



**COURSE DATA**

**DATA SUBJECT**

**Code:** 36709  
**Name:** Fundamentals of Political Science and Public Administration I  
**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies  
**ECTS Credits:** 6  
**Academic year:** 2026-27

**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1335 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences	Facultat de Dret	1	First quarter
1930 - Double Degree Programme in Law and Political and Public Admin. Sciences	Facultat de Dret	1	First quarter
1931 - Double Degree Program in Sociology-Political Sciences and Public Administr.	Facultat de Ciències Socials	1	First quarter

**SUBJECT-MATTER**

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1335 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences	Ciencia política	BASIC
1930 - Double Degree Programme in Law and Political and Public Admin. Sciences	Asignaturas obligatorias de primer curso	COMPULSORY
1931 - Double Degree Program in Sociology-Political Sciences and Public Administr.	Asignaturas obligatorias de primer curso	COMPULSORY

**COORDINATION**

MEDINA IBORRA IVAN  
 PARDO BENEYTO GONZALO

**SUMMARY**

The subject belongs to the degree of Political Science and Public Administration, and it is a compulsory course of the first year. It provides the students' first contact with Political Science and Administration, so it is essentially introductory. In addition, it is the first of two courses dedicated to this general introduction to the subject of the discipline. For this reason, this subject addresses its main concepts and the role of the political system and institutions, which will later be developed in more detail -sometimes in a monographic way- in other subjects of the curriculum.

This introductory approach aims to provide the student with a general conception of the map of Political Science and Administration, its basic objects and concepts, the political system and its constituent



elements, and its operating guidelines. and foundations (especially of the state).

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

### RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Enrollment restrictions with other subjects in the curriculum have not been specified

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

### 1335 - Degree in Political and Public Administration Sciences

Análisis de información para evaluar problemas políticos o de gestión pública y elaborar propuestas de mejora

Aplicar críticamente las principales teorías y enfoques de género a las instituciones, actores y políticas públicas.

Aplicar críticamente las principales teorías y enfoques de la Ciencia Política y de la Administración Pública.

Conocer y saber analizar la estructura y funcionamiento de las Administraciones públicas.

Conocer y saber analizar las características, causas y consecuencias de retos sociales contemporáneos: desigualdad de género, ciberseguridad y sostenibilidad del desarrollo.

Conocer y saber analizar las características y pautas de actuación de los principales actores políticos (partidos, sindicatos, grupos de interés y nuevos movimientos sociales).

Saber analizar la estructura y funcionamiento de los sistemas y procesos políticos, sus elementos, así como su dimensión histórica, con especial atención al sistema político español y al de la Unión Europea.

Saber distinguir los valores, ideologías, actitudes y pautas de comportamiento de los ciudadanos así como su evolución temporal.

Saber elaborar informes, dictámenes y trabajos de investigación política.

Saber utilizar los métodos y técnicas de análisis cuantitativos y cualitativos, así como el método comparativo.

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.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. BASIC CONCEPTS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE.

Politics. Power. Ideology. Legitimacy. Democracy. Representation. Political system. Politics as structure (polity), politics as process (politics), and politics as outcome (policy).

### 2. EVOLUTION OF THE ORGANISATION OF POLITICAL POWER.

From the absolutist state to governance in the era of globalization.

### 3. TYPES OF POLITICAL SYSTEMS.

Democracies and non-democratic systems (authoritarianism and totalitarianism).

### 4. FORMS OF GOVERNMENT.

Parliamentarism and presidentialism. Mixed models.

### 5. PARLIAMENTS.

Assemblies and committees. Parliamentary groups and members of parliament. The idea of parliamentary opposition. Functions, representation, and legitimacy.

### 6. THE GOVERNMENT.

Structure, internal organisation, and functions. Composition: heads of government and ministers. Council of Ministers. Single-party governments and coalition governments. Types of investiture.

### 7. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.



Forms of administrative organisation. Government and bureaucracy. The Science of Administration: approaches and perspectives.

**8. THE JUDICIARY.**

Judicial models and organisation of judicial activity. The judicialisation of politics and politicisation of justice.

**9. VERTICAL STRUCTURE OF POLITICAL POWER.**

Forms of territorial organisation. Centralised and decentralised unitary states. Federal states. Local political organisation.

