UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

2021/2022

Spanish and Catalan Politics

Code: 42276
ECTS Credits: 10

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313335 Political Science	OT	0	2
4317157 Advanced Research in Political Science	OT	1	2

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

Name: Carolina Galais Gonzalez

Email: Carolina.Galais@uab.cat

Teachers

Francesc Xavier Ballart Hernández

Joan Botella Corral

Nuria Font Borrás

John Robert Etherington

Eva Ostergaard-Nielsen

Eva Anduiza Perea

Agustí Bosch Grau

Berta Barbet Porta

Carolina Galais Gonzalez

Margarita Leon

Ixchel Perez Duran

Enrique Hernandez Perez

Guillem Rico Camps

Ana Mar Fernández Pasarín

Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Prerequisites

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Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of the "Spanish and Catalan Politics" Course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the Spanish and Catalan political system from the transition to democracy onwards: institutions and territorial organisation, parties and elections, political culture and behaviour, policy-making, the urban dimension of politics and relations with the EU. The

course also addresses recent developments and challenges of Spanish and Catalan politics, such as the national question, migration politics and the municipalist movement.

Competences

Political Science
- Analyse the main economic, social and political challenges facing contemporary democracies.
- Design and write projects and technical and academic reports autonomously using the appropriate terminology, arguments and analytical tools in each case.
- 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.
- 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.

Advanced Research in Political Science
- Analyse the design, functioning and consequences of political institutions and their relations with processes of governance.
- Analyse the main economic, social and political challenges in contemporary democracies.
- Design and write projects and technical and academic reports autonomously using the appropriate terminology, arguments and analytical tools in each case.
- Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
- Recognise the complexity of political situations, diversity and the tensions to which they are subjected, with special emphasis on the Spanish and European contexts.

Learning Outcomes

1. Compare the characteristics and consequences of municipal, autonomous-community and national electoral systems.
2. Design and write projects and technical and academic reports autonomously using the appropriate terminology, arguments and analytical tools in each case.
3. Distinguish between the different phases and the development of the Spanish and Catalan party systems.
4. Distinguish between the phases and development of the Spanish and Catalan party systems.
5. Evaluate the relation and interaction between actors and institutions in the Spanish political system.
6. Explain the characteristics, limitations and potential of the state of autonomies.
7. Explain the characteristics, limitations and potential of the states of autonomy.
8. Identify possible ways for accommodating plurality in modern society in the institutional framework of Spain.
9. Identify the main periods and perspectives for the future of the national articulation of the Spanish state.
10. Identify the main phases and future perspectives of the national articulation of the Spanish state.
11. Identify the possible paths for accommodating plurality in modern society in the Spanish institutional framework.
12. Integrate knowledge and use it to make judgements in complex situations, with incomplete information, while keeping in mind social and ethical responsibilities.
13. Recognise the political divisions in the contemporary Spanish political system.
14. Recognise the political schisms in the contemporary Spanish political system.
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 intraparty democracy and its impact on the Spanish case.
17. Understand intraparty models of democracy and their impact on the Spanish case.
18. Understand the main lines and the dynamics of political-electoral competition in different regional areas.

19. Understand the main themes and the dynamics of political and electoral competence in different regions.
20. Understand the potential political effects of possible reforms to the electoral system.
21. Understand the potential political effects of the possible reforms of the electoral system.
22. Valuate the relationship and interaction between the agents and institutions in the Spanish political system.

Content

1. Institutions and territorial organisation

2. Parties and elections

3. Political culture and behaviour

4. Policy-making

5. Spain and the EU

6. The urban dimension of politics

Methodology

The course is composed of 25 sessions divided into 6 modules. A typical session will include a lecture (approximately 1 hour a half) plus a debate on the compulsory readings (after the break). For each session, one student in rotation will prepare a short presentation (approximately 10 minutes) on the topic of the compulsory readings plus 2-3 questions for the debate and will act as debate moderator. Continuous evaluation will be a key aspect of the course. Participation to classes, debates on compulsory readings and short written assignments will be the three elements on which evaluation will be carried out.

Short written assignments may be written in English, Spanish or Catalan.

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 and seminars	62.5	2.5	1, 3, 4, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials	42.5	1.7	1, 3, 4, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22

Type: Autonomous			
Compulsory readings	85	3.4	1, 3, 4, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22
Short written assignment (2)	60	2.4	1, 3, 4, 2, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22

Assessment

· Compulsory readings (40%). Students are expected to read compulsory readings before attending each class and to actively participating to it. It is mandatory to attend a minimum of 80% of the sessions to pass this module. During the seminar time, a student will present the readings and the rest of the class will discuss the conclusions. All students are expected to read the compulsory readings for the week and to prepare their interventions.

· Two short written assignments (30% each). Students will have to prepare two short written assignments (approximately 1200 words). The first one will be on the urban dimension of politics while the second assignment will be on a topic of the course freely chosen by each student.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
1 short written assignment	30%	0	0	1, 3, 4, 2, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22
1 short written assignment	30%	0	0	1, 3, 4, 2, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22
Debates on compulsory readings	40%	0	0	1, 3, 4, 19, 18, 17, 16, 21, 20, 7, 6, 11, 8, 9, 10, 15, 12, 14, 13, 5, 22

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Software

None