SOCIAL ANALYSIS UNPLUGGED : CAPSTONE
SEMINAR I

BACHELOR IN POLITICS, LAW AND ECONOMICS
Professor: ANTONIO PÉREZ-HERNÁNDEZ DURÁN
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Academic year: 18-19
Degree course: SECOND
Semester: 1º
Category: COMPULSORY
Number of credits: 3.0
Language: English

PREREQUISITES

SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Europe under stress

The European Union has come to a turning point. After the British voters endorsed the exit of the United Kingdom from the EU, most European countries have seen a considerable increase of eurosceptical and populist political parties in their Parliaments. These new forces, mainly fuelled by nationalism, blame cosmopolitanism, liberalism and the EU establishment for its incapacity to deal with the citizens’ needs. Furthermore, the arrival of massive waves of immigrants and refugees in the past years has triggered an identity crisis among Europeans and polarized societies with a growing frustration. In the face of these challenges, European Governments and EU Institutions are struggling to regain the confidence of citizens towards the once thriving EU integration project. Brexit and nationalism have therefore brought back a fundamental question to the table: in a rapidly transforming world, what future lies for Europe and its citizens?

After an introduction to the EU, its achievements and limitations, the Gateway Seminar I will address this question by looking in a second part to the changes Europe is experimenting from a political, social and economic point of view. The Gateway Seminar II will provide a deeper perspective of the Brexit part specifically and the future options for Europe.

OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS

- Identify correctly the diversity of forces driving political, social and economic changes in Europe.
- Interpret the action of governments and EU institutions to face the current challenges of nationalism, populism and Euroscepticism.
- Develop a capacity to argue and to elaborate solutions about the ongoing transformations in Europe.
- Integrate the knowledge learned in the different disciplines of the program.
- Apply, in an integrated manner, the knowledge learned in the different disciplines of the program to specific interdisciplinary projects.
- Gather and interpret relevant data to make judgments that include a reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.
- Understand the social dynamics and be able to advance proposals of value for a society through institutions and companies.
METHODOLOGY
The methodology will consist in a combination of interactive classes moderated by the professor and presentations led by the students. Except for the first classes of each semester, each class will start with a presentation about the session’s topic by the students and then open a wider discussion or debate led by the professor with the rest of the class. The students will be guided by the teacher in order to conveniently prepare their presentations. Students are expected to actively participate in the class and will be graded accordingly. A midterm exam and a final exam will assess their understanding of the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching methodology</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Estimated time a student should dedicate to prepare for and participate in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>33.33 %</td>
<td>25 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>20.0 %</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises</td>
<td>20.0 %</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group work</td>
<td>26.67 %</td>
<td>20 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other individual studying</td>
<td>0.0 %</td>
<td>0 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100.0 %</td>
<td>75 hours</td>
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PROGRAM

PART I.- What does it imply to belong to the European Union? Does the EU still work properly?

SESSIONS 1 - 2 (FACE TO FACE)
What is the European Union? Is it still worth it?
Video: Kurzgesagt – In a Nutshell: “Is the European Union Worth It Or Should We End It?” 13 April 2017
Video: CGP Grey: “The European Union explained”*. 2 June 2013

SESSIONS 3 - 4 (FACE TO FACE)
The EU political system: what is it? Does it work?

SESSIONS 5 - 6 (FACE TO FACE)
The Single Market, the four freedoms and the European Economic Area
R.A.: “Europe’s four freedoms are its very essence” Financial Times. 12 November 2017
R.A.: Europa briefing: “The four freedoms in the EU: are they inseparable?”
R.A.: The European Free Trade Association (EFTA): About EFTA
R.A.: How the EU works? - *Publish after Class

SESSION 7
Mid-term exam

PART II.- RAPID CHANGES, RISING FRUSTRATIONS & FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN EUROPE
SESSION 8 (FACE TO FACE)

The economic crisis, the rising inequalities and the impact of automation at the origin of populism?

Video: TED Talk by Thomas Piketty: “New thoughts on capital in the XXI century”


SESSIONS 9 - 12 (FACE TO FACE)

Nationalism + Populism = Euroscepticism


Video: “The rise of illiberalism in Hungary” -*Publish after Class

R.A.: “Populism isn’t dead. Here are five things you need to know about it.” The Guardian. 7 July 2017


R.A.: “Do social media threaten democracy?” 4 November 2017*Publish after Class


- Modern Authoritarianism

SESSIONS 13 - 14 (FACE TO FACE)

Foreign interference: Russia vs. EU


R.A.: “How to Stand Up to the Kremlin.” Foreign Affairs. 5 December 2017.

SESSION 15

Exam
BIBLIOGRAPHY

COMPULSORY:
No specific book is mandatory.

RECOMMENDED:
Title: What Is Populism?
Author: Jan-Werner Müller
Publisher / Edition / Year: University of Pennsylvania Press (2016)

Title: The retreat of Western Liberalism
Author: Edward Luce

EVALUATION CRITERIA

CRITERIA FOR CALCULATING THE GRADE
Students’ evaluation will be made upon performance on their presentations, their active participation all over the course (40%), the midterm exam and the final examination (60%). The final grades will be weighted in the following way:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Tests</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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CLASS PARTICIPATION
Students are encouraged to actively participate in class discussions during the Seminar. Their participation will be graded according to the quality (relevance, understanding, originality and curiosity) and quantity (active participation) of their interventions.

PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS
Students, either individually or within a group, are expected to introduce the topic of each session. This presentation will lead to a wider discussion with the rest of the class moderated by the professor. At the beginning of the course, a list of students who will hold each topics' presentations will be established. In order to prepare their presentation, they will be guided by the professor.

