



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 34419
Name: Political structure in Spain and the Valencian Country
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	2	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1310 - Degree in Sociology	Political structure in Spain and the Valencian Country	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

This is a second-year subject of the degree in Sociology. Its contents are closely related to the concepts and skills learnt in the first academic year and especially to the subject *Introduction to Political and Administration Sciences*.

This subject is aimed at applying the concepts learnt in *Introduction to Political and Administration Sciences* to situations in our country. It will start with the introduction of the main characteristics of the evolution of the political system throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, with special emphasis on conflicts and on how the current political system deals with them. Then, the main political institutions and the relationship between them will be analyzed: the Crown, the Government, the Administration, the Parliament and the Judicial Power. In the third place we will examine the multi-level nature of the Spanish political system, with special attention to the State of Autonomies and its institutions. In this context, the political institutions of the Valencian Community will serve as an example of the organization and functioning of the Autonomous Communities. Later we will analyze the characteristics of the political culture and the political behaviour of the citizens in order to analyze the main collective actors: parties, pressure groups and new social movements.



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

Though it is not mandatory, it is advisable that students have a clear knowledge of the concepts learned in the subject Introduction to Political and Administrative Sciences.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

Conduct comparative studies of the Spanish and Valencian social structure.

Know and use secondary data sources useful for sociology.

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

Know the tools needed to create, implement and evaluate public policy programmes and social intervention projects.

Learn independently and develop initiative in the field of sociology.

Manage documentary sources and statistics referring to social reality.

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 political-economic organisation and the historical evolution of contemporary societies at the global and local level, and their relationship with social dynamics and processes.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Historical basis of the political structure in Spain and the Valencian Community

Unit 1. Vain attempts for political modernization: Liberal Revolution, 1st and 2nd Republics.

Unit 2. Francoism, transition and constituent process.

2. The States institutional elements

Unit 3. General Courts.

Unit 4. Government and Public Administration.

Unit 5. Judicial Power and Constitutional Control. State Leadership.

3. Territorial structure

Unit 6. The Spanish model of Autonomies and the autonomous structure of the Valencian Community.

4. Elections and attitudinal elements

Unit 7. Electoral system and its efficiency.

Unit 8. Political culture: values and the national issue.

Unit 9. Political behaviour.

5. Collective actors

Unit 10. Parties and the party system.

Unit 11. Corporatism and pressure groups.

Unit 12. Social movements.

6. System results

Unit 13. Analysis of public policies. Sectorial policies.



WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

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

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	9,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	16,00
Preparation of lessons	45,00
Preparation for assessment activities	20,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

a. Lectures.

b. Practical activities (individual and group work): case-solving, practical exercises in class, IT applications, workshops, presentations, guided practical exercises.

c. Complementary activities: visits to institutions, attendance at talks and exhibitions, viewing of films, etc.

d. Autonomous study and work: preparation of theory lessons, reading comprehension of texts, gathering and analysis of information.

EVALUATION

The composite grade is based in 2 elements, both in the first and in the second exam periods:

a) A final exam: at the end of the course a final test will be carried out on all the contents of the course, whether they have been taught in the classroom or not. The exam will also include the materials that are included in the different sessions. This test will have a value of 60 percent of the overall score. The student must have achieved at least a 4 (out of 10) in order to compute the score of the assignments made in the class along the course.

b) Assignments in the class: Throughout the semester will be made different exercises and complementary activities of various kinds to be delivered in presence the day of the course (some of them require that the student has previously worked on the materials indicated by the teacher). The content of these exercises in



class also constitutes materials and susceptible to be part of the end-of-course test, regardless of whether the student has fulfilled (and made correctly) all the deliveries. The overall score of these exercises will have a value of 40 percent of the final grade (dividing equally -20 percent- between the two seasons of the course in case of annual subjects). The teacher will specify in advance which exercises are evaluable.

The non-delivered exercises will not be recoverable later or for the second call.

REFERENCES

- Gunther, Richard; Montero, José R.; Botella, Juan (2004): Democracy in Modern Spain. Yale: Yale University Press. - Magone, José M. (2008) Contemporary Spanish Politics. London: Routledge.
- Alcántara, Manuel y Martínez, Antonia (2001) (eds.) Política y Gobierno en España, Valencia, Tirant lo Blanch, (2ª ed). - Jiménez de Parga, Manuel y Vallespín, Fernando (eds.) (2008), La política (España del siglo XXI), Madrid, Biblioteca Nueva. - Martín Cubas, J.; Garrido, V., y Roig, R. (2020) Política y Gobierno en la Comunitat Valenciana, Valencia, Tirant lo Blanch. - Montabes, J. y A. Martínez (eds.) (2019) Gobierno y política en España. Valencia, Tirant lo Blanch, 2019. - Reniu, J.M. (ed) (2012): Sistema político Español. Barcelona: Huyguens