Democràcia i Ciutadania			**2014/2015**

Codi: 42270
Crèdits: 10

Titulació	Tipus	Curs	Semestre
4313335 Ciència Política / Political Science	OB	0	1

Professor de contacte

Nom: John Robert Etherington

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Utilització de llengües

Llengua vehicular majoritària: anglès (eng)

Grup íntegre en anglès: No

Grup íntegre en català: Sí

Grup íntegre en espanyol: No

Equip docent

Joan Botella Corral

Eva Ostergaard-Nielsen

Camilo Cristancho Mantilla

Margarita Leon

Prerequisits

Students are required to have prior training corresponding to a bachelor in political science or other closely related subject.

Objectius

The objective of this module is to discuss the principle contemporary debates in the field of democratic theory, and will address the following: the conditions facilitating the development and stability of democracies; the role of political parties in democratic systems; democracy and social citizenship; and the challenges faced by contemporary democracies, including transnationalism and citizen participation in decision-making processes.

Competències

- Analyse the behaviour and political attitudes of the public and the political communication processes in which they are immersed.
- Analyse the main economic, social and political challenges facing contemporary democracies.
- Applied theoretical knowledge acquired from the analysis of real situation and using political analysis generate useful orientations for decision-making.
- Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
- Design and write projects and technical and academic reports autonomously using the appropriate terminology, arguments and analytical tools in each case.
- Possess and understand knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in the development and/or application of ideas, often in a research context
- Recognise the complexity of politics today, its diversity and the tensions to which it is exposed, with special emphasis on the Spanish and European contexts.

- Student should possess the learning skills that enable them to continue studying in a way that is largely student led or independent
- Students should be able to integrate knowledge and face the complexity of making judgements based on information that may be incomplete or limited and includes reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgements
- Understand the design, operation and consequences of the political institutions and their relation to processes of governance.

Resultats d'aprenentatge

1. Analyse the level of democratic quality in a political system.
2. Analyse the way in which advanced democracies changeover time.
3. Demonstration reading comprehension for specialist texts in English.
4. Describe the characteristics of political culture and identify their explanations and consequences.
5. Design and write projects and technical and academic reports autonomously using the appropriate terminology, arguments and analytical tools in each case.
6. Identify the way in which current phenomena such as globalisation, cultural diversity and the development of new technology affect democratic systems.
7. Identify the debates on public opinion, political communication and democracy.
8. Identify the different dimensions of the concept of democracy, its contradictions and the debates accompanying them.
9. Identify the different factors and variables that may be involved in the appearance, stability and crisis of a democratic system
10. Identify the different practical implications of the theories of democracy.
11. Identify the importance of specific political, economic and institutional contexts for democratic stability.
12. Identify the modes of political participation , the factors that explain them and their consequences for democracy
13. Possess and understand knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in the development and/or application of ideas, often in a research context
14. Student should possess the learning skills that enable them to continue studying in a way that is largely student led or independent
15. Students should be able to integrate knowledge and face the complexity of making judgements based on information that may be incomplete or limited and includes reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgements
16. Understand the different conceptions of the concept of citizenship and their implications.
17. Understand the different existing models of democracy, their institutional characteristics and their implications.
18. Understand the tensions between participation and representation, the debates on political disenchantment and the crisis of representation.

Continguts

Democracy and Citizenship

Introduction (one session)

Part I: The Social Conditions Necessary for the Emergence and Maintenance of Democratic Citizenship (John Etherington) (six sessions)

Part 2: The Role of Political Parties in Democratic Systems (Joan Botella) (six sessions)

Part 3: Theories and Notions of Social Citizenship (Margarita Leon) (four sessions)

Part 4: Migration and Citizenship - cross border electoral processes (Eva Ostergaard-Nielsen) (two sessions)

Part 5: Citizenship and Digital Media (Camilo Cristancho) (four sessions)

Metodologia

This course emphasizes active student participation in class, tutorials, continous evaluation through the elaboration and evaluation of assignments related to the different dimensions of the module, as well as a final exam.

Activitats formatives

Títol	Hores	ECTS	Resultats d'aprenentatge
Tipus: Dirigides			
Lectures and seminars	63	2,52	1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18
Tipus: Supervisades			
Tutorials	50	2	3, 13, 15
Tipus: Autònomes			
Preparation of assigned readings	100	4	3, 13
Preparation of course assignments	34,5	1,38	5, 13, 14, 15

Avaluació

In this module, the main emphasis is on continuous assessment in order to ensure that the different dimensions and concepts related to the sessions are taken on board by students as we progress through the module. This is complemented by a final take home exam. The evaluation is therefore divided into the following elements:

Participation: Students are expected to have prepared the assigned readings before coming to class and to take an active part in the sessions. It is obligatory to assist a minimum of 80% of the sessions in order to pass this module.

Papers (60%): During the term students will write 4 short essays (max 1200 words each): one for Part One, one for Part 2, one for Part 3 and one for either Part 4 or 5. The dates for handing in the essays will be published before the beginning of the course.

Exam (40%): There will be a take-home exam at the end of the course, with questions on each part of the module. Students will have approximately one week to answer one of these questions in an essay of not more that 2500 words. The provisional dates are 19th - 23rd of January 2015.

Activitats d'avaluació

Títol	Pes	Hores	ECTS	Resultats d'aprenentatge
Continuous evaluation	60 %	0	0	3, 5, 13, 14, 15
Exam	40%	2,5	0,1	3, 5, 13, 14, 15

Bibliografia

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