The evaluation of presentations will focus on whether the presentation provides a reasoned and comprehensive analysis of the elements relevant in each session. Students must demonstrate that they are capable of conducting an independent analysis and explaining facts using their own words.

MIDTERM EXAM AND FINAL EXAM
A midterm exam covering the first part of the course will take place in the middle of the Seminar. A final exam covering both the first and second part of the course will be hold at the end of the Seminar. Both exams will consist of essay questions and/or the resolution of case/problem questions.

EVALUATION METHOD
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS: Each student has four attempts over two consecutive academic years to pass this course. Dates and location of the final exam will be posted in advance and will not be changed. Students must attend at least 70% of the sessions. Students who do not comply with the 70% attendance rule will receive a 0.0 on their first and second attempts and go directly to the third one (they will need to enroll in this course again the following academic year). Students who are in the third or fourth attempt should contact the professor during the first two weeks of the course.
RETAKE POLICY: Any student whose weighted final grade is below 5 will be required to sit for the retake exam to pass the course (except those not complying with the attendance rules, whom are banned from this possibility). Grading for retakes will be subject to the following rules:

- The retakes will consist of a comprehensive exam. The grade will depend only on the performance on this exam; continuous evaluation over the semester will not be taken into account.
- The exam will be designed bearing in mind that the passing grade is 5 and the maximum grade that can be attained on the second and fourth attempts is 8 out of 10.
- The third attempt will require the student to complete: o a written assignment o a midterm o a final exam. This is also applicable to students who do not have required attendance, e.g. sickness. Dates and location of the retakes will be posted in advance and will not be changed.

PROFESSOR BIO

Professor: ANTONIO PÉREZ-HERNÁNDEZ DURÁN
E-mail: aperezhernandez@faculty.ie.edu

Professor: Antonio Pérez-Hernández Durán
Email: aperezhernandez@faculty.ie.edu

Bio:
Antonio Perez-Hernandez is a career diplomat, currently working as an Advisor to the Secretary of State for European Affairs. Since his arrival to this post in 2017, he has closely followed the main EU dossiers, particularly the Brexit negotiations, the Multiannual Financial Framework and the future of Europe questions.

Before coming back to the Foreign Affairs Ministry in 2017, he worked for 4 years in the Spanish Embassy in Budapest (Hungary) where he gained extensive experience on European matters whilst leading the Public Affairs Office of the Embassy. Prior to that, from 2010 to 2013, he served in the Spanish Embassy in Dakar (Senegal) where he became familiar with Spain’s migration policies. From 2007 to 2010, he worked as a spokesman in the press department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Madrid.

Antonio holds a Law Degree in ICADE University and successfully passed the public exam to become a Spanish career diplomat in 2007. He fluently speaks French, English and Spanish, and has a basic knowledge of Italian and Hungarian.

Professor: Dr. Antonios Kouroutakis
Email: akouroutakis@faculty.ie.edu

Bio:
Dr. Antonios Kouroutakis is Assistant Professor at IE University in Madrid, Spain and he has taught a variety of law courses and conducted research at the City University of Hong Kong, the Free University of Berlin, FGV Sao Paolo, and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Kouroutakis received a DPhil in Law from University of Oxford and an LLM from UCLA School of Law. Dr. Kouroutakis’ research interests lie mainly in the field of constitutional engineering, public law and regulation.

In particular, Dr. Kouroutakis is interested in the concept of separation of powers, rule of law, emergency legislation, and the regulation of new technologies; he has published widely on these topics in international and peer reviewed journals, and his work has been cited in numerous reports while his research on the constitutional value of sunset clauses was cited by the British Parliament.

OTHER INFORMATION
CODE OF CONDUCT IN CLASS

1. Be on time: Students arriving more than 5 minutes late will be marked as “Absent”.

Only students that notify in advance in writing that they will be late for a specific session may be granted an exception (at the discretion of the professor).

2. **If applicable, bring your name card and strictly follow the seating chart.** It helps faculty members and fellow students learn your names.

3. **Do not leave the room during the lecture:** Students are not allowed to leave the room during lectures. If a student leaves the room during lectures, he/she will not be allowed to re-enter and, therefore, will be marked as “Absent”.

Only students that notify that they have a special reason to leave the session early will be granted an exception (at the discretion of the professor).

4. **Do not engage in side conversation.** As a sign of respect toward the person presenting the lecture (the teacher as well as fellow students), side conversations are not allowed. If you have a question, raise your hand and ask it. If you do not want to ask it during the lecture, feel free to approach your teacher after class.

If a student is disrupting the flow of the lecture, he/she will be asked to leave the classroom and, consequently, will be marked as “Absent”.

5. **Use your laptop for course-related purposes only.** The use of laptops during lectures must be authorized by the professor. The use of Social Media or accessing any type of content not related to the lecture is penalized. The student will be asked to leave the room and, consequently, will be marked as “Absent”.

6. **No cellular phones:** IE University implements a “Phone-free Classroom” policy and, therefore, the use of phones, tablets, etc. is forbidden inside the classroom. Failing to abide by this rule entails expulsion from the room and will be counted as one absence.

7. **Escalation policy: 1/3/5.** Items 4, 5, and 6 above entail expulsion from the classroom and the consequent marking of the student as “Absent.” IE University implements an “escalation policy”: The first time a student is asked to leave the room for disciplinary reasons (as per items 4, 5, and 6 above), the student will incur one absence, the second time it will count as three absences, and from the third time onward, any expulsion from the classroom due to disciplinary issues will entail 5 absences.