

Geopolitics of Spain and its neighbouring areas

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 21-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Humanities: History, Geography and Art Department

Coordinating teacher: GARCIA ALVAREZ, ANTONIO JACOBO

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 1 Semester : 2

OBJECTIVES

- To know the most important geopolitical and geostrategic elements and themes of Spain and its neighboring regions.
- To interrelate and synoptically understand the different geopolitical and geostrategic elements and specific phenomena of Spain and its surrounding areas.
- To apply theories and methodologies of regional analysis of a general or systematic nature to the understanding of particular regional spaces and dynamics.
- To place and relate the particular geopolitical and geostrategic regional dynamics of Spain and its neighbouring areas with other world regions and, more broadly, with the global geopolitical architecture.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

PART I: INTRODUCTION TO GEOPOLITICAL ANALYSIS OF SPAIN

LESSON 1. Geographical and geopolitical characterization of the Spanish State.

PART II: INTERNAL GEOPOLITICS OF THE SPANISH STATE

LESSON 2. The making of Spain's political map. A geohistorical synthesis.

LESSON 3. Organization and functioning of the 'State of Autonomies'.

LESSON 4. Main tensions and internal geopolitical conflicts

LESSON 5. The Spanish borders and boundaries: delimitation and conflicts.

PART III: FOREIGN GEOPOLITICS AND GEOSTRATEGY. A REGIONAL APPROACH

LESSON 6. Spain in international geopolitics: strengths, weaknesses and main interests. Spanish presence abroad.

LESSON 7. The Transatlantic dimension. Spain in the NATO.

LESSON 8. The European dimension. Spain in the EU and in the OSCE.

LESSON 9. Mediterranean dimension and relationships with Africa and the Arab world.

LESSON 10. Relations with Ibero-America and other geopolitical regions.

PART IV: GEOPOLITICAL THREATS, RISKS AND CHALLENGES

LESSON 11. Threats and risks to national security. General overview and case analysis.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Learning Activities

- Theoretical classes
- Theoretical and practical classes
- Tutorials
- Group work
- Student's individual work
- Final evaluation paper.

Teaching Methodologies

- Classroom lectures by the teacher with the support of computer and audiovisual media, in which the main concepts of the subject are developed and the bibliography is provided to complement the students' learning.
- Critical reading of texts recommended by the teacher of the subject: press articles, reports, manuals and/or academic articles, either for their later discussion in class, or to extend and consolidate the knowledge of the subject.

- Solving practical cases, problems, etc. raised by the teacher individually or in groups.
- Presentation and discussion in class, under the moderation of the teacher, of topics related to the content of the subject, as well as practical cases.
- Preparation of papers and reports, individually or in groups.

Tutorials will be carried out through the procedures established by the university.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Ordinary call:

The assessment system in the ordinary call will take into account the following criteria:

- Classroom attendance and participation: 20 % of the course grade.
- Continuous assessment assignments: 30% of the course grade
- Term paper: 50% of the course grade.

Extraordinary call: In order to pass the course in the extraordinary call, students must take and pass an exam related to the subject contents.

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

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- BALLESTEROS, M.A. En busca de una estrategia de seguridad nacional, Ministerio de Defensa, 2016
- BALLESTEROS, M.A. Yihadismo, La Huerta Grande, 2016
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- GARCÍA ÁLVAREZ, J. Provincias, Regiones y Comunidades Autónomas: la formación del mapa político de España, Secretaría General del Senado, 2002
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- PEREIRA, J.C., coord. La política exterior de España (1800-2003): historia, condicionantes y escenarios, Ariel, 2003
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