



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 34400
Name: Introduction to sociology
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1310 - Degree in Sociology	Facultat de Ciències Socials	1	First quarter
1925 - Double Degree Prog. Sociology-Political and Public Administration Sciences	Facultat de Dret	1	
1931 - Double Degree Program in Sociology-Political Sciences and Public Administr.	Facultat de Dret	1	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1310 - Degree in Sociology	Sociology	BASIC
1925 - Double Degree Prog. Sociology-Political and Public Administration Sciences	Year 1 compulsory subjects	COMPULSORY
1931 - Double Degree Program in Sociology-Political Sciences and Public Administr.	Asignaturas obligatorias de primer curso	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

PECOURT GRACIA JUAN

SUMMARY

Introduction to Sociology provides students with the first contact –both theoretical and practical- with Sociology as a discipline. It takes place in the first semester of the first academic year and is worth 6 ECTS credits.

Consequently, this subject is both introductory –it presents Sociology as a discipline and it provides the basic concepts of sociological analysis as well as its origins and its first leaders- and panoramic –it intends to give a general overview of its area of knowledge, its aspects and basic principles which will be studied in depth in later optional and compulsory courses. It is therefore aimed at introducing students into a new sociological and scientific perspective regarding social phenomena. *Introduction to Sociology* presents Sociology as a social science and the sociological perspective as specific. The establishment and formation of sociology as well as the main schools of thought and basic concepts will be covered and will include issues such as family and gender, the socialization process, education, the economical system,



productive organization and social classes, the State, society and the social actors and globalization in contemporary societies. Therefore a series of conceptual tools that allow students to construct and ordering their own knowledge will be provided. Among them, place him or her at the origin of sociology, understand and apply basic concepts, approach the general theoretical frameworks in sociology, the main techniques of data collection and a series of metaconcepts to go articulating knowledge throughout their studies. (Although the content relating to this aspect are set out in the last unit, they will be transversely along the course).

This subject takes place in the same academic year and quarter as *Introduction to Social Anthropology* and *Introduction to Political Sciences*. Contents will not be repeated; however, cultural and political issues will be approached from a sociological point of view.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Relationship with other subjects of the same degree

No enrolment restrictions have been specified.

Other types of prerequisites

No specified prerequisites (students previous knowledge on social reality).

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Analyse contemporary society, its structure and dynamics based on sociological concepts and theories.

Analyse social phenomena adopting a multidisciplinary perspective (sociological, psychosocial, economic, political, historical and anthropological).

Apply the principles of the professional code of ethics of sociology and develop a commitment to social problems.

Describe and explain social inequalities based on social theories and indicators and detect emerging processes.

Develop gender perspective and integrate it into the study of social reality.

Identify and measure social vulnerability factors.

Know the institutions of the welfare society that contribute to safeguarding social rights.



Learn independently and develop initiative in the field of sociology.

Respect and promote the principles of fundamental rights, gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, democratic values and sustainability.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.

Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.

Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.

Students must have developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.

Understand the cultural diversity of societies.

Work in a team with a multidisciplinary perspective.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. What is sociology?

- 1.1. Definitions of sociology and sociological perspective in the everyday life
- 1.2. Social problems and sociological perspective: the main theoretical paradigms in sociology

2. Societies, social groups and social change

- 2.1. Groups, organizations and social institutions
- 2.2. Status, roles, institutionalization, networks and rituals: from the professions to consumption
- 2.3. Concepts of deviation and crime. Total institutions

3. Socialization, identity and life cycle

- 3.1. Culture and society: the social construction of the individual
- 3.2. Socialization and educative system: processes, stages and agencies
- 3.3. Life cycle and generations, emotions and body



4. Groups and axis of social structuring: economy, family, gender and ethnia

- 4.1. Economic inequalities, social exclusion and categorial axis of social stratification
- 4.2. Social structure and familiar structures
- 4.3. Gender inequalities, ethnic differences, racism and discrimination

5. Contemporary social processes

- 5.1. Secularization, fundamentalism and the social role of religion
- 5.2. Technological innovations, social control and social change

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	15,00
Individual or group project	25,00
Independent study and work	25,00
Preparation of lessons	10,00
Preparation for assessment activities	15,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Each unit will include both theoretical and practical lessons that will combine lectures with student work.

The lectures will focus on explanation of concepts and key data, although student participation is essential. The activities carried out by the students will be the following:

Participatory lecture.

Cooperative work.

Development of schemes, concept maps and summary tables.



Search documentary and statistical data.

Discussion sessions and group analysis from materials such as films, documentaries, exhibitions, conferences, etc..

Reading, synthesis, analysis and criticism of texts.

Doing exercises.

Attendance and active participation in workshops, seminars and conferences.

EVALUATION

Written exam, multiple choice exam and / or oral examination.

Continuous assessment of the theoretical and practical activities and problem solving exercises, case studies, panels, poster...

The active participation of both students and the sessions in the classroom, and mentoring, and follow-up will be assessed.

The result of the evaluation of the final exam come both as exercises and practical activities to be submitted. Active participation in class and reasoned discussion about the contents of the program throughout the semester was very positively evaluated.

a) The examination will represent 50%-70% of the final grade and aims to assess the level of systematization of knowledge, taking into account the capacity of analysis and interpretation about the contents worked on the subject.

b) 30%-50% of the grade will correspond to practical learning activities to be held throughout the semester.

To pass the course you must obtain at least a 5 on both sides, scored 10 points.

The general criteria for the evaluation of training activities and the review are: the adequacy of the exercises, responses, etc., objectives and questions, the degree of development of skills related to the objectives of the course; coherence and clarity of presentation; the analytical depth and originality in critical reflections exposed; and the appropriate formal presentation.

Or active participation in the classroom and attendance is mandatory. However, they may be considered in the evaluation provided for the student, but not to exceed a value of 5% of the final grade.

The students who do not obtain the approval of the course in the first round, the second may be submitted also following these criteria. For the second call need not be repeated and the practical work carried out during the semester. The final grade will be the result of the combination of the final exam plus the grade of the exercises and activities submitted throughout the course. Active participation in class will be positively



considered.

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