

Democracy and Social Participation

Code: 101666
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500260 Social Education	OT	3	2
2500260 Social Education	OT	4	0

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

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

Jonatan Sánchez Rico

Prerequisites

- No prerequisites

Objectives and Contextualisation

The course aims to offer to the degree in Social Education, and specifically at community specialisation, a vision of democracy and social participation that is useful for working in different institutional and environmental contexts.

From a conceptual point of view, we will analyze an understanding of democracy that goes beyond the formal and institutional aspects of it (democracy understood as a set of procedures and institutions linked to state power) and we will see how to incorporate its social dimension (What is it and how to build a democratic society? What is the relationship between democracy and civil society? What is the relationship between democracy and social inequality?)

We will emphasize the analysis of social participation as a socio-educational practice with transformative potential in diverse social contexts. We will learn more about the strategies and practices that will allow the participation of citizens in public

Competences

- Social Education
- Contextualize educational action based on the different theoretical paradigms that have developed in science and education in accordance with the socio-historical context of individuals, groups and institutions.

- Design and develop processes for citizen participation and socio-community action.
- Develop strategies for autonomous learning.
- Maintain a respectful attitude to the environment (natural, social and cultural) to promote values, behaviour and sustainable practices that address gender equality, equity and respect for human rights.
- Master the theoretical and applied knowledge of Educational Sciences to develop the capacity for analysis and observation of the social and educational reality.
- Respect the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Work in teams and with teams (in the same field or interdisciplinary).

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and apply critical reasoning to the understanding of representative versus participatory democracy. Understand power, government and governance.
2. Analyse different types of communities and the main characteristics that define and shape them.
3. Apply participatory techniques: Participatory Action Research (PAR), to community diagnosis.
4. Deliver proposed activities on time and in the right way.
5. Design and develop participatory processes in social and community education.
6. Design and regulate learning spaces in contexts of diversity that attend to gender equality, equity and respect for human rights as involved in the values of public education.
7. Identifying, describing and analysing didactic models, strategies and curricular material on political culture and civic culture.
8. Knowing how to relate to (empathise with) the different ideological and life options that make up the communities.
9. Maintaining an attitude of respect for practices and types of behaviour that address fairness and inclusion.
10. Organising the work in a structured way in terms of the demands.
11. Reflecting on, evaluating and applying the changes required in educational practice regarding the Concept of participation. Participation as an end and as a means for change.
12. Reflecting on, evaluating and applying the changes required in educational practice with regard to the Social Participation from the perspective of social players: social movements and associations.
13. Reflecting on, evaluating and applying the changes required in educational practice with regard to the participation of the public from the perspective of the administration: models and devices.
14. Understand the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations that make up a community.
15. Working in multidisciplinary teams, developing processes of social/community education.

Content

BLOCK I: DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION

- What is politics?
- Why participate if we are in democracy?
- The role of the State and participation in democratic society
- Representative democracy, radical democracy and participatory democracy.
- The construction of a democratic society

BLOCK II. INTRODUCTION TO CITIZEN PARTICIPATION OF THE LOCAL LEVEL.

- Individuals and associations
- Processes and participation mechanisms
- "Citizen dialogue"
- Balance of two decades of local participation policies in Catalonia.

BLOCK III: SOCIAL EXCLUSION, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

- Participation in vulnerable contexts
- Citizenship and Social Inclusion
- Citizen participation as a socio-educational and transformative practice

BLOCK IV. CHANGE OF ERA AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.

- Transformations in the social structure
- Policy crisis?
- Civic and citizen responses to the crisis
- New social movements
- Social innovation.
- The Commons

CROSS BLOCK: METHODOLOGICAL SESSIONS AND ANALYSIS OF EXPERIENCES.

- Methods 1: The design of a participatory process
- Methods 2: Sociogram and other group technics
- Methods 3: Group dynamization techniques
- Analysis of good practices and cases

Methodology

Exhibitions by the teacher of the contents and key issues of the agenda. It is done with the whole group class and allows exposure of the main content through an open and active participation by student. Seminar specific sessions supervised by the teaching staff where through analysis of documents, resolution of cases and various activities, it is deepened in the contents and topics worked.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	10	0.4	3, 7, 4, 9, 10, 15
Work assignments: Presentation and discussion	35	1.4	2, 1, 14, 6, 7, 11, 13, 12
Type: Supervised			
Individual supervision	10	0.4	2, 1, 3, 7, 4, 10, 11, 13
Supervision in small group	20	0.8	2, 1, 3, 5, 6, 4, 9, 10, 11, 15
Type: Autonomous			
Mandatory readings	25	1	2, 1, 7, 4, 11, 13, 12
Personal work	25	1	2, 1, 14, 5, 7, 11, 13, 12
Work assignments	25	1	2, 3, 14, 7, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 12, 15

Assessment

The evaluation of the course will be based on the following tests:

a) 50% of final grade comes from an examination, after theoretical lectures, before Christmas leave (13/12/2021). Grades will be available one week after, or after Christmas leave. Students could ask for a individual supervision session to review the examination, and ask about the criteria used to correct it.

b) 20% of the final grade is based on a writing paper with a comment about compulsory readings. The paper must be submitted in paper format on 20/12/2021. In case any text comment does not meet the minimum requirements to be approved, the teacher will give the relevant explanations and justifications

c) 30% of the final grade comes to the realization and presentation of a group assignment and an oral presentation. All group assignment will be discussed by the teacher and by the group class in a seminar session. The paper will be delivered in paper format on 17/01/2022.

To pass the course, it is necessary to complete all the tests, pass the exam (test A) and have obtained a minimum of 4,5 (out of 10) in the individual writing and in the group work (tests B and C). If the exam has been failed on first time (test A), it can be done again on the last school day of the 1st semester (24/01/2022).

On the other hand, attendance to the classes is considered an essential requirement to be able to pass the subject. The plagiarism of works is reason for suspension of the subject

IMPORTANT: Our teaching approach and assessment procedures may be altered if public Health authorities impose new restrictions on public gatherings for COVID-19

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Final presentation of the Workgroups	30%	0	0	2, 1, 3, 14, 5, 6, 7, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 12, 8, 15
Examination	50%	0	0	2, 1, 14, 7, 11, 13, 12
Reading comment	20%	0	0	2, 1, 14, 7, 4, 10, 11, 13, 12

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FURTHER READING:

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Software

It is not needed the use of any specific software for the realization of this subject.