

Social and Political Structure

Code: 103045
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501928 Audiovisual Communication	FB	2	2
2501933 Journalism	FB	1	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Josep Maria Antentas Collderram

Prerequisites

None.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject is taught by teachers in the area of Social Sciences, specifically the Department of Sociology and the Department of Political Science and Public Law.

The basic objective of this subject is to provide an adequate knowledge of the different tools and concepts that have been formulated from the social sciences for the study of:

- The social structures of advanced societies.
- The inequalities and their evolution.
- The basic institutions of politics in advanced societies.
- The distribution of power in the current democracies.

In this sense, the subject offers the basic knowledge to understand the structure of our society, with its main axes of inequality, the most important factors of the social structure, and the political institutions that regulate the distribution of power, conflicts and social life.

The subject has an introductory vocation and, therefore, the topics will focus on a limited number of basic concepts that are essential to further the training of students.

The theoretical classes will be combined with the discussion of readings where students will work on the different concepts exposed in the theoretical classes through proposed texts and exercises. It is intended that

students participate actively in the classes and in the different debates with the aim of gaining reasoning capacity from a critical and informed perspective. Likewise, different activities will be coordinated to promote group work, as well as the application of the concepts of the subject.

Competences

Audiovisual Communication

- Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay ideas effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
- Master the key concepts and knowledge that allow modern society and politics to be interpreted.
- Rigorously apply scientific thinking.

Journalism

- Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
- Demonstrate adequate knowledge of the modern world and its recent historic development in terms of social, economic, political and cultural aspects.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay them effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
- Rigorously apply scientific thinking.

Learning Outcomes

1. Assimilate the necessary knowledge of social and political structure to understand the processes and the development of modern audiovisual phenomena.
2. Define the basic concepts of political science.
3. Define the basic concepts of sociological analysis.
4. Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
5. Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay ideas effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
6. Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay them effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
7. Rigorously apply scientific thinking.

Content

Part 1: Basic concepts of sociology, social structure and inequalities.

1. The sociological perspective. Individual and society, institutions and socialization.
2. Social structure, power and control.
3. Class inequalities. Social mobility and education.
4. Gender inequalities.
5. Immigration and diversity.

Part 2: Basic concepts of political science.

1. Society and politics. Power and legitimation.
2. State and nation-state. The overcoming of the nation-state: globalization and new inequalities.
3. Dictatorships and democracies. The relation democracy-capitalism.
4. The distribution of power in the current democracies: parliaments, government and courts. Forms of government.
5. Individual and groups in politics: behavior, political culture. Collective political actors (parties, pressure groups and media).

Methodology

1. Theoretical classes

Exposition of the main concepts and theoretical proposals in each unit of study. Specific cases that exemplify the different concepts studied will be explained.

2. Readings

Sessions that will consist of the discussion, exhibition and debate of a series of selected readings on the thematic contents of the subject. At the beginning of the course, the teachers will give detailed instructions on this type of activity.

3. Tutorials

The process of learning and acquisition of competences will be supervised by the teachers through individual and / or group tutorials. The teaching staff of the subject will be available to the students to solve the doubts and follow the evolution of this learning process and acquisition of student competencies.

4. Moodle

It will be the virtual space that will convey the information related to the organization of the subject, as well as various complementary materials.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Evaluation activities	7.5	0.3	
Master classes and classroom sessions	37.5	1.5	7, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6
Readings	15	0.6	7, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6
Type: Supervised			
Group and individual tutorials	7.5	0.3	7, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6
Type: Autonomous			
Readings, work group and test preparation	82.5	3.3	

Assessment

The evaluation of the subject will be based on the continuous evaluation of the process of acquisition of knowledge and competences by the students and will consist of:

- Completion of an individual and written test (50% of the total), on the concepts taught in the theoretical classes and in the readings.
- Completion of a group work (20% of the total). This work will consist of reasoned reflections that will be made from the readings, instructions and deadlines that will be indicated by the teachers of each group at the beginning of the course.
- Readings (30% of the total). The teachers of each group will give indications on the evaluation system of this block.

Considerations on the functioning of the evaluation mechanisms:

- 1) It is understood that the procedure to pass the subject is the follow-up of all the continuous assessment instruments, that is: participation in the evaluation activities related to the readings, the individual performance of the written test and the delivery of the group work.

- 2) Spelling and linguistic and expression errors will penalize the final grade.
- 3) Students who have participated in the continuous evaluation and suspend the theory (individual written test) may re-evaluate it provided that a minimum of 3 has been obtained and the ordinary revision has been made. The grade obtained in the re-evaluation of the written test will replace the previous one and will be weighted with the rest of the grades of the continuous evaluation. When, having passed the written test (minimum 5), any of the other continuous assessment grades is suspended, the final maximum grade will be a Pass (5).
- 4) Each teacher will establish a mechanism and deadlines for reviewing all the materials that are part of the evaluation (preferably throughout the course, but always before closing the minutes). Students may request this revision from the respective professors if they consider it pertinent.

In accordance with article 117.2 of the UAB Academic Regulations, the evaluation of those students who have been enrolled before may consist of a single synthesis examination. The students who wish to be evaluated this way should contact the professor at the beginning of the semester.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Group work	20%	0	0	7, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6
Readings	30%	0	0	7, 1, 4, 5, 6
Written test	50%	0	0	7, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6

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