



Universidad
Nebrija



**GRADO EN
RELACIONES
INTERNACIONALES.
CURSO 2011/2011**

**Asignatura: History of Contemporary
Political Thought (English)**

Código: GEC 102



Course: GEC 102 History of Contemporary Political Thought
ECTS Credits: 6
Level: Second
Semester: First
Professor: Michael Leube, Ph.D.
Academic Course: 2011-2012.

1. PREREQUISITES

None

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT

The main objective of this course is to familiarize the student with the main currents of Western political thought and its authors from Ancient Greece to the late twentieth century.

This course must start with a brief introduction of the pillars of Western intellectual history. We will examine Greek and Roman political thought, as well as politics during the medieval period and the Renaissance as seen by the age of conquest.

The main body of the course starts with a thorough examination of the enlightenment covering all tenants of liberalism. Special emphasis will be given to economic thought and the concept of the social contract. We will then turn to utopian socialism to see its legacy in modern socialist thought.

Also from the 19th century, Darwin's theory of natural selection and its impact on the social sciences must be studied in order to examine the human being inside of the natural order. In opposition to Darwinism stand the Scientific Socialism and the work of authors such as Marx, Engels and Lenin.

We then turn to discussions of social democracy, the welfare state, privatization, institutionalism and development. Such topics are the very heart of today's political discussions, dictate international relations and influence the lives of all of us.

More specifically, the objective of this course is for the student to reflect and think critically about the main currents of political thought. To have a basic understanding of the issues at stake is a vital part of anyone's education.

3. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Skills for the student to acquire:

- A. General Skills
 - Instrumental-
 - 1. Organize and manage personal time

2. Collect and interpret data with a juridical mentality; transfer and argue correctly the information gathered
3. Apply the TICS, to the field of juridical sciences
4. Present arguments s publicly in an organized and comprehensive manner

- Personal:

5. Work in interdisciplinary and especially juridical teams
6. Coordinate and manage work teams

-Systematic:

7. Develop abilities for autonomous learning within the juridical sciences
8. Improve the capacity for initiative, creativity, leadership and self-improvement for the development of a professional life

B. Specific Skills

9. Familiarizing with reading and interpreting legal, juridical and doctrinal texts
10. Acquire a critical mentality in the analysis of juridical issues

Learning Outcomes:

- Comprehend and use the concepts of general history
- Develop the capacity to analyze, diagnose and apply theory and practice

4. CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

- Theory: 2 ECTS; will be based on lecture and class participation covering the basic concepts of the course as well as homework and presentations of individual research and case studies
- Tutorial: 0,2 ECTS; individual or group tutoring for the resolution of doubts concerning the course material and supervision of work required
- Lecture and analysis of jurisprudence: 1 ECTS; comprises the reading and analysis of the course material
- Personal work of students: 1 ECTS; includes the research, individual study and elaboration of assigned practical work as well as presentations and/or case studies -
- Case Studies: 1 ECTS; case Studies for the application of methodology
- Team work: 0,5 ECTS; practice for the development of individual and team work
- Virtual learning projects: 0,3 ECTS; study of material using computer and information technologies

Type of Activity	ECTS
Theory	2
Tutorial	0,2
Lecture and Analysis of Jurisprudence	1
Personal Work	1
Case Studies	1
Team Work	0,5
Virtual Learning Projects	0,3

Distance Learning Activities	ECTS
Distance Learning Classes	1
Office Hours	0,5
Research, Selection and Analysis of Information	1
Virtual Learning	1
Personal Work	2
Exams	0,5

Distance Learning Classes (1ECTS): Students will take on-line classes, which will resemble traditional classes but differ in their use of on-line teaching tools: Videoconferences, chat rooms and blogs. Students will use different formats for their work such as power point and video and audio presentations.

Office Hours (0,5 ECTS): Office Hours will also be held on-line and tailored to the ability and competence of each student. Inside *Virtual Campus*, there will be a place for a student to express doubts and questions to the professor. Different mediums such as email, telephone and video conferences will be used. A personal visit with the professor can also be arranged when possible.

Research, selection and analysis of information (1ECTS): The student must be able to find, classify and analyze different documents and sources of information. Small research projects will train the student in these skills.

Personal Work (2 ECTS): The student is responsible to read and learn the required material exactly like in traditional university settings.

Virtual Learning (1 ECTS): Virtual Campus will be used for the preparation and presentation of academic work. Online forums, email and videoconferences will be used.

Exams (0,5 ECTS): Exams are an important part of learning and are the place where the student must demonstrate analytical and communicative skills regarding learning material.

