

COURSE GUIDE 2022/23

Faculty 323 - Faculty of Social and Communication Sciences

Cycle Not Applicable

Degree GSOCIO31 - Bachelor's Degree in Sociology

Year First year

COURSE

25001 - Basic Concepts of Political Science

Credits, ECTS: 6

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will offer the students a basic notion and an operative definition of some core concepts in the field of Political Science, paying attention to the prominent theories, typologies, approaches and authors. At the same time, a broad knowledge of the main theoretical debates in the Political Science will be provided.

Therefore, the general purpose of this course will be presenting some concepts that will be more deeply developed in other courses throughout the grades of Sociology and Political Science. In this sense, it means making the students acquire a Political Science interpretation of political phenomena.

COMPETENCIES/LEARNING RESULTS FOR THE SUBJECT

Specific competencies

C-1. Understanding basic concepts and theoretical categories in the realm of Political Science

C-2. Acquiring a global view of continuity, change and evolution processes taking place in the contemporary political systems.

C-3. Analyzing current dynamics in the political systems

C-4. Applying theoretical knowledge to the interpretation of political phenomena.

Transversal competencies

C1CC01. Identifying, defining and analyzing social, political and economical drivers that explain social and political reality's continuity and change.

C1CC06. Consulting secondary information from different sources (official institutions, libraries, internet) and elaborating conclusions and reports from them.

CONTENIDOS TEÓRICO-PRÁCTICOS

PART I: INTRODUCTORY CONCEPTS.

1. Political Science.

2. Polity, politics, policies. Political System.

PART II: THE MODERN STATE

3. The State: concept and historical evolution.

4. Distribution of political power inside the State

5. Supranational organizations. Post-statism?

PART III: DEMOCRACIES AND NON-DEMOCRACIES.

6. Non-democratic regimes.

7. Representative democracy. Poliarchies.

8. The evolution of representative democracies

Lesson 1: Object of study. Political Science and other scientific fields. Historical evolution. Political scientists's professional profile.

Lesson 2: Politics. Power. Legitimacy. Political System. Other basic concepts.

Lesson 3: Definition of State. The Absolutist State. The Liberal State. Liberal State's democratization and alternative states. Welfare State.

Lesson 4: Functional distribution. Territorial. distribution

Lesson 5: Confederations. The EU. Globalization process.

Lesson 6: Authoritarian and totalitarian regimes. Current non-democratic regimes.

Lesson 7: Concept of democracy. Poliarchies.

Lesson 8: Historical evolution of democracy. Representation and democracy. Governance

ALMOND, Gabriel et al. 1992. Diez textos básicos de Ciencia Política. Madrid, Ariel.
ARTETA, Aurelio; GARCÍA GUITÍAN, Elena; MÁIZ, Ramón (eds.). 2003. Teoría política: poder, moral, democracia. Madrid, Alianza.
BELLAMY, Richard y PALUMBO, Antonino (eds.). 2010. From government to governance. Burlington, USA, Ashgate.
CAMINAL, Miquel. 1997. Manual de Ciencia Política. Madrid, Tecnos
COLOMER, Josep M. 2008. Ciencia de la Política. Una introducción. Madrid, Ariel.
DAHL, Robert. 1999. La democracia, una guía para los ciudadanos. Madrid: Taurus.
GARCÍA COTARELO, Ramón y PANIAGUA, José L. (eds.). 1988. Introducción a la Ciencia Política. Madrid, UNED
MANIN, Bernard. 1997. Los principios del gobierno representativo. Madrid, Alianza.
PASQUINO, Gianfranco. 1992. Manual de Ciencia Política. Madrid, Alianza Universidad.
PASTOR, Manuel (ed.). 1988. Fundamentos de Ciencia Política. Madrid, McGraw Hill.
SARTORI, Giovanni. 1992. Elementos de teoría política. Madrid, Alianza Universidad.

Journals

Revista Española de Ciencia Política
Revista de Estudios Políticos.
Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas.
Inguruak. Revista Vasca de Sociología y Ciencia Política.

Web sites of interest

www.aecpa.es
www.ehu.es/cpvweb
www.ehu.es/euskobarometro
www.ipsaportal.net
www.idea.int
www.undp.org

OBSERVATIONS