

Electoral Analysis

Code: 106742
ECTS Credits: 6

2024/2025

Degree	Type	Year
2500259 Political Science and Public Management	OB	3

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Teachers

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

Students should have completed the compulsory subjects of Methodology of Political Analysis and Political Behavior.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of this course is to provide students with theoretical and practical tools to analyze the electoral processes and the various elements and actors involved: electoral systems, campaigns, candidates and voters.

This is a natural continuation of the course 'Political behavior' of the third year, which presents the current state of research in electoral behavior combined with a more applied aspect of analysis and electoral strategy.

Competences

- Act with ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights and duties, diversity and democratic values.

- Analysing the behaviour of the political actors, both individually and collectively (parties, interest groups, social movements, etc.).
- Analysing the electoral processes, including campaigns, parties' electoral strategies, political scenarios and analysis and interpretation of electoral results.
- Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
- Assess the social, economic and environmental impact when acting in this field of knowledge.
- Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
- Demonstrating the comprehension of citizen behaviour and democratic values, particularly in internal or international concrete cases.
- Designing data collection techniques, coordinating the information processing and meticulously applying hypothesis verification methods.
- Develop critical thought and reasoning and be able to communicate them effectively, both in your own language and second or third languages.
- Develop strategies for autonomous learning.
- Explaining political, individual and collective attitudes and behaviours, as well as the education process and expression of political preferences.
- Identifying and distinguishing the functioning of the electoral processes.
- Identifying main actors of the political system, inspecting their interactions and assessing their behaviour in their environment and in the political system from a theoretical and practical perspective.
- Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
- Interpreting and applying English texts in an academic way.
- Make changes to the methods and processes of the area of knowledge to provide innovative responses to the needs and wishes of society.
- Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
- Managing the different theoretical contributions about actors and actor's networks, as well as the characteristics of collective action.
- 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.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- 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. Act with ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights and duties, diversity and democratic values.
2. Analysing the behaviour of the political actors, both individually and collectively (parties, interest groups, social movements, etc.).
3. Analysing the electoral processes, including campaigns, parties' electoral strategies, political scenarios and analysis and interpretation of electoral results.
4. Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
5. Assess the social, economic and environmental impact when acting in this field of knowledge.
6. Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
7. Designing data collection techniques, coordinating the information processing and meticulously applying hypothesis verification methods.
8. Develop critical thought and reasoning and be able to communicate them effectively, both in your own language and second or third languages.
9. Develop strategies for autonomous learning.
10. Explaining political, individual and collective attitudes and behaviours, as well as the education process and expression of political preferences.
11. Identifying and distinguishing the functioning of the electoral processes.

12. Identifying main actors of the political system, inspecting their interactions and assessing their behaviour in their environment and in the political system from a theoretical and practical perspective.
13. Identifying sources of data and conducting bibliographic and documentary searches.
14. Interpreting and applying English texts in an academic way.
15. Make changes to the methods and processes of the area of knowledge to provide innovative responses to the needs and wishes of society.
16. Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
17. Managing the different theoretical contributions about actors and actor's networks, as well as the characteristics of collective action.
18. Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
19. Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
20. Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
21. Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
22. Using the main information and documentation techniques (ICT) as an essential tool for the analysis.
23. Working autonomously.
24. Working by using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques in order to apply them to research processes.
25. Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.

Content

13/9/24	S1	Introduction and behavior models
17/9/24	S2	Surveys and electoral prediction
20/9/24	S3	Electoral systems
24/9/24	Festivo	
27/9/24	P1	Simulation of electoral systems
1/10/24	S4	Party competition and dealignment
4/10/24	T1.1	TF Tutorial: Research question
8/10/24	T1.2	
11/10/24	S5	Class voting and realignment

15/10/24	P2	Review of R
18/10/24	S6	Corruption
21/10/24	L1	Reading on corruption
25/10/24	T2.1	TF tutorial: Theoretical framework
29/10/24	T2.2	
1/11/24	Festiu	
5/11/24	S7	Far right
7/11/24		Master class Elias Dinas JCPOP 2024
8/11/24	S8	Gender, age and electoral behavior
15/11/24	L2	Far right and gender
19/11/24	T3.1	TF tutorial: Data and methods
22/11/24	T3.2.	
26/11/24	P3	Far right vote
29/11/24	S10	Referendums
3/12/24	L3	Reading son referendums
10/12/24	S11	Urban-rural cleavage
13/12/24	P4	Practice urban-rural cleavage

17/12/24	T4.1.	TF tutorial: results and conclusions
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20/12/24	T4.2.	
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S: Theory		
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P: Data analysis lab		
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T: Collective tutorial final paper		
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L: Reading lab		
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Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Preparation and writing of a research paper	0	0	1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 23, 25
Type: Supervised			
In-class exercises	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 25
Supervision of the research paper with the professor (4 sessions of 20 minutes each)	0	0	2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25

Lab sessions will be divided in three different types of activities:

- In group writing of a research paper. This includes 4 tutorials with the professor in order to assess the evolution of the research paper.
- Tools and exercises for survey data analysis. 4 sessions of applied data analysis using R and excel
- Discussion of readings. 3 sessions in which students are required to read a paper in order to critically discuss the paper in class.

Note: 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.

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.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Final essay	30	50	2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
Final exam	40	50	2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
In-class exercises	30	50	2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25

Continuous assesment:

Final exam(40%)

Final paper (30%) * Divided between:

- Essay (25%)
- Attendance and evaluation of tutorials (5%)

The essay must be handed in on the day of the exam. If you do not hand in the assignment you will not be allowed to take the exam.

In class-exercises (30%)

Divided between:

- 3 data analaysis exercises (15%)
- Reading and discussion of 3 readings and submission of 3 discussion handouts (15%)

Single (one-shot) assesment

Final exam (70%). Divided as follows:

- Content of theoretical classes (40%)
- Test on the articles covered in the reading seminars (15%)
- Test on interpreting results of data analysis on electoral behavior (15%)

Final paper to be done individually (30%).

In all cases, to pass the course a minimum grade of 5/10 is required in both the exam and the final essay.
Make-up assesment:

Students who do not pass the exam or the final assignment (grade <5) will be able to take a make-up exam and / or resubmit the final assingment on the day of the make-up exam.

If the final assignment has not been previously submitted and it is submitted for the first time on the day of the the make-up exam a -25% penalty will be applied to the final assignment grade.

Final exam(40%) * Final essay (30%) * Divided between:

- Essay (25%)

- Attendance and evaluation of tutorials (5%)

The essay must be handed in on the day of the exam. If you do not hand in the assignment you will not be allowed to take the exam.

In class-exercises (30%)

Divided between:

- 3 data analysis exercises (15%)

- Reading and discussion of 3 readings and submission of 3 discussion handouts (15%)

* To pass the course a minimum grade of 5/10 is required in both the exam and the final essay. Make-up assessment:

Students who do not pass the exam or the final assignment (grade <5) will be able to take a make-up exam and / or resubmit the final assignment on the day of the make-up exam.

If the final assignment has not been previously submitted and it is submitted for the first time on the day of the make-up exam a -25% penalty will be applied to the final assignment grade.

Bibliography

Essential

Arzheimer, K., Evans, J., Lewis-Beck, M.S., 2017. The SAGE handbook of electoral behaviour. SAGE.
Anduiza, Eva y Bosch, Agustí. 2004 Comportamiento político y electoral. Barcelona: Ariel

Dalton, Russell J. 2018. *Citizen Politics: Public Opinion and Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies*. CQ Press.

Fraile, Marta, & Hernández, Enrique (2020). Determinants of voting behaviour. En D. Muro & I. Lago (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Spanish Politics*. Oxford University Press. Complementaria

Riba, Clara. 2000. "Voto Dual Y Abstención Diferencial. Un Estudio Sobre El Comportamiento Electoral En Cataluña." *Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas* 91: 59-88.

Rose-Ackerman, Susan. 2008. "Corrupció política i reforma en sistemes democràtics: perspectives teòriques". A *Corruption and Clientelism*, Junichi Kawata (Ed.), pp 61-81 Kyoto: Minerva Ltd.

Riera, Pedro. 2009. *L'evolució Del Vot Dual a Catalunya*. Institut de Ciències Polítiques i Socials, Working paper 278.

Verge, Tània. 2012. "Les quotes: són necessàries". *Revista Interdisciplinària de Estudios de Género* 2: 21-31. La bibliografia obligatòria per a seminaris i pràctiques es lliurarà a l'inici del curs.

Software

For the computer data analysis lab-sessions we will use the open-source software R and R Studio and Excel

Language list

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	51	Catalan/Spanish	first semester	afternoon
(TE) Theory	1	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	51	Catalan/Spanish	first semester	afternoon