquisition of each one of them will be identified.

# **BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Bell, Judith Cómo hacer tu primer trabajo de investigación, Gedisa, 2002.
- Brandy, H. E. and Collier, D. (eds.) Rethinking Social Inquiry. Diverse Tools, Shared Standards., Rowman&Littlefield Publishers, 2004.
- Corbetta, P. Social Research. Theory, Methods, and Techniques., Sage, 2003.
- García Picazo, P. La investigación del medio internacional., Tecnos, 2012.
- King, G., Keohane, R. O., and Verba, S. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research, Princeton University Press., 1994.