# uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

# **Contemporary History**

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 20-04-2023

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

Coordinating teacher: RIBAGORDA ESTEBAN, ALVARO

Type: Basic Core ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 1 Semester: 1

Branch of knowledge: Social Sciences and Law

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

Contemporary history (high school)

#### **OBJECTIVES**

Contemporary history is the basis from which to begin the studies of political science and sociology, by providing a series of concepts in development, and allowing analysis of recent historical processes that allow us to approach the knowledge of current political organizations and societies.

The formation of the student in History not only is focused in the acquisition of certain knowledge; also it is necessary this study because the student acquires intellectual habits as they are the critic and synthesis capacity. These capacities are essential to understand and to interpret the past in general and, particularly, the social, political, economic and cultural behaviours of the different social groups.

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

- 1. The crisis of the Ancient Regime and the Industrial Revolution
- 2. The Atlantic Revolutions
- 3. Liberalism and nationalism in the 19th century
- 4. The social movements
- 5. The era of progress
- 6. Colonial empires
- 7. The 1st World War
- 8. The Soviet Revolution
- 9. The crisis of liberalism and fascism
- 10. 1929's crack and the Great Depression
- 11. German collapse and Nazism
- 12. The 2nd World War
- 13. Cold War and the bipolar world
- 14. Decolonization in Asia and Africa. Latin America
- 15. Neoliberalism and fall of communist
- 16. Globalization and 21st century crises

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

In the master classes the students will approach the basic knowledge of contemporary history, considering historiographic debates, general reflections, and in-depth analysis of the most significant processes. In the practical part, the teacher will provide period documents: texts, works of art, posters, photographs, documentaries, etc. along with other materials such as readings, news, films or debates, through which students will carry out various written or oral practices, inside and outside the classroom, through which the in-depth study of processes and especially relevant aspects of the recent history, and deepen in different topics of interest for the knowledge of the past, and its relation to the political, social, economic and cultural phenomena of the present. The realization of the practices will require various readings and analysis exercises to delve into the proposed topics. Sometimes master classes and practices will be combined, when it is especially convenient.

In some of the practical classes, various readings and sources will be provided on the topics studied, which will be compulsory reading for everyone, and some students may also be commissioned to prepare an analysis of them for their presentation in class and subsequent general debate.

Students will have two hours of weekly, individual or group tutoring.

## ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

-Final exam: 60% of the final mark

-Student work and practices: 40% of the final mark

To prove sufficient development, student must obtain a qualification equal to or greater than 4 in the final exam of the subject.

In the extraordinary examination convocatory If the student followed the continuous assessment process, the extraordinary exam will have the same percentage value as in the ordinary exam, and the final grade for the subject will take into account the continuous assessment grade and the grade obtained in the final exam. If the student did not follow or did not pass the continuous assessment process, student will have the right to take an exam in the extraordinary call with a value of 100% of the total grade for the subject. Even if the student had followed the continuous evaluation process, they will have the right to be qualified in the extraordinary call, taking into account only the grade obtained in the final exam when it is most favorable to them.

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

#### **BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- BLANNING, C. W. (Ed.) The Oxford History of Modern Europe, Oxford Univ. Press, 2000
- EVANS, Richard J. The pursuit of power 1815-1914, Penguin, 2017
- HOBSBAWM, Eric The Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century 1914-1991., Penguin, 1994

## ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- VOUILLARD, Eric El orden del día, Tusquets, 2020
- ZWEIG, Stefan The world of yesterday. Memoirs of an European, Pushkin, 2011