

Academic Year/course: 2022/23

## 67515 - Political sociology: democracy, political players and ideologies

### Syllabus Information

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**Academic Year:** 2022/23

**Subject:** 67515 - Political sociology: democracy, political players and ideologies

**Faculty / School:** 109 - Facultad de Economía y Empresa

**Degree:** 523 - Master's in Sociology of Public and Social Policy

**ECTS:** 4.0

**Year:** 1

**Semester:** Second semester

**Subject Type:** Optional

**Module:**

## 1. General information

### 1.1. Aims of the course

The subject and its expected results respond to the following objectives: Politics can not be abstracted from its sociocultural context nor from the changes that such context experiences. Therefore, the subject aims to address the political taking into account the different interpretations that sociology, philosophy and anthropology have given him, the importance of cultural variables in the deepening of democracy, the relationship of politics with violence (terrorism, wars, coups, etc.), the emergence of new values, the crisis of classical political actors (political parties and unions), the emergence of new actors (social movements, associations, NGOs, crowds ), the crisis and emergence of ideologies, etc.

### 1.2. Context and importance of this course in the degree

The subject aims to contextualize the action of public policies. Specifically, it proposes to interpret the political environment that serves as the basis for decision-making. Such an environment will be interpreted in sociological terms, granting special relevance to cultural variables

### 1.3. Recommendations to take this course

Attend the classes, read the complementary readings, participate actively in the seminars and do the work. All this will require starting from a basic knowledge of political sociology that will be obtained with the bibliographic list delivered with the program at the beginning of the course. Among this bibliography we recommend very especially: Bergua, J. A. Sociology of Politics, Zaragoza, Mira, 2008

## 2. Learning goals

### 2.1. Competences

Upon passing the subject, the student will be more competent to ...

Interpret the sociocultural variables of political decision making

Accept that there are different forms of democracy and ways of interpreting it also different

Understand the contexts of change, conflict and crisis that influence public policy

### 2.2. Learning goals

The student, to pass this subject, must demonstrate the following results ... The student, passing this subject, will achieve the following results: - Explain the social and cultural reality that underlies any political phenomenon

- Identify the basic tools and devices used by public policies

- Recognize and evaluate the plurality of political activity manifested by different actors (parties, social movements, etc.) and ideologies

- Examine public policies paying attention to the political and social contexts from which they are implemented

### 2.3. Importance of learning goals

The subject will train the student to be sensitive to social and cultural reality. This will enable him to make more flexible the tools and technical devices that public policies use and adapt them to society. In the end, this will allow the graduate to be more effective.

### 3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

#### 3.1. Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

The student must demonstrate that he has achieved the expected learning outcomes through the following assessment activities According to the Agreement of December 22nd, 2010, of the Governing Council, which approves the Regulation of Learning Evaluation Standards of the University of Zaragoza, in its article Art. 9 in each subject there will necessarily be a global evaluation test , to which all students will be entitled, and which will be fixed in the academic calendar.

Those students who follow the subject regularly may develop a continuous assessment process. CONTINUOUS EVALUATION - EXAM to be carried out to evaluate the use of lectures and readings voluntarily made by the student from the extensive bibliography that is added later. The exam will consist of 10 questions that will be assessed with 1 point each. Therefore, a maximum score of 10 points can be obtained. It will be held on the day that the students and the teacher agree upon the end of the last subject of the subject

### 4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

#### 4.1. Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards achievement of the learning objectives. It is based on lectures that will frame, in general terms, the general contents of each one of the topics. There will be seminars where texts will be discussed, highlighting certain aspects of every topic. An assignment will be required, which will be transversal to all the course contents according to the students' chosen approaches.

#### 4.2. Learning tasks

The course includes the following learning tasks:

1. Characterization of the political: power, freedom, anthropological interpretations and the problem of the violence.
2. Main actors of political activity: political parties, trade unions, social movements, associations, NGDO and crowds.
3. Sociocultural changes: postmaterialist values, the cultural contradiction of capitalism, problems of legitimation of late capitalism , clash of civilizations .
4. Ideologies: socialisms, liberalisms, environmentalism, feminism, nationalism and racism.

#### 4.3. Syllabus

The course will address the following topics:

##### Topic 1. The concept of the political

Conference: Sociology of Violence

Seminar: Political anthropology and violence.

Texts:

- 1) Marshall, L. (1985): "Los bosquimanos Kung del desierto de Kalahari, Llobera, J. R. (comp.), Antropología política, Barcelona, Anagrama, pp 167-172; Holmberg, A. (1985): "Organización política de los Siriono", Llobera, J. R. (op. cit.), pp.175-184; Shallins, M. (1983): Economía de la Edad de Piedra, Madrid, Akal, pp. 187-202.
- 2) Harris, M. (1998): "El papel de la guerra y la violencia en el origen y evolución del Estado", Revista Española de Investigaciones Sociológicas, núm 2, pp 11-39.

##### Topic 2. The democratic system and central actors

Conference: Political actors and people

Seminar: Electoral Analysis

Texts:

- 1) González Rodríguez, Juan Jesús ; Bouza Álvarez, Fermín (2009) [Las razones del voto en la España democrática, 1977-2008](#), Madrid, Los libros de la catarata.
- 2) Martínez i Coma, Ferran (2008) ¿Por qué importan las campañas electorales?, Madrid, CIS.

##### Topic 3. Peripheral Actors

Conference: Participatory social research in the construction of society

Seminar: Sociopolitical participation

Texts

- 1) Minguijón Pablo, J., & Pac Salas, D. (2013). "La primavera española del movimiento 15M". Política y gobierno, 20(2), 359-389.

2) Castells, M. (2012) Redes de indignación y esperanza. Alianza Editorial, Madrid, pp. 209-230.

#### **Topic 4. Politics and culture**

Conference: The Conflict of Civilizations

Seminar: values and modernizations

Texts

1) Inglehart, R. Y Wetzels, Ch. (2006): Modernización, cambio cultural y democracia: la secuencia del desarrollo humano, Madrid, CIS, pp. 21- 67

2) Martín Muñoz, G. (1999): El Estado árabe. Crisis de legitimidad y contestación islamista, Barcelona, Bellaterra, pp. 289-326

3) Beriáin, J. y Sánchez de la Yncera, I. (2012): "Tiempos de postsecularidad: desafíos de pluralismo para la teoría", Sánchez de la Yncera, I. Y Rodríguez Fouz, M. (Eds.): Dialécticas de la postsecularidad. Pluralismo y corrientes de secularización, Barcelona, Anthropos, pp. 31-92.

#### **Topic 5. Ideologies**

Conference: The ideologies in the water conflict

Seminar: Classic and contemporary ideologies

Texts

1) Young, I. M. (1996): "Vida política y diferencia de grupo: una crítica del ideal de ciudadanía universal", Castells, C. (comp.), Perspectivas feministas en teoría política, Barcelona, Paidós, pp. 99-126.

2) Preciado, B. (2014): Testo yonqui. Sexo, drogas y biopolítica, Buenos Aires, Paidós, pp. 27-50, 63-74 y 89-110

3) Laval, Ch. Y Dardot, P. (2015): Común. Barcelona, Gedisa, pp. 69-109

4) Laval, Ch. Y Dardot, P. (2013): La nueva razón del mundo. Ensayo sobre la sociedad neoliberal, Barcelona, Gedisa, 325-381

#### **4.4. Course planning and calendar**

The assignments will be submitted at the end of the course and the schedule of classes, where the lectures and seminars will take place, will be communicated on the same day of the presentation of the topic. This will be submitted to the schedule proposed by the Master's address.