

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 26-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: GARCIA ALBACETE, GEMA MARIA

Type: Basic Core ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 2 Semester : 2

Branch of knowledge: Social Sciences and Law

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

None

OBJECTIVES

Be able to analyze social and political phenomena following the scientific method, using a critical approach, and recognizing the plurality of theoretical-methodological perspectives of the fields and subdisciplines linked to Political Science.

Acknowledging the complexity of the political game and the variety of actors and factors that affect the political process. Analyze the behavior of political actors, processes of political participation and the role of citizens in contemporary democracies.

Recognize the components of electoral systems and interpret the way in which the electoral processes develop. Understand and compare the different paradigms that studied electoral behavior in their specific historical context. The course consists of two parts: lectures, where the main theoretical contents will be taught, and practical sessions, with a seminar format, for which the active participation of students is essential. All the students must read the compulsory texts to attend both the lectures and the seminars. During seminars, each week few students will present on a specific topic. For this, a discussion of the assigned readings should be prepared referring always to concrete examples and concrete application of the readings.

Students should learn how to transfer the knowledge and skills acquired to face practical problems in the different areas in which professional opportunities are specified. Being able to communicate, defend, and refute arguments on the most relevant issues in Political Science, both orally and in writing.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. The role of citizens and political participation in contemporary democracies
2. Methodological issues in the analysis of political behaviour
3. Theoretical models of electoral behaviour
4. Electoral participation
5. Voting: socio-demographic factors, institutional context
6. Spatial models of voting
7. Voting and electoral systems: strategic voting
8. Protest: explanations at the individual level
9. Protest: institutional and contextual explanations

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

AF1. THEORETICAL-PRACTICAL CLASSES. In these classes the knowledge to be acquired by the students will be presented. They will receive the class notes and will have basic reference texts to facilitate the follow-up of the classes and the development of the subsequent work. Exercises and practical problems will be solved by the student and workshops and evaluation tests will be carried out to acquire the necessary skills.

AF2. TUTORIALS. Individualized assistance (individual tutorials) or in group (collective tutorials) to the students by the professor.

AF3. INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP WORK OF THE STUDENT.

MD1. THEORY CLASS. Class lectures by the professor with the support of computer and audiovisual media, in which the main concepts of the subject are developed and materials and bibliography are provided to complement the students' learning.

MD2. PRACTICES. Resolution of practical cases, problems, etc. posed by the teacher individually or in groups.

MD3. TUTORIALS. Individualized assistance (individual tutorials) or group (group tutorials) to students by the professor.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

SE1. FINAL EXAM. The exam evaluates the global adquisition of knowledge, abilities and capabilities during the course.

SE2. CONTINUOUS EVALUATION. It will take into account the exercises, presentations, participation in debates, and other activities during the course.

Extraordinary exam. SE1: The exam evaluates the global adquisition of knowledge, abilities and capabilities during the course.

% end-of-term-examination: 60

% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): 40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- A. Ware Partidos Políticos y Sistemas de Partidos, Istmo, 2004

- J. La Palombara and M. Weiner (eds) Political Parties and Political Development, Princeton University Press, 1966

- J. van Deth, A. Westholm and J.R. Montero Citizenship and Involvement in European Democracies: A Comparative Analysis, Routledge, 2007

- Martin Barret and Bruna Zani Political and Civic Engagement. Multidisciplinary Perspectives, Routledge, 2015

- P. Mair (ed) The West European Party System, Oxford University Press, 1990

- R.S. Katz and W. Crotty (eds) Handbook of Party Politics, Sage, 2006

- Russell J. Dalton and Hans-Dieter Klingemann (eds) The Oxford Handbook of Political Behavior, Oxford University Press, 2009