

Teaching guide

IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Degree:	International Relations
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Field of Knowledge:	Social and Legal Science
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Faculty/School:	Communication Science
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Course:	HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORIES
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Type:	Basic Training
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ECTS credits:	6
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Year:	2
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Code:	7021
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Teaching period:	Third semester
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Area:	Political Science
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Module:	Foundations for a Theory of International Relations
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Teaching type:	Classroom-based
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Language:	English
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Total number of student study hours:	150
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Teaching staff	E-mail
Anna Piazza	anna.piazza@ufv.es

SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

El curso, dirigido a estudiantes de grado, tendrá como objeto proporcionar al alumno una panorámica general acerca de algunas cuestiones escogidas de teoría política contemporánea. No se trata en ningún caso de proponer una lectura profunda y exhaustiva de los autores o de las cuestiones tratadas, sino de ofrecer una orientación que les permita, a unos, dotarse de una mínima armazón analítica, y, a otros, adquirir la base para poder profundizar en las cuestiones tratadas.

GOAL

The goal of this course is to familiarize you with important themes within contemporary political theory and the ways in which they relate to the world in which we reside. We will accomplish this through surveying some of the most influential political theorists of our time. Therefore, the course aims at providing students with conceptual tools in order to understand contemporary political world, focusing on sources, origin, and developments in last century political theories. Furthermore, it is to demonstrate the ways in which political theory provides us with not only the foundation of our political system, but guidance in understanding, evaluating, and coping with on-going navigation of difference in deeply pluralistic and interdependent societies.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

It is required a basic knowledge of the fundamental contemporary political concepts.

COURSE SYLLABUS

- 1.Utilitarianism
- 2.Liberal Equality
- 3.Berlin: Two Concepts of Liberty
- 4.Rawls: The Right and the Good contrasted
- 5.Communitarianism
- 6.MacIntyre: Practical Reasoning and Goods
- 7.Sandel: Justice and the Good
- 8.Taylor: Hegel. History and Politics
- 9.Oakeshott: Political Education
- 10.Arendt: What is authority?
- 11.Feminism
- 12.Nussbaum: The Feminist Critique of Liberalism

EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The formative activities, as well as the distribution of work times, can be modified according to the different scenarios established by following the indications of sanitary authorities.

1. PARTICIPATIVE MASTER CLASS: in the participative master class we look for an active role of the student, stimulating its participation.
2. INDIVIDUAL WORK: The student takes the initiative, with or without the help of the lecturer or other classmates. It is the student who diagnose its learning needs, formulates its learning goals and identifies the resources needed and the strategies to achieve its learning objective. The lecturer acts as guide, facilitator and source of information for the student.
3. TUTORIAL SYSTEM: including commentary and analysis of books and articles, discussion groups and followup tutorial reports.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TIME

CLASSROOM-BASED ACTIVITY	INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY
50 hours	100 hours

SKILLS

Basic Skills

Students must have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in an area of study that is founded on general secondary education. Moreover, the area of study is typically at a level that includes certain aspects implying knowledge at the forefront of its field of study, albeit supported by advanced textbooks

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) in order to make judgments that include reflections on pertinent social, scientific or ethical issues

Students must be able to convey information, ideas, problems and solutions to both an expert and non-expert audience

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of independence

General Skills

To acquire critical, analytical, synthetic, reflective, theoretical and practical thought to be able to understand, analyse, interpret and rigorously and independently sum up international reality from a multidisciplinary standpoint.

To be able to apply group work with common objectives, fostering the analysis and pooling of various approaches.

To understand and analyse the international reality from the standpoint of respect and protecting democracy, human rights, cultural diversity and the values of equality, justice and solidarity. To be able to take part in discussions on current affairs, based on knowledge of international relations and an analysis of today's world.

To develop communication skills allowing for accurate written and oral expression, as well as rigorous discourse and suitable reasoning in public.

To suitably use all possible sources that make it possible to be familiar with the international reality in the historical, political, economic, legal and social spheres, in all formats, in order to organise and plan the study and analysis of the international reality.

Specific skills

To compare and distinguish between the main contemporary political theories.

To foster dialogue and use communication tools to analyse today's world, and to lead processes and strategies in order to solve problems.

To acquire the ability to express oneself fluently and effectively in Spanish and English, to analyse and study the various processes involved in international relations.

LEARNING RESULTS

Desarrollar la capacidad de pensamiento responsable, critico y reflexivo, analitico y sintetico.

Desarrollar habitos de comunicaci´On actitudinal, oral y escrita.

Identificar el propio proceso de maduraci3n personal y las metas a alcanzar, organizando un plan de acci3n orientado a su consecuci3n.

LEARNING APPRAISAL SYSTEM

- Final exam 60%
- Dissertation/presentation on one article suggested, 20% (see complementary bibliography and ask the instructor)
- Attendance and work in class 20%

Alternative evaluation system:

- Final exam 60%
- Dissertation on one article suggested, 20% (see complementary bibliography and ask the instructor)
- submission of required works during the semester 20%

The minimum percentage for approving the course is 50%, considering the total sum of the singular percentages.

*Los alumnos podrán solicitar dispensa académica en Secretaría de Coordinación Académica de la Facultad por: coincidencia de horarios, motivos laborales o motivos personales. En Coordinación Académica les indicarán el procedimiento a seguir en cada uno de los casos. Una vez concedida de forma oficial la dispensa, los alumnos seguirán la evaluación continua (deberán entregar todas las tareas que el profesor solicite en el aula) excepto en asistencia, participación y trabajos realizados en el aula

*Los alumnos repetidores tendrán que ponerse en contacto con la profesora para establecer el método de evaluación que les corresponda.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND OTHER RESOURCES

Basic

ARENDT, H., *Between Past and Future*, Penguin 2006

BERLIN, I., *Four Essays on Liberty*, Oxford University Press 1969

MACINTYRE, A., *After Virtue*, University of Notre Dame Press, 2007

NUSSBAUM, M., *Sex and social justice*, Oxford University Press 2000

RAWLS, J., *A theory of justice*, Harvard University Press 2009

SANDEL, M., *Justice: What's the right thing to do?*, Penguin 2009

TAYLOR, C., *Hegel and modern society*, Cambridge University Press 2005