

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT**

Code: 42998
Name: Raison d'état and democracy
Cycle: Master's Degree
ECTS Credits: 5
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2136 - Master's Degree in Ethics and Democracy	Facultat de Filosofia i Ciències de l'Educació	1	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2136 - Master's Degree in Ethics and Democracy	Citizenship and democracy in the global world	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

CANTARINO SUÑER MARIA ELENA

SUMMARY**Objectives**

- Analysis of the phenomenon of the Ratio of State from a genetic and critical perspective.
- Historical-critical reconstruction of the interpretations of the doctrine of the Rationale of State.



- Reflection on the justification or justifications that can be argued from different spheres (ethical, political and legal) on the existence or persistence of the State Reason in democratic societies.

- Analysis of concrete cases and particular phenomena of the Rule of Law in current democracies.

- To train the student in the necessary skills to face the conceptual and methodological objectives of the subject of analysis.

Content

From a broader context, that of the problematization of the relationship between ¿ethics and politics,¿ we analyze the origin of the ¿Razon of State¿ and the evolution of this theory or doctrine up to the present day. To this end, first, the elaboration of the ¿reason of State¿ in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is studied by analyzing the most significant texts of the time (Machiavelli, Botero, Rivadeneira). Second, it considers the development and interpretation of this theory up to the twentieth century (Meinecke, Croce,¿). Thirdly, the debate on this theory in Spain from the mid-1990s to the present day is reviewed in order to contextualize the problem of the raison d'état in the present day. The objective or purpose is to highlight the limits of political rationality and the problem of political praxis in current democracies: why the political practice of the democratic rule of law has not put an end to the actions of the ¿bad and false¿ reason of State and what are the various ways in which it can be dressed and transformed to become ¿good and true¿ in a democratic context. It also analyzes issues and cases that lead us to question whether the admissible acts according to the classical and contemporary theory of the reason of State have their own internal rationality that justifies them and which ones are only admissible in a democratic context.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Comprender críticamente el carácter de permanencia e historicidad de los valores morales y democráticos, así como las diversas corrientes y tendencias para encarnarlos tanto a nivel nacional como internacional, con especial referencia a la ética del desarrollo

Conocer las distintas teorías de la ciudadanía y la democracia, así como las cuestiones estrechamente ligadas a ellas, tales como interculturalidad, desarrollo humano, justicia global y ética cívica.

Conocer y aplicar los derechos fundamentales y de igualdad de oportunidades entre hombres y mujeres, los principios de igualdad de oportunidades y accesibilidad universal de las personas con discapacidad y los valores propios de una cultura de la paz y de valores democráticos.

Conocer y saber utilizar los modelos de racionalidad práctica y la argumentación moral y política.

Participar en debates y discusiones, dirigirlos y ser capaces de resumirlos y extraer de ellos las conclusiones más relevantes.

Proyectar sobre problemas concretos sus conocimientos y saber resumir y extraer los argumentos y las conclusiones más relevantes para su resolución.

Students should apply acquired knowledge to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts within their field of study, including multidisciplinary scenarios.

Students should be able to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making informed judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgments.

Students should communicate conclusions and underlying knowledge clearly and unambiguously to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.

Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.

Students should possess and understand foundational knowledge that enables original thinking and research in the field.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Maquiavelo

2. Botero

3. Razón de Estado



4. Razón de Estado y Democracia

5. Ética y Política

6. Razón de Estado y razón cívica

7. Política, Derecho y razón de Estado

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Tutorials	3,40
Theory	43,40
Seminar	3,40
Total hours	50,20

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	5,00
Individual or group project	15,00
Independent study and work	40,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	15,00
Total hours	75,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

EVALUATION

Assessment is continuous, flexible, and personalized, with each student establishing a personalized work plan based on their field of expertise, their expressed research interests, and their professional concerns. The most common assessment criteria are based on three areas:



- a. Attendance and meaningful participation in classes and seminars (20%);
- b. Critical analysis and clarity of presentations (30%);
- c. Presentation of final projects for the respective subjects, following international scientific criteria (50%).

Fraudulent conduct in assessment tests and plagiarism in assessment work will be considered in accordance with the UV Assessment and Grading Regulations (ACGUV 108/2017) and the Protocol for Action against Fraudulent Practices (ACGUV 123/2020).

The use of technologies (including AI) to create assessment materials without prior and express authorization from the teaching staff will prevent them from being considered as self-authored and will be treated according to current regulations and the UV Code of

Coexistence and Good Practices (ACGUV 300/2023, DOGV, no.9747/18.12.2023).

REFERENCES

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