

Politics

Code: 43835
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4316227 Applied Philosophy	OB	0	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)

External teachers

Francisco David Corrales Cordón

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject has two parts:

1. Politics and Emotions

Emotions are a pervasive, unavoidable and controversial aspect of political life. They can be seen either as a key factor contributing to the betterment of the political order or as a fundamental cause of instability and disorder. In the first case, philosophers have tried to explicitly identify which if any are the emotions best suited for their political purposes and which are the adequate means for politicians, authorities and governments to promote them; in the second case, the attempts have been focused on how to keep them under control or how to avoid their negative impact on the political order. This part of the course will be committed to the critical examination of Nussbaum's liberal approach to the nature and political function of human emotions. We will present the main points of her theory, trying to set them within a broader philosophical context, and we will identify and discuss its salient problems.

2. Populism

In this part of the subject, we will present and examine the phenomenon of populism from contemporary political philosophy. We will analyze the history of populism, its main manifestations and its diverse contexts; we will study the main contributions of populist political theories and their relation to the problems of hegemony, ideologies, political strategies, charismatic leadership and identification processes; Finally, we will evaluate the consequences, conflicts and complementations of populism in democracy.

Competences

- Apply knowledge of classical authors in the western philosophical tradition to current philosophical questions.

- Critically assess the implications on the human condition of new ideological, political, economic and technological forms that impact on the contemporary world.
- Identify and describe the relevant theoretical elements in contemporary ethical research, especially those associated with the question of good, justice and their political implications.
- Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
- Search for, select and manage information autonomously, both from structured sources (data bases, bibliographies, specialized journals) and from information distributed on the web.
- Solve problems in new or little-known situations within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the field of study.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse philosophically the basic concepts, methods and theories in contemporary political philosophy.
2. Discuss the central arguments in contemporary political philosophy rigorously, critically, creatively and autonomously.
3. Search for, select and manage information autonomously, both from structured sources (data bases, bibliographies, specialized journals) and from information distributed on the web.
4. Solve problems in new or little-known situations within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the field of study.
5. Understand and analyse present-day political issues on the basis of the theories described in the module.
6. Understand the influences of classical philosophical thought on the principal philosophical views of 20th and 21st century politics.

Content

David Corrales:

1. General Introduction to the topic *Politics and Emotions*

Texts: Nussbaum, M. C., *Upheavals of Thought*, Cambridge UP, 2001, Part I, Chapter I (pp. 19-88).

_____, "A Problem in the History of Liberalism", in *Political Emotions, Why Love Matters for Justice*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2015, pp. 2-24.

2. Emotions, Religion and Politics

Texts: Nussbaum, M. C., "Equality and Love: Rousseau, Herder, Mozart" in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 27-53

_____, "Religions of Humanity I", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 54-81.

_____, "Religions of humanity II", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 82-109.

3. Good and Bad Emotions?

Texts: Nussbaum, M. C., "The Aspiring Society: Equality, Inclusion, Distribution", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 115-136.

_____, "Compassion: Human and Animal", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 137-160.

_____, "Compassion's Enemies: Fear, Envy, Shame", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 314-377.

_____, "How Love Matters for Justice", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 378-397.

4. Emotions, patriotism, nationalism and cosmopolitanism

Texts: Nussbaum, M. C., "Teaching Patriotism: Love and Critical Freedom", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 204-256.

5. Political Emotions and Aesthetics

Texts: Nussbaum, M. C., "Tragic and Comic Festivals: Shaping Compassion, Transcending Disgust", in *Political Emotions, cit.*, pp. 257-313.

Oriol Farrés:

1. Canovan, Margaret. "Trust the People! Populism and the Two Faces of Democracy", *Political Studies* (1999), XLVII, 2-16.

2. Laclau, Ernesto. "Populism: What's in a Name?", *Populism and the Mirror of Democracy* (Francisco Panizza ed.), London, verso, 2005, pp 32-49.

3. Stavrakakis, Yannis. "Populism and Hegemony", *The Oxford Handbook of Populism* (Edited by Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser, Paul Taggart, Paulina Ochoa Espejo, and Pierre Ostiguy), Oxford university Press, 2017, pp 535-553.

4. Panizza, Francisco. "Populism and Identification". *The Oxford Handbook of Populism* (Edited by Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser, Paul Taggart, Paulina Ochoa Espejo, and Pierre Ostiguy), Oxford university Press, 2017, pp 406-422.

5. Arato, Andrew. "Political Theology and Populism". *Social Research*, vol. 80, 1, 2013, 143-172.

6. Moufee, Chantal. "Deliberative Democracy or Agonistic Pluralism". *Social Research*, 1999, 66, 3, 745-758.

7. Laclau, Ernesto. "Por qué construir un pueblo es la tarea principal de la política radical". *Cuadernos del GENDES*, vol 23, núm. 62, 2006, 1-36.

8. Mouffe, Chantal. "Feminism, Citizenship and Radical Democratic Politics", *Social Postmodernism: Beyond Identity Politics*, Cambridge University Press, 1995, pp. 369- 384.

Methodology

Each class will be divided into two parts: master classes and seminar sessions. The seminar requires the active participation of students, who will be the ones who will direct the commentary of the different texts assigned to each class day.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Sessions	35	1.4	1, 6, 4
Study	66	2.64	3
Type: Supervised			
Tutoring	17	0.68	1, 6, 5, 2

Assessment

The evaluation will be continued and contains two elements: a) the oral presentation of a subject (50% of the final grade) and b) the written presentation of a work (50%). There will be an oral presentation for each part of the course. The written work will be on the rest of the content of the course and will be evaluated by the two teachers. Each teacher will set a date and place for the review of the evaluation. There will also be a supplementary assessment if the student fails: the date will be agreed with the Faculty.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Oral presentation	50%	16	0.64	1, 6, 4, 2
Paper	50%	16	0.64	1, 3, 6, 5, 4, 2

Bibliography

Further readings will be suggested during the sessions.