5. Course Evaluation

5.1. Regular Evaluation:

5.1.1.1.- Attitude and Participation: 10%

5.1.1.2.- Academic activities: 20%

5.1.1.3.- Midterm Examination: 20%

5.1.1.4.- Final Examination: 50%

5.1.2 Secondary Evaluation:

5.1.2.1.-Final Examination: 80% of final grade

5.1.2.2-Guided academic work: The class work assigned in the regular evaluation must be completed following the guidelines of the teachers and will be worth 20% of the final grade.



5.2. Evaluation of distance learning module:

5.2.2.Regular Evaluation:

5.2.2.1. Participation in online forums, chat rooms, blogs, videoconferences and other forms of distance learning: 10%.

5.2.2.2. Evaluation of guided academic work: 40%

5.2.2.3. Final Examination at Nebrija campus: 50%

5.2.3.Secondary Evaluation:

A final examination will be worth 80% of final grade. The class work assigned in the regular evaluation must be completed following the guidelines of the teachers and will be worth 20% of the final grade. The grade for secondary evaluation must be 5 or above.

5.3 Restrictions:

In order to successfully pass this course, the student needs to complete a minimum of 80% of the required hours and receive 50% of the total points available. Any grade below that is considered a fail.

All class work will be assigned plenty of time in advance. Individual work must be turned in by the student on the due date; group projects must be turned in on the due date by the members of the group and then presented by the group in the class room. Late projects by the individual or the group will not be considered

The student will lose the 10% attitude/ participation grade.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

General Bibliography:

- .ABENDROTH, Kurtlenk: *Introducción a la Ciencia Política*. Barcelona, Editorial Anagrama, 1968.
- .BERNSTEIN, S.: *Los regímenes políticos del siglo XX*. Barcelona, Ariel, 1996.
- .BEYME, K. von: *Teoría política del siglo XX*. Madrid, Alianza, 1994.
- .COHEN, M.: *Filosofía política. De Platón a Marx*. Madrid, Cátedra, 2002.
- .CHÂTELET, F.; DUHAMEL, O.; y PISIER, E.: *Historia del pensamiento político*. Madrid, Tecnos, 1978.
- .ECCLESHAW, W.: *Ideologías políticas*. Madrid, Tecnos, 1993.
- .HAMPSHER-MONK, I.: *Historia del pensamiento político moderno. Los principales pensadores políticos de Hobbes a Marx*. Barcelona, Ariel, 1996.
- .KLYMLICKA, W.: *Filosofía política contemporánea*. Barcelona, Ariel, 2001.
- .MARSH, David; STOKER, Garry (eds): *Teoría y métodos de la ciencia política*. Madrid, Alianza, 1995.
- . MELLÓN, J. A.: *Las ideas políticas en el siglo XXI*. Barcelona, Ariel, 2002.
- . MINOGUE, Kenneth: *Introducción a la Política*. Madrid, Acento Editorial, 1998.



- . ORI, P.: *Nueva historia de las ideas políticas*. Madrid, Mondadori, 1992.
- . PARECK, B.: *Pensadores políticos contemporáneos*. Madrid, Alianza Universidad, 1986.
- . PRIETO, F.: *Manual de historia de las teorías políticas*. Madrid, Unión Editorial, 1996.
- . SABINE, George.: *Historia de la teoría política*. Madrid, F.C.E., 1987.
- . STRAUSS, Leo: *Historia de la filosofía política*. México, F.C.E., 1992.
- . TOUCHARD, J.: *Historia de las ideas políticas*. Madrid, Tecnos, 1983.
- . VALLESPÍN, Fernando (ed): *Historia de la teoría política*. Madrid, Alianza Editorial, 1992, 6 vols.

Extra Reading:

Additional reading will be handed out in the beginning of each class session.

7. SHORT CURRICULUM OF PROFESSOR

Dr. Michael Leube received his B.A. in Anthropology/ Religious Studies from the University of California at Berkeley (1994), a M.A. in Anthropology/ Human Biology at the University of Vienna (1999) and a Ph.D. in Anthropology at the Institute for Anthropological Research in Zagreb (2003). His thesis concerned anthropological theory and method as practiced in Berkeley, London and Vienna. As a researcher, he participated with various humanitarian aid organizations in Guatemala (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and the Universidad San Carlos de Guatemala), in Kenya (African Medical Research Facility, AMREF) and in India (Creative Handicrafts). Since January 2001, he has worked as professor of anthropology, sociology, demography, international relations and political science as well as developmental studies. He has taught at the University of Santa Clara, Saint Louis University, Madrid, L.S.E, Madrid and at Syracuse University, Madrid. At the Swiss Management Center (SMC) in Vienna he works as a professor of International Relations and Sociology in the Doctorate Program of Diplomacy and Economic Theory.

8. PROFESSOR CONTACT

Office hours serve to help the student with any problems he/ she might have with the material of the course or any of the assignments. The place for locating the professor: Dpto. Derecho y Relaciones Internacionales, Despacho B-101. Students will be seen by appointment only and the professor can be reached under the following address: michael_leube@yahoo.com

9. DETAILED COURSE CONTENT

Week	Session	Theory and Practice in Class	Individual Student Work	Class Hours	Hours/Week Homework
1	1	Introduction	Assigned Reading/ Work	1.5	
1	2	Introduction (2).		1.5	
2	3	Introduction (3).	Reading Assignment	1.5	
2	4	Topic 1: <i>Liberalism and the legacy of the Enlightenment</i> (a) Origins of political liberalism in the work of J. Locke		1.5	
3	5	(b) The Scottish Enlightenment and the work of A. Smith.		1.5	
3	6	(c) The notion of progress and the revolutions	Reading Assignment.	1.5	
3	7	Topic 2: Liberalism and democracy (a) Radical democracy of J.J. Rousseau. (b) Liberal Reflections of J.S. Mill (c) Liberty/Freedom in the political thought of A. de Tocqueville.		1.5	
4	8	Topic 3: <i>Socialism and Anarchism</i> (a) Utopian Socialism (Fourier, Owen y Saint Simon) (b) Scientific Socialism (Marx, Engels, Trotsky, Lenin)	Reading Assignment	1.5	
4	9	Topic 3: Darwinism and its legacy (a) the idea of natural selection and descent by modification		1.5	
5	10	(b) Genetic vs. Cultural transmission; evolution and spontaneous order (c) political science and Darwinism		1.5	
5	11	Topic 4: Applied Marxism, Social Democracy and Leninism (a) orthodox Marxism (b) Leninism (c) Neo-Marxism, the <i>dependendistas</i>	Reading Assignment	1.5	
5	12	Topic 5: Social Democracy and the Welfare State (a) socialism without Marxism (b) social democracy, liberalism and the work of J. Rawls (c) <i>the third way</i> of A. Giddens		1.5	
6	13	Topic 6: Nationalism (a) Origins, definitions and theory (b) political nationalism (c) <i>the public sphere</i> : J. Habermas.	Reading Assignment	1.5	
6	14	Topic 7: Conservative political thought (a) Reactions against the French: De Maistre and Bonald. (b) E. Burke: catholicism and traditional monarchy (c) the <i>New Right</i>		1.5	
7	15	Topic 8 : Elitism and the masses (a) classic elitist theory: Pareto and Michels. (b) hegemony of A. Gramsci (c) elitism of democracy: J.S. Schumpeter.		1.5	
7	16	Topic 9: Totalitarianism (a) Intellectual roots of fascism: Hegel, Fichte and Nietzsche. (b) Fascism and its variations	Reading Assignment	1.5	
7	17	MIDTERM 1		1.5	
8	18	(c) Mussolini and Hitler: similarities and differences (d) the totalitarian character of communism: Stalin	Reading Assignment	1.5	



8	19	Topic 10: crisis and end of the great ideologies (a) Althusser and the la Frankfurt School (b) the Existentialists: J.-P. Sartre and A. Camus	Reading Assignment	1.5	
9	20	Topic 11: the rebirth of liberalism: the Austrian school economics (a)L. von Mises, C. Menger, (b) F.A. von Hayek	Reading Assignment	1.5	
9	21	(c) Public Choice Theory of J. Buchanan, (d) new institutionalism		1.5	
9	22	(e) <i>Ultraliberalism</i> : R. Nozic y M. Rothbard.	Reading Assignment	1.5	
10	23	Discussion of Essay Topics and Writing Skills	Paper Topics Research	1.5	
10	24	Discussion of Essay Topics and Writing Skills	Research	1.5	
11	25	Topic 12: Structuralism (a) C. L. Strauss (b) criticism : P. Bourdieu	Reading Assignment	1.5	
11	26	Topic 13: Post-modernism (a) <i>Discipline and Punish</i> b M. Foucault (b) the work of J. Baudrillard	Research	1.5	
11	27	Topic 14: Towards a consensus of democracy (a) the identification of the bad: totalitarianism (b) rule of law: blessing and curse (c) post-democracy: the fundamental problems with democracy ESSAY DUE	Reading Assignment	1.5	
12	28	Topic 15: The controversy of globalization (a) theories on globalization (b) global ethics, global rule	Research	1.5	
12	29	Review of the main currents of political thought	Preparation for Final Exam	1.5	
13 a 14		FINAL EXAM (REGULAR)		3	
15 a 16		FINAL EXAM (SECONDARY)		3	
1 a 16		Office Hours		15	
TOTAL				64.5 +	85.5 = 150 hours