**10. THE EUROPEAN POLITICAL SYSTEM.**

Stages in the construction of the European Union. Institutions, policies, and actors of the EU. The political process in the EU.

**WORKLOAD**

**PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60,00</b>

**NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	5,00
Individual or group project	20,00
Independent study and work	55,00
Preparation of lessons	10,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

The transmission of knowledge will be carried out primarily through lectures. This will also require student work, which will be carried out individually or in groups. The instructor will aim to convey the essential content of the subject by relating it to reality through the use of current examples, reading of classical texts, case studies, legal texts, online materials, and so on. At all times, active student participation will be required. Students will be expected to have prepared in advance the topics that will be covered in class.



Likewise, they are expected to devote part of their out-of-class time to reviewing the content of each of the lectures.

Throughout the course, various practical activities will be carried out. For this purpose, students will use materials provided by the teaching staff or search for them in institutions, libraries, the internet, etc. When activities are carried out in class, students must have prepared the materials in advance. Some of these activities will take place in computer labs or make use of the students' own devices. Each practical activity must be submitted by the specified deadline.

## EVALUATION

The assessment of the course consists of two components, in both the first and second examination sessions:

a) Final exam: At the end of the course, a final test will be held covering all the contents of the subject included in this teaching guide, whether or not they have been covered in class, as well as the materials included in the various sessions. This test will account for 60% of the overall grade.

b) Continuous assessment: Throughout the semester, various practical assignments and complementary activities of different types will be carried out, which must be submitted on the date indicated by the lecturer. This component will account for 40% of the final grade. In order for students to obtain marks in the continuous assessment, they must have attended at least 80% of the practical sessions. In addition, to be able to add the continuous assessment mark (from practical sessions) to the exam grade, students must obtain at least a 4 out of 10 in the final exam. The content of all continuous assessment work also constitutes course material and content, and may therefore be included in the final exam. The lecturer will explain how each exercise must be completed and submitted and will subsequently return the results of the various practical activities before the exam. Practical assignments (whether not completed or not submitted within the established deadline, or already completed or assessed) will not be recoverable after the submission date.

In the second examination session, students who have not passed the course in the first session may either keep the grade (up to 40% of the final grade) obtained from continuous assessment activities completed during the course (attending only the general second-session exam), or take an additional test to be assessed on the recoverable part of those in-class exercises. When publishing the first-session grades, the lecturer will announce whether there are any recoverable exercises (and in what form, with what content, and what percentage of the final grade they represent).

In order for the grade from this additional test (and/or the grade from in-class exercises) to be added to the general second-session exam grade, a minimum score of 4.0 out of 10 must be obtained in that exam.

Students who have followed continuous assessment and have been assessed under it, but do not attend the final exam on the official date (in either the first or second session), will receive a grade of "Not Present".



The teaching staff responsible for the course may decide, with justification, to change the format of the final exam when it must be held on a different date from the official one, in accordance with the rules established for cases of exam clashes under the Regulations on the Assessment and Grading of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees of the University of Valencia, or for any other legally established reason (e.g., duly justified force majeure). In such cases, the new exam format must maintain the same level of demand and difficulty as the one generally used for the rest of the group.

## REFERENCES

### Reference readings

- DEL ÁGUILA, R. del Águila (ed.) (2008). Manual de Ciencia Política. Madrid, Trotta.
- CAMINAL BADÍA, M. i TORRENS, X. (2022). Manual de Ciencia Política. Madrid, Tecnos.
- MANGAS MARTÍN, A. Y LIÑÁN NOGUERAS, L. (2024). Instituciones y Derecho de la Unión Europea. Madrid, Tecnos (capítulos 1 y 2).
- MARTI I PUIG, S. Y VALLÉS, J.M. (2024). Ciencia Política. Un Manual. Madrid, Ariel.
- SODARO, M. (2010). Política y Ciencia Política. Una introducción. Madrid, McGraw-Hill.
- VALLÉS, J.M. (2001). Ciencia Política, Barcelona, Ariel, 2001.
- VV. AA. (1992). Diez textos básicos de ciencia política. Barcelona, Ariel.