uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Topics in international politics

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 02-05-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: HIDALGO TRENADO, MANUEL

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 3 Semester: 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Comparative Politics, World Politics, Statistics for Social Sciences, Multidisciplinary Research Design in Social Sciences.

OBJECTIVES

BASIC AND GENERAL COMPETENCES

- CG1 Understand social, political, legal and economic realities from a comparative perspective.
- CG3 Know quantitative and qualitative research techniques and possess the ability to choose which is most adequate to apply in the field of Social Sciences.
- CG5 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.
- CG6 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.
- CB1 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.
- CB2 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.
- CB3 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.
- CB4 Be able to show that they are able to transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions both to specialized and non-specialized publics.
- CB5 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

- CT1 Acquire the capacity to communicate knowledge in oral and written form, both to specialized and to non-specialized publics.
- CT2 Acquire the capacity to establish good interpersonal communication and to work both in interdisciplinary and international teams.
- CT3 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.
- CT4 Develop the motivation and capacity to perform independent continuous learning for life, with an endowment to adapt to change and new situations.

SPECIFIC COMPETENCES

- CE10 Be able to discern the differentiating elements in international problems in accordance to the development stages of a country.
- CE11 Be able to critically relate present and past events and processes.
- CE12 Be able to formulate and solve basic economic, social, political problems in an international context.

CE15 - Be able to design and evaluate programs to improve the management and quality of public and private services.

CE16 - Be able to carry out case studies and apply comparative method to analyze institutions, processes and policies in different countries.

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

This is an advanced class on international politics in which several topics with practical examples will be presented, discussed and analyzed from a political science point of view, but integrating of with views of adjacent fields in social sciences and humanities.

The objective of the course is to provide students with adequate instruments for the theoretical and empirical analysis of structures, processes and outcomes in international politics, integrating the national and the international level, and therefore such cases will be studied in great depth, and the standard analytical instruments of political science to study them will be trained and contrasted with the methodologies of adjacent fields.

This includes practical research by the students themselves: engagement with existing literature and results, formulating research questions, hypotheses, gathering empirical information, sorting it, analyzing and interpreting it. Presentation and discussion of results in oral and written form.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Lectures:

In the lectures we will discuss the readings and the critical evidence needed to test the main theories.

Reduced lectures:

Each week we will have presentations, debates based on the readings and discussions of the essays. Students will have to participate actively in class.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Final Exam 40%
Research Paper 25%
Presentation 15%
Class participation 20%

It is necessary to obtain a minimum grade of 3.5 out of 5 in the final exam to pass the subject.

Extraordinary call:

- a) Students who have followed the continuous assessment system: 60% said assessment and 40% the exam on the content of the subject. It is necessary to obtain a grade of 3.5 out of 5 in the final exam.
- b) Students who have not followed the continuous evaluation, or if it is more favorable to them: 100% exam on the content of the course

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

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Weyland, K, Madrid, R. L. y Hunter, W. (eds.) Leftist Governments in Latin America: Successes and Shortcomings, Cambridge University Press, 2010

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Auty, RM. Sustaining Development in the Mineral Economies: The Resource Curse Thesis, Routledge, 1993
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- Haggard, S. The Political Economy of the Asian Financial Crisis, Institute for International Economics, 2000
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