Political and social history

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 28-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: ARTOLA BLANCO, MIGUEL Type: Basic Core ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 1 Semester : 2

Branch of knowledge: Social Sciences and Law

OBJECTIVES

• Applied knowledge to understand the transformation of society and long-term rules of social convention and cohabitation. Understand how sovereignty, rights and freedoms, ideologies, and beliefs change over time, and understand the role of large social movements.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

- 1. The origins of the modern state and the formation of the system of States in the Modern Age.
- 2. Formation of Nation-States, nationalisms and first empiralisms.

3. Revolutions, new elites and social change in the 19th century: The French Revolution, American Independence, the new social and political regime and the rise of the Bourgeoisie.

- 4. Urbanization, industrialization, capitalism, worker movements and the extension of suffrage.
- 5. The Modern State, secularization and the modern world.
- 6. Professionalization of bureaucracy, transnational movements, progressive ideology, and political and military rivalry.
- 7. Wars and the weakness of the international political system during the interwar period.
- 8. The Russian Revolution, the crisis of capitalism during the Great Depression and the rise of fascism.
- 9. New world order, cold war, and the strengthening of the Welfare State.
- 10. Decolonization.
- 11. Structural and social change.
- 12. The world after the fall of the socialist block: political challenges of globalization.
- 13. Global society and the clash of civilizations.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills through lectures, the handing of the work assigned by the teachers and its discussion in class. Skills and attitudes will be enhanced by the individual and teamwork performed by the students and their discussion in class.

The course is designed in two tiers: one will provide the basic understanding of the main historical events that have shaped the modern world and the second will analyse specific topics. The first part will be based on lectures which summarize and extend basic readings. In the second tier, students shall present briefings and discuss on specific historical problems based on in-depth readings. Students will form groups of three to work during these weekly seminars. Before each session, each group will read and discuss jointly the readings, answer the questions and, at least in one occasion, prepare an oral presentation of 20 minutes. Furthermore, in the midterm, students will individually write a 2,000-word essay on a controversial historical topic.

A solid command of written and oral English is essential. The ability to read and process up to sixty pages of academic literature per week is taken for granted.

In the last week, there will be at least one tutorial of the course in which the student will have the chance to clarify doubts about the main concepts and key historical events discussed in the lectures, as well as doubts about assessment and the schedule of the course.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The final exam will represent a maximum 30 per cent of the final mark. To pass the course a minimum mark in the final exam might be established.

The marks from the continuous assessment constitute the other 70 per cent of the final mark. Student

group work on seminars will constitute 45 per cent of this part, split between 35 per cent for the written answers to the readings, and 10 per cent for the oral presentation. The remaining 25 per cent will be assessed on the individual essay.

In the extraordinary call, students will be able to choose between the previous evaluation system or another in which the exam counts 100% of the final grade.

% end-of-term-examination:	30
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals):	70

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bayly, C.A. The Birth of the Modern World, Blackwell, 2004
- Hobsbawm, Eric The Age of Revolution, 1789-1848, Vintage Books, 1996
- Hobsbawm, Eric The Age of Empire, 1875-1914, Vintage Books, 1989
- Hobsbawm, Eric The Age of Capital, 1848-1875, Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 1975
- Hobsbawm, Eric The Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century, 1914; 1991, Vintage Books, 1994
- Judt, Tony Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945, Penguin Books, 2006
- Mazower, Mark Dark Continent: Europe's 20th Century, Knopf, 1998
- Osterhammel, Jürgen / Pettersson, Niels P. Globalization: A Short History, Princeton University Press, 2009
- Peter Stearns World History in Documents: A Comparative Reader, NYU Press, 2008

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bartov, E. (ed.) The Holocaust: Origins, Implementation, Aftermath, Routledge, 2000
- Beevor, A The Second World War, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2012
- Ferguson The pity of war, Penguin, 1998
- Ferguson, N. Empire : How Britain made the modern world, Allen Lane, 2003
- Fisk, R. The great war for civilisation : the conquest of the Middle East, Vintage Books, 2007
- Fitzpatrick, S The Russian Revolution 1917-1932, Oxford University Press, 1984
- Fulbrook, M. Europe since 1945, Oxford University Press, 2001
- Gaddis, John Lewis The Cold War, Allen Lane, 2005
- Grimal, H. Decolonization: The British, French, Dutch, and Belgian Empires, 1919-1963, Westview Press, 1978
- Halperín Donghi, Tulio The Contemporary History of Latin America, Duke University Press, 1993
- Hobsbawm, E.J. Nations and nationalism since 1780: programme, myth, reality, Cambridge University Press, 1990
- Kitchen, Martin Europe between the wars, Pearson Longman, 2006
- Kocka. J Bourgeois society in nineteenth-century Europe, Berg, 1993
- Lewin, M The Soviet Century, Verso, 2005
- McCauley, Martin Origins of the Cold War 1941; 1949, Routledge, 2021
- Overy, R The interwar crisis 1919-1939, Longman, 2007
- Pipes, R The Russian Revolution, Knopf, 1990
- Prashad. V The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World, The New Press, 2008
- Saunders, F.S. The Cultural Cold War: The CIA and the World of Arts and Letters, The New Press, 2001
- Thompson, E.P. The making of the English working class., Pantheon Books, 1964
- Weber, E. Peasants into Frenchmen : the modernization of rural France, 1870-1914 , Chatto & Windus, 1979

- Zubok, V.M. A Failed Empire: The Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev, University of North Carolina Press, 2007