

Spanish Politics

Code: 101078
ECTS Credits: 12

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Political Science and Public Management	OB	2

Contact

Name: Aranzazu Tirado Sanchez

Email: arantxa.tirado@uab.cat

Teachers

Ricard Vilaregut Saez

Aranzazu Tirado Sanchez

Teaching groups languages

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

Prerequisites

Students must master the essential elements of the introductory course to Political Science

Objectives and Contextualisation

The course aims at making students familiar with the main features of the Spanish political system, its problems and its evolutionary trends.

The course aims at giving to students conceptual elements, as well as methodological instruments, beyond a simple "memoristic" approach

Competences

- Act with ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights and duties, diversity and democratic values.
- Applying the knowledge of the structure and operations of political institutions to problems and practical, real or simulated cases.
- Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
- Assess the social, economic and environmental impact when acting in this field of knowledge.

- Connecting the different components that shape the structure and operations of political systems and the environment where they interact.
- Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
- Demonstrating knowledge about the structure and working of the European Union and its main institutions, as well as identifying the main political actors and recognising the main means of integration.
- Demonstrating the comprehension of the structure and functioning of political systems in the internal and international arena, both in the analytic area and in the elaboration of intervention proposals or public policies.
- Demonstrating the understanding of the structure and operations of political institutions.
- 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.
- 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 main theoretical formulations about political institutions and connecting them with the global structure of political systems, both in the internal and international arenas.
- 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 electoral processes, including campaigns, parties' electoral strategies, political scenarios and analysis and interpretation of electoral results.
3. Arguing from different theoretical perspectives.
4. Assess the social, economic and environmental impact when acting in this field of knowledge.
5. Connecting the different components that shape the structure and operations of political systems and the environment where they interact.
6. Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
7. Demonstrating knowledge about the structure and working of the European Union and its main institutions, as well as identifying the main political actors and recognising the main means of integration.
8. Demonstrating the comprehension of the structure and functioning of political systems in the internal and international arena, both in the analytic area and in the elaboration of intervention proposals or public policies.
9. Develop critical thought and reasoning and be able to communicate them effectively, both in your own language and second or third languages.
10. Develop strategies for autonomous learning.
11. Explaining political, individual and collective attitudes and behaviours, as well as the education process and expression of political preferences.
12. Identifying and distinguishing the functioning of the electoral processes.
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. Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
18. Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
19. Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
20. Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
21. Using the main information and documentation techniques (ICT) as an essential tool for the analysis.
22. Working autonomously.
23. Working by using quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques in order to apply them to research processes.
24. Working in teams and networking, particularly in interdisciplinary conditions.

Content

Block 1. The background of the system

- T1. The Spanish political tradition: the bases and forms of political conflict in Spain
- T2. Constitutional history: 1812 - 1931
- T3. The Second Republic
- T4. The Civil War and Francoism
- T5. The Transition

Block 2. The institutional structure and legislatures

- T6. Constituent process and Spanish Constitution of 1978
- T7. The territorial structure of the State and national plurality
- T8. Political institutions:
 - The Government
 - The Cortes Generales
 - The Constitutional Court
- T9. The legislatures - from 1977 to the present day

Block 3. Contemporary Spanish politics

- T10. Spanish society:
 - Political culture
 - Political participation
- T11. Regime crisis and new politics?
- T12. The evolution and main problems of local government
- T13. Spain's Foreign Policy

Block 4. Actors of the System: Parties, Movements and Social Classes

- T14. Party System and Political Parties. Case Studies
- T15. Contentious Politics: Social Movements and Protest Cycles
- T16. Social Classes as Political Actors: Economic Power and the Working Class
- T17. Judicial Power and Lawfare

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	96	3.84	1, 20, 3, 8, 6, 11, 17, 18, 5, 19
Practices	16	0.64	3, 8, 6, 16, 14, 18, 5, 19
Type: Supervised			
Personal interviews	10	0.4	8, 6, 22
Preparation of papers, presentations, etc..	28	1.12	1, 20, 4, 3, 6, 10, 17, 16, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22
Type: Autonomous			
Personal work by the student	138	5.52	1, 20, 4, 3, 8, 6, 10, 9, 11, 17, 16, 13, 14, 18, 5, 19, 23, 22, 24, 21

The course has a value of 12 ECTS, which mean a work load for the student of 300 hours, distributed as follows:

- 105 hours of general, teaching activities: lectures, seminars, etc.
- 45 hours of supervised work, conducted by the student outside the classroom, under teacher's supervision
- 150 hours of self-directed work by the student, which include readings, preparation of seminars, personal, study, etc.

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

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
First semester exam	25%	2	0.08	8, 6, 16, 15, 18, 5, 19, 23, 22
Group research - work	10 %	2	0.08	1, 20, 4, 2, 3, 8, 7, 6, 9, 11, 17, 16, 13, 12, 18, 5, 23, 22, 24, 21
1st. bloc practice	10 %	1.5	0.06	2, 6, 16, 14, 19, 22
2nd. semester Exam	25 %	2	0.08	1, 20, 4, 3, 8, 6, 10, 9, 16, 13, 15, 18, 5, 19, 23, 22, 21
3rd bloc practic	10 %	1.5	0.06	8, 6, 16, 14, 19, 22
4th loc practice	10%	3	0.12	2, 8, 6, 11, 16, 13, 14, 5, 19, 22, 24

SEE CATALAN AND SPANISH SECTION

Bibliography

SEE CATALAN SECTION

Software

p

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	annual	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	51	Catalan	annual	afternoon
(SEM) Seminars	1	Catalan	annual	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	10	Catalan	annual	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	51	Catalan	annual	afternoon
(SEM) Seminars	510	Catalan	annual	afternoon
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	annual	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	51	Catalan	annual	afternoon