

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

<b>Code</b>	34418
<b>Name</b>	Introduction to political science
<b>Cycle</b>	Grade
<b>ECTS Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Academic year</b>	2019 - 2020

**Study (s)**

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Center</b>	<b>Acad. year</b>	<b>Period</b>
1310 - Degree in Sociology	Faculty of Social Sciences	1	Second term

**Subject-matter**

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Subject-matter</b>	<b>Character</b>
1310 - Degree in Sociology	10 - Political science	Basic Training

**Coordination**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
BARBERA ARESTE, OSCAR	55 - Constitutional Law, Political and Administrative Sciences
SANCHEZ LOPEZ, JOSE FRANCISCO	55 - Constitutional Law, Political and Administrative Sciences

**SUMMARY**

This subject is part of the Social Sciences module of the Sociology degree. It is a core subject of the first course. It implies the first contact of the students with Political Sciences and Administration, and is therefore merely introductory. This subject will approach basic issues of Political Science and Administration which will be covered

in depth in later subjects such as *Compared Politics* and *Political Structure in Spain and the Valencian Community*.

The subject is aimed at providing the students with a general overview and general concepts of Political Science and Administration. It will also be used to outline the evolution from the organization of power in the Modern State in the new governance and to define the constitutive elements of the political system and its interaction and operating patterns: in the first place, the territorial organization of the political powers.



Also, the forms of government: parliamentarism, presidentialism and mixed systems. In the third place, the political agents: political parties, new social movements and pressure groups.

Finally, students will also be introduced to the studies of public politics (especially its designs), implementation and evaluation.

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

### Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

### Other requirements

Relationship with other subjects of the same degree.

No specified enrolment restrictions.

## OUTCOMES

### 1310 - Degree in Sociology

- Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.
- Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.
- Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.
- Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.
- Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.
- Clearly communicate theories, problems and proposals of a sociological nature, both orally and in writing, using new information and communication technologies.
- Respect and promote the principles of fundamental rights, gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, democratic values and sustainability.



- Manage documentary sources and statistics referring to social reality.
- Learn independently and develop initiative in the field of sociology.
- Know and use secondary data sources useful for sociology.
- Analyse social phenomena adopting a multidisciplinary perspective (sociological, psychosocial, economic, political, historical and anthropological).
- Understand the political-economic organisation and the historical evolution of contemporary societies at the global and local level, and their relationship with social dynamics and processes.
- Know the tools needed to create, implement and evaluate public policy programmes and social intervention projects.
- Know the institutions of the welfare society that contribute to safeguarding social rights.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Learn about the epistemological principles of Political Sciences and know how to analyze them in a critical way.
- Learn about the basic concepts and methods of Political Sciences and know how to analyze them and define its contents in relation to the social and political situation.
- Learn about the State Theory and be able to carry out diachronic and anachronistic analysis of the different forms of organization in political power.
- Analyze the interactions of the different elements of the political system in relation to the social and political situation.
- Use statistic and documental databases of a political nature, carrying out critical analysis of the information.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. FUNDAMENTALS

Unit 1. Politics and its study. What is Political Science? Basic concepts: politics. Power. Legitimacy. Democracy. The political system and its elements.

### 2. THE STATE AND ITS EVOLUTION

Unit 2. Organization of power and its historical evolution. The creation of the modern State. Machiavelli and the creation of modern Political Science. Hobbes and Bodin. The State as a construct. The first and second liberalisms. Communism and fascism. The welfare state.

**3. DEMOCRACY AND ITS INSTITUTIONS**

Unit 3. Democracy and forms of government. Democracy and democracies. Parliamentarism versus presidentialism. Mixed systems. Models of democracy.

Unit 4. Vertical distribution of power: the multilevel government. Unitary state, decentralized state and federal state. The state of autonomies. The creation of the EU. The state and the organization of power in a globalized world. Governance as a new form of political regime.

Unit 5. Horizontal distribution of power. Assemblies, parliamentary groups, parties and deputies. Decisional and non-decisional functions of parliament. The structure and functions of the government. Relationships between government and parliament. The structure and politics of the judiciary. Politization of justice and judicialization of politics.

**4. THE POLITICAL PROCESS AND ITS ACTORS**

Unit 6. Elections, electoral systems and representation. The function of elections. Electoral systems and their political consequences. Political representation. Political culture, participation and political behaviour. Campaigns and political marketing.

Unit 7. Political actors. Political parties. New social movements. Pressure groups.

Unit 8. Public administration and public policies. Public management and public policies. Phases of public policies.

**WORKLOAD**

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00	100
Attendance at events and external activities	13,00	0
Study and independent work	8,00	0
Readings supplementary material	8,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	20,00	0
Preparing lectures	16,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	25,00	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150,00</b>	

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

Throughout the year the following activities will be carried out:

- Lectures by the teacher.



- b. Practical activities (individual and group work): case-solving, practical activities in class, IT applications, workshops, presentations, guided practical exercises outside the classroom.
- c. Complementary activities: visits to institutions, attendance at lectures (talks) o exhibitions, viewing of audiovisual material, etc.
- d. Autonomous work and study: preparation of theoretical lessons, reading of texts, gathering and analysis of information.

## EVALUATION

The evaluation of the subject will be based on two elements:

1. A global exam at the end of the course (60% of final grade). A final grade of at least 50% is required in order to receive credit for the course.
2. Throughout the course, students will carry out and submit practical complementary activities (40% of final grade). Students must submit at least 75% of the total of activities on the date due in order to obtain this percentage of the final grade. Students will also carry out other activities such as reading comprehension or tests on materials covered in class, which may also be included in the final exam.

Els exercicis no lliurats oportunament en la classe corresponent no seran recuperables: no podran lliurar-se amb posterioritat ni compensar-se amb un altre tipus d'exercici o treball.

The written resit exam will account for up to 60%. The remaining 40% will be determined by the student's grades in the different activities carried out throughout the course.

## REFERENCES

### Basic

- R. del Águila (ed.), Manual de Ciencia Política, Trotta, Madrid, 2002
- J. M. Vallès, Ciencia Política, Ariel, Barcelona, 2001.

## ADDENDUM COVID-19





**This addendum will only be activated if the health situation requires so and with the prior agreement of the Governing Council**

## **1. Contenidos**

Se mantienen los contenidos inicialmente programados en la guía docente sin ningún cambio.

## **2. Volumen de trabajo y planificación temporal de la docencia**

Pese a los cambios en la metodología docente como consecuencia de las medidas de confinamiento y a que no se mantienen los horarios de clases, se ha dado libertad al estudiante para realizar las actividades programadas, de acuerdo con sus propios horarios (cumpliéndose, eso sí, los plazos de entrega de los ejercicios inicialmente previstos, así como los de entrega de los materiales para cada tema del programa).

Pese al cambio en la metodología docente como consecuencia de las medidas de confinamiento, el volumen de trabajo del estudiante sigue siendo el mismo previsto en la guía publicada a comienzo de curso.

Entrega de ejercicios prácticos mediante la aplicación de “tarea” de aula virtual.

## **3. Metodología docente**

Como consecuencia de las medidas de confinamiento, la docencia presencial se ha visto sustituida por las siguientes actividades:

1. Aportación de materiales de diversa índole al aula virtual para el estudio y desarrollo de los diversos temas por parte de los alumnos.
2. Realización de actividades y ejercicios por aula virtual mediante la función de “tareas” con plazo temporal para su entrega.
3. Debates y consultas de dudas en el fórum.
4. Tutorías on-line (básicamente, vía correo electrónico).

## **4. Evaluación**

Dadas las excepcionales circunstancias derivadas del confinamiento, se introducen los siguientes cambios en el sistema de evaluación:

1. Se incrementa el peso de la evaluación continua (de todas las prácticas entregadas) en la nota final de la asignatura, pudiendo ser de hasta el 50 por ciento de la misma, sin que se requiera una nota mínima en el examen para que se considere la nota de la parte de evaluación continua.
2. La prueba final se realizará en modalidad on-line, consistiendo en una prueba escrita abierta, con tiempo limitado y realizada en Aula virtual. Su valor pasa a ser de hasta el 50% de la nota final. La prueba final se realizará el día previsto en el calendario de exámenes.



Si alguno de los alumnos no dispone de los medios para establecer la conexión y acceder al Aula virtual el día del examen, deberá contactar con el profesor de la asignatura por correo electrónico en el plazo de 5 días desde la publicación de este anexo a la guía docente.

## **5. Bibliografía**

Junto a los manuales disponibles, se han facilitado textos en el Aula virtual o mediante las remisiones oportunas a repositorios o bases de datos disponibles o a las que se puede acceder mediante conexión VPN.