The Universidad Francisco de Vitoria strives to educate people who are able to improve the world by offering creative responses to its needs. This requires students to think critically about society and mankind, their meaning in the present historical context and how to develop their vocation fully. This course is therefore intended to help students to understand contemporary political thought and the network of international relations and thus enable them to rise to the challenges posed by globalisation, providing a global reflection on what and who people are, what culture is, what original contributions our Western culture has to offer today’s globalised world and the social context in which they will fulfil their vocation.

To this end, the course focusses on national and world news based on an analysis of world History over the last two hundred years (Contemporary Age) with two clear approaches. First, an emphasis on our immediate environment (Europe and the rest of the Western world) and, second, a study of the present reality so that students may understand that analysis of the past acts as the basis for current reality, therefore affording us a better understanding of it.
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 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 and express the reality of the world and man and to convey it through the media, expressing oneself orally, in writing and in audio-visual or multimedia format.

To understand the key aspects of informative events in today’s society, to convey them to the public using any media platform.

To acquire the ability to consider and creatively respond to the essential questions as to the possible causes and consequences of human, social, political and economic events.

Specific skills

To gain an understanding of the circumstances of the world and its historical evolution, in particular, modern Spanish society, and to be familiar with its basic parameters.

To appreciate the result of the relationship between human thought and human action in the study of Western history.

To be familiar with and interpret information on current affairs. To research and identify the main events in today’s world and in Spain, gaining knowledge of the sociocultural and economic reality.

To acquire the ability to define research topics that may contribute to raise awareness of events and current affairs and to appropriately set out the findings of the research in line with the standards of information and communication disciplines.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TIME

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSROOM-BASED ACTIVITY</th>
<th>INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60 hours</td>
<td>90 hours</td>
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