UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

2019/2020

Comparative Politics I

Code: 101081
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500259 Political Science and Public Management.	OB	3	1
2503778 International Relations	OB	3	1

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Some groups entirely in English: Yes

Some groups entirely in Catalan: No

Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Eva Ostergaard-Nielsen

External teachers

Lorenzo Vidal-Folch

Prerequisites

The student is expected to know adequately, at a minimum, the concepts and theories worked in the Political Sci
Group G1 will be taught in English and a good level of active and passive

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject is compulsory in the third year of Degree and Political Science and Public Management. The course
G1 is completely in English to give students an opportunity to consolidate

Competences

Political Science and Public Management.
- Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
- Connecting the different components that shape the structure and operations of political systems and the environment where they interact.
- Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
- Demonstrating knowledge about the structure and working of the European Union and its main institutions, as well as identifying the main political actors and recognising the main means of integration.

- Demonstrating the comprehension of the structure and functioning of political systems in the internal and international arena, both in the analytic area and in the elaboration of intervention proposals or public policies.
- Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
- Interpreting and applying English texts in an academic way.
- Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
- Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
- Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
- Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
- Using the main information and documentation techniques (ICT) as an essential tool for the analysis.
- Working autonomously.
- Working by using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques in order to apply them to research processes.
- Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.

Learning Outcomes

1. Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
2. Connecting the different components that shape the structure and operations of political systems and the environment where they interact.
3. Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
4. Demonstrating knowledge about the structure and working of the European Union and its main institutions, as well as identifying the main political actors and recognising the main means of integration.
5. Demonstrating the comprehension of the structure and functioning of political systems in the internal and international arena, both in the analytic area and in the elaboration of intervention proposals or public policies.
6. Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
7. Interpreting and applying English texts in an academic way.
8. Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
9. Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
10. Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
11. Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
12. Using the main information and documentation techniques (ICT) as an essential tool for the analysis.
13. Working autonomously.
14. Working by using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques in order to apply them to research processes.
15. Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.

Content

BLOQUE I: INTRODUCCIÓN

Tema 1 - Introducción a la política comparada.

¿Por qué comparar? Comparar para valorar. Comparar para explicar. Evolución y futuro de los estudios comparados.

Tema 2: La lógica del método comparativo.

Los distintos diseños de selección de observaciones. Los principales debates metodológicos del método comparativo.

Tema 3: Introducción a las instituciones y los conceptos claves en el analisis comparada de sistemas políticos.

BLOQUE II: SISTEMAS POLÍTICOS

Tema 4: antecedentes históricos y constituciones actuales

Reino Unido: Constitución no escrita, Alemania: Los principios constitucionales: la Ley Fundamental de Bonn y su reforma. Francia: La constitución de la V Republica. Italia: La Constitución del 27 de diciembre de 1947 y su reforma.

Tema 5: Sistemas electorales y sistemas de partidos

Características e impactos de los diferentes sistemas electorales. Cambios y continuidades en sistemas de partidos.

Tema 6: Legislaturas y ejecutivos de gobierno

Reino Unido: El modelo Westminster. Alemania: La democracia del Canciller, Francia: El ejecutivo dual. Parlamentarismo en Italia.

Tema 7: El régimen territorial, federalismo y descentralización.

Reino Unido: El proceso de "*devolution*". Alemania: federalismo. Francia: el modelo jacobino y ¿su fin? Italia: ¿Hacia un sistema federal?

BLOQUE III: ANALISIS COMPARADA DE LA CALIDAD DE DEMOCRACIA

Tema 8. Comparación de sistemas políticos mayoritarias y de consensos

Tema 9: Vetoplayers y el funcionamiento de instituciones políticos

Tema 10: La presidencialización de la política.

Methodology

Comparative politics 1 is a 6 ECTS credit course, this means 150 hours of student work in total (25 horas/1 ECTS). These credits are organised around the following activities

Directed activities:

- Lectures and in group debates.
- oral Presentation of class work
- Seminars

Supervised activities:

- Individual tutoring available for group work and any other individual assessment

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	30	1.2	2
Oral presentations	8	0.32	3, 9, 10, 12
Seminars	16	0.64	1, 5, 4, 7, 2

Type: Supervised			
Office hours	14	0.56	
Type: Autonomous			
Reading	35	1.4	13
Writing	15	0.6	1, 5, 6, 2, 11
individual study	30	1.2	8, 6, 11, 13, 15

Assessment

Evaluation is divided in 3 main elements:

Examen: 50% of the grade (compulsory to pass the exam in order to pass the course).

- Reading test and participation in class: 15 % of the grade

- Group work: 35 % of the final grade

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exam	50%	2	0.08	1, 5, 2
Group work	35%	0	0	5, 4, 3, 9, 8, 6, 2, 14, 13, 15, 12
Reading Test	15%	0	0	5, 7, 10, 2, 11, 15

Bibliography

Bibliografía basica (las lecturas relacionadas a cada sesión se especificarán en el programa en el Campus Virtual antes el inicio del curso).

Colomer, J. M. (Ed.) *Comparative European Politics, third Edition,* London: Routledge, 2008.

Caramani, D. (eds.) *Comparative Politics,* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008,

Bale, T. *European politics: a comparative introduction, 2*[nd] *Edition,* London: Palgrave, 2008

Landman, T., *Issues and methods in Comparative Politics: An Introduction.* London: Routledge, 2003.

Lijphart, A., Lijphart, A. Patterns of Democracy, Yale: Yale University Press, 1999.

Pasquino, G., *Sistemas políticos comparados,* Buenos Aires, prometo libros, 2004.

Poguntke, Thomas y Paul Webb (eds): *The presidentialization of politics. A comparative study of modern democracies,* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Requejo Coll, F. and Nagel, J. (eds). *Federalism beyond Federations: Asymmetry and Processes of Resymmetrization in Europe* (with Jürgen Nagel), London: Ashgate,2011.

Tsebelis, G. Veto Players: How Political Institutions Work, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 2002.

Bibliografía complementaria:

Bull, M. J. and James L. Newell, *Italian Politics: Adjustment Under Duress*, Polity Press, 2005.

Hague, R. y Harrop, M. *Comparative government and politics. An introduction, 7*th *Edition,* Houndsmill